

Church of God Big Sandy
ChurchofGodBigSandy.com
September 19, 2026 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:22

Bible studies

Interactive study–1:00 p.m.	David Smith
Presentation study–2:00	Dave Havir
	(also transmitted live)

Order of service–3:00 p.m.

Song leader	Neil McIver
Music accompanist	TBA
Scripture reading	Hebrews 4:11-16
Sermon	Morris Foster

Quick takes

1. Feast brochures–Dave Havir wants to thank Michael Bald for undertaking the project of creating the Feast brochures for the Feast sites in Big Sandy and Destin. (Dixon Cartwright has composed the Feast brochures since 1995.) While Mr. Havir provided the information, Mr. Bald had the experience to do the formatting.
2. Dominos–Interested participants should contact Sue Jones.
3. Day of Atonement–Monday, Sept. 21.
 - 1:00 – Interactive study by Daniel Hammons
 - 2:00 – Bible study by Dave Havir
 - 3:00 – Church service, with sermon by Neil McIver
4. Wednesday-night Bible studies–No Wednesday night Bible studies until October 7.
5. “Meet and greet” on Friday night–On Sept. 25, there will be an opening-night “meet and greet” at the Big Sandy Feast site.
 - Time – from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
 - Refreshments – cookies and coffee will be served
6. Feast of Tabernacles–Saturday, Sept. 26 through Saturday, Oct. 3. Our congregation will be hosting Feast of Tabernacle celebrations at two sites – Big Sandy and Destin, Florida. (In addition, friends in North Myrtle Beach, S.C., have asked Dave Havir to established the speaking schedule for that Feast site.)
7. Edifying the Body–“Fasting in the New Testament” by Dave Havir
8. Among Friends–“Fasting in the Old Testament” by Dave Havir
9. Eye on the World–Compiled by Dave Havir

Prayer update

Please remember **Kate Vincent** and her grandson **Elijah Vincent** (who live in Washington State) as they continue to grieve following the tragic death of **Joey Baril** – which occurred on Aug. 19 and was reported in the Aug. 22 bulletin.

On Wednesday, **Stan** and **Roxanna West** gave the following update about **Brandi**: “Brandi has three more rounds of chemo in Tyler. Numerous tests and procedures resume at MD Anderson, starting November 10th and running daily through November 18th – when exploratory laparoscopic surgery will verify proceeding with major surgery and the HIPEC procedure. Major surgery is scheduled for December 4th. A 15-hour surgery and 10-12 days of hospital recovery will be followed by 6 weeks of at-home recovery.” Brandi and the West family greatly appreciate the loving prayers, cards, comments, encouragement and the immeasurable support from the congregation, family, friends, and the community.

Please remember **Donna Weese**, who continues to be on hospice care in Longview. When **Wayne Weese** talked with **Dave Havir** this week, Mr. Weese reminded Mr. Havir about a conversation they had many months ago: “I told you not to be surprised if my mother outlived both of us.”

On Monday, **Rocia Bailey** gave the following update about her husband, **Mike**: “Mike is home. He is moving around with a walker and my supervision making sure he does not put himself in a dangerous situation. He has a good appetite, which is good. Here are some specific requests for prayer. First, he can’t talk or write yet. Second, his left side is still weak. Third, he needs to continue with rehab therapies – we are waiting for the call from the rehab center. We certainly appreciate what God has done, what He is doing and what He will continue to do. We appreciate the prayers.”

On Wednesday evening, **Dixon Cartwright** was moved to a rehab facility. The staff recommended no visitors for a couple of days until they could get him settled in the place and assessed. We expect that Mr. Cartwright would eventually enjoy visitors.

In the August 15 bulletin, we mentioned that a friend of **Bert** and **Linda Moers (Marshall Horton, age 61)** was diagnosed with the following: “Marshall had been diagnosed with two masses on a kidney. The kidney will need to be removed and he will require chemo afterwards.” On Wednesday, Mrs. Moers sent the following update: “Bert and I were at UT Tyler hospital today picking up a neighbor and friend who had a kidney removed on Monday because of cancer. I had requested prayers weeks ago, but things have become much worse since initially being diagnosed. The cancer has metastasized and is all over his body. Thank you for your prayers.”

New prayer requests

On Sunday, the family of **Qynn McMillan** (age 11) was traveling home with her family from Atlanta, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee when she started complaining of a bad headache. It got worse. When they arrived home, she developed a terrible fever. So, they took her to the ER, where she was diagnosed with septic infection in her brain. The doctors performed “emergency brain surgery.” Since Sunday, they chose to do another brain surgery to relieve pressure in her brain. They were concerned that Miss McMillan might be paralyzed on her right side. She is expected to be in the hospital for two weeks and then expecting physical therapy to walk and to become fully functional again.

On Thursday, **Nancy Diraison** came down with “something” which included laryngitis – which meant she didn’t feel well and couldn’t talk. On Friday, she was feeling better and still hoped to sing at the church service on Monday.

On Friday, **Bert Moers** of Crockett awoke at 3:00 a.m. with afib. He apparently had not had that situation in a year.

On Friday, **Buster Carpenter** of Houston (brother-in-law of the **McLearens** and **Jerry Thompson**) had a pacemaker inserted and was doing well.

Rick Peterson of Big Sandy is scheduled for gall bladder surgery on Wednesday (Sept. 23).

Robert Klepfer of Bullard (who was mentioned in our bulletin on August 29) died on Sept. 17. (Visitation and a funeral service will be at the Croley Funeral Home in Gladewater on Sept. 25 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.) Please remember his wife, **Sandra**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

2026 Feast speaking schedules

- **Big Sandy**

Saturday, 9/26	Richard Crow
Sunday, 9/27	Rod Lewis
Monday, 9/28	Don Smith
Tuesday, 9/29	Ray Hall
Wednesday, 9/30	Anthony Kimmons
Thursday, 10/1	Anthony Kimmons
Friday, 10/2	Will Martin
Saturday, 10/3	Ken Lewis

- **Destin, Florida**

Saturday, 9/26	Ken Tate and Neal Parker
Sunday, 9/27	Dave Havir and Ramon Coleman
Monday, 9/28	Dave Havir and Steven Gibson
Tuesday, 9/29	Ben Franklin and Bill Crow
Wednesday, 9/30	Daniel Hammons and Ken Tate
Thursday, 10/1	Danny Miller and Neal Parker
Friday, 10/2	Neil McIver and Bill Crow
Saturday, 10/3	Richard Crow

- **North Myrtle Beach**

Saturday, 9/26	Anthony Kimmons
Sunday, 9/27	Anthony Kimmons
Monday, 9/28	John Havir
Tuesday, 9/29	John Havir
Wednesday, 9/30	No services – family day
Thursday, 10/1	Dave Havir
Friday, 10/2	Dave Havir
Saturday, 10/3	Ralph Hanahan

“Fasting in the Old Testament”

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 Sept. 19, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation to precede the upcoming Day of Atonement. The presentation was five days before the Day of Atonement. The purpose was to encourage my friends to have a successful and meaningful fast on Monday (September 21). The title of the presentation was “Fasting in the Old Testament.”

(The title of the Bible study that I plan to give at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday is “Fasting in the New Testament.”)

Three main subheads

When I have talked about fasting through the years, I have often organized the material under three main subheads. The general theme is after, during and before.

- The fasting after involves repentance.
- The fasting during involves seeking help during a trial.
- The fasting before involves connecting with our Spiritual Father.

Not fitting a category

Before we slot some scriptures into the three categories, let's notice a few general scriptures about fasting that may not directly fit under the three main categories.

- 1 Samuel 31:13—The children of Israel fasted seven days after the death of Saul. (This history is also told in 1 Chronicles 10:11-12.)
- 2 Samuel 1:11-12—David and his men fasted to mourn the death of Saul.
- Psalm 35:13—David described his mourning for his enemies.
- Jeremiah 14:12—Jeremiah mentioned that God does not always hear those who are fasting.
- Zechariah 7:5—The Lord asked: “When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months during those 70 years, did you really fast for Me – for Me?”
- Zechariah 8:19—The Lord mentioned that the fasts of the fourth month, the fifth month, the seventh month and the tenth month be filled with joy, gladness and cheer.

After a sin – repentance

- 1 Samuel 7:6—When the people gathered together at Mizpah, they fasted and said: “We have sinned against the Lord.”

- 1 Kings 21:27-29—After Elijah told King Ahab what his wife Jezebel had done, Ahab humbled himself with fasting before the Lord.” (In 1 Kings 21:8-9, Jezebel had forged a letter from her husband proclaiming a fast in her plot to wrest land from Naboth.)
- Ezra 10:1-6—After Ezra was praying, confessing, bowing down and weeping bitterly; he “ate no bread and drank no water” because he was mourning.
- Nehemiah 1:4-11—Nehemiah said: “When I heard these words, I sat down, wept and mourned for many days – I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.”
- Nehemiah 9:1-3—The children of Israel were assembled with fasting.
- Jeremiah 36:6-9—The people of Judah proclaimed a fast before the Lord.
- Daniel 9:3-19—Daniel said: “I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications – with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.”
- Joel 1:14—The Lord said: “Consecrate a fast.”
- Joel 2:12—The Lord said: “Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping and with mourning.”
- Joel 2:15-17—The Lord said: “Consecrate a fast.”
- Jonah 3:5-10—After the Lord sent Jonah to warn the nation of Nineveh to repent, the people of Nineveh believed God and proclaimed a fast.

During a trial – seeking help

- Judges 20:21-26—After the men of Israel were drubbed by the Benjamites, they went to the house of God and fasted – before they defeated the children of Benjamites (verse 36).
- 2 Samuel 12:15-23—When David’s son was sick, he pleaded with God by fasting.
- 2 Chronicles 20:3-4—When Jehoshaphat heard that many soldiers were coming against him, he proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.
- Ezra 8:21-23—Ezra proclaimed a fast – instead of asking for an escort of soldiers on the way to Jerusalem.
- Esther 4:1-3—Mordecai and the Jews turned to God with fasting and weeping.
- Esther 4:16—Esther and the Jews fasted before she visited the king.
- Psalm 69:10-12—David fasted for relief during trials.
- Psalm 109:24-25—David fasted for relief during trials.

Before – connecting with our Father

- Exodus 34:28—When Moses was with the Lord for 40 days and 40 nights (while writing the 10 Commandments on the tablets), he “neither ate bread nor drank water.”

- Leviticus 16:29, 31—On the Day of Atonement, the people were instructed to “afflict your souls.”
- Leviticus 23:26-32—On the Day of Atonement, the people were instructed to “afflict your souls.”

(Someone could mention that these verses in Leviticus also instructed people to provide a physical offering as well. And since the physical offerings are not promoted behavior in the New Testament, shouldn't people also conclude that the action of “afflicting a soul” should also not be promoted behavior in the New Testament? While that question is logical, I recommend that people consider the example of Jesus Christ in Matthew 4:1-2.)

- Isaiah 58:3-6—In the book of Isaiah, the Lord gave instruction about how fasting is an act of worship toward God and an action of service toward people.

“Fasting in the New Testament”

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 19, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Saturday, September 19, I am scheduled to give a second presentation to precede the upcoming Day of Atonement. Last Wednesday night, I gave a presentation five days before the annual Feast day – titled “Fasting in the Old Testament.” The Saturday presentation (which will be two days before the annual Feast day) is titled “Fasting in the New Testament.”

Three main subheads

When I have talked about fasting through the years, I have often organized the material under three main subheads. The general theme is after, during and before.

- The fasting after involves repentance.
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Before we slot some scriptures into the three categories, let’s notice a few general scriptures about fasting that may not directly fit under the three main categories.

- Matthew 15:32 and Mark 8:3—While the King James version quotes Christ as saying He didn’t want to send the people away “fasting,” the New King James version uses the word “hungry.”
- Acts 27:9—This verse said the “Fast” (generally assumed to mean the Day of Atonement) was already over.

- 2 Corinthians 6:5–The Greek word (“nesteia”) is considered by many to refer to “involuntary hunger” in this context.
- 2 Corinthians 11:27–Since this verse mentions both “hunger” and “fasting,” the meaning of “fasting” is not as clear. The Greek word (“limos”) can be viewed as “famine” or “starvation.” Hence, does the Greek word (“nesteia”) still mean “involuntary hunger” in 2 Corinthians 11:27?

After a sin – repentance

- Luke 18:9-14–While the report of the Pharisee fasting twice a week could be classified as connecting with the Father, the concept of being “justified” could be classified as an act of repentance.

During a trial – seeking help

- Matthew 17:21–This kind (of demon) does not go out, except by prayer and fasting.
- Mark 9:29–This kind (of demon) can come out by nothing, but prayer and fasting.

Before – connecting with our Father

- Matthew 4:2–And when He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, he was hungry.
- Luke 4:2–In those 40 days, He ate nothing. When they had ended, He was hungry.
- Matthew 9:14-15–“The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.”
- Mark 2:18-20–“The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.”
- Luke 5:33-35–“The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them; then they will fast in those days.”
- Acts 10:30–Cornelius described a vision he had while he was fasting.
- Acts 13:2-3–The brethren fasted and prayed before laying hands on Barnabas and Saul.
- Acts 14:23–The brethren prayed with fasting, when they appointed elders.
- 1 Corinthians 7:5–One valid reason for married couples to withhold married love from each other is when the couple chooses to concentrate on fasting and prayer.
- Matthew 6:16-18–Fasting is not an action to be used to impress other people, but an action that is dedicated toward our Heavenly Father.