ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 13, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:34

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00)	Neil McIver
Teen class	Jeanine Case
Kids' class	Dave Havir

Order of service

Song leader	Neil McIver
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	Rev. 8:1-13 by Jim Bald
Sermon	Dave Havir

Quick takes

- Thank you for food donations—Sharon Hill (the manager of Agape House in Big Sandy) expressed appreciation for "the food donations and your service to the community."
- Continued food drive for the community—If you would like to make additional donations of canned goods for the community, please bring them to the foyer of our church building.
- 3. Thank you for bounce houses—Thank you to Neil McIver for arranging for the two bounce houses in the building last Saturday evening.
- 4. Thank you from Roberts family—The family of Stanley Roberts thanks the congregation for hosting the reception in our building on Wednesday following Mr. Roberts' funeral on Wednesday morning.
- 5. Thank you—Linda Avey and Neil McIver thank all the people who served in the building on Wednesday at the reception for the family of Stanley Roberts.
- 6. Budget Committee—In the near future, an annual Budget Committee will be meeting to make financial recommendations to the board.

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7. Community function in building on Jan. 25—The Chamber of Commerce will be having its annual dinner in our building on Thursday, Jan. 25.

- 8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Why I Honor the Flag of a Sinful Nation" by Lenny Cacchio.
- 9. Among Friends—The week's article is "Comments About Romans 1" by Dave Havir.
- 10. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 14 pages.

Prayer updates

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Al Donahue** was in Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler dealing with two stents inserted in his kidneys to help the draining into his bladder and that his release was delayed because one of the kidneys was not draining like it should. The doctor made an adjustment on Tuesday, and Al went home on Wednesday. He reported that he is extremely weak. (**Dave Havir** reports that Al has been positive even though the diagnostic care given to him at the Mother Frances Hospital has not been up to the lofty standards experienced by his friends.) On Friday, Al went to the Social Security office and learned that he has been on Medicare for years. (His discovery of this information confirms how healthy he has been for 15 years since age 65.) On this coming Tuesday, he is scheduled to discuss possible chemo and radiation treatments.

Eli Benedict is trying different things to deal with his swelling. On Tuesday, he began taking high dosages of colloidal silver (which is highly recommended among people who use "alternative" methods). On Thursday, he went for a follow-up visit with his medical doctor, who recommended that he see a skin specialist. (The Benedicts are in the process of arranging an appointment.) The Benedicts would like to expand their prayer request because of a new development. **Jean** reports that her hands have begun to swell. (This is not surprising due to her efforts to help her husband.) Please remember both of them in your prayers.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates your prayers for his various challenges. He reports that this cold weather is hard on him, because of his breathing challenges and because of his tendency to be chilled.

Please remember two of **Annette Payne's** daughters in prayer. **Rebecca Sapp** of Gladewater is continuing her five-week regimen of chemo and radiation (for cervix cancer) at M.D. Anderson in Houston. **Lisa Grady** of Orlando, Fla., had a biopsy for a growth at her neck.

Katie Landrum of Longview (**Annette Payne's** daughter-in-law), who had been diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver and was told that her "liver is improving," didn't do as well this week. She apparently had eight liters of fluid removed.

As was announced orally last week, **Stanley Roberts** died last Saturday afternoon. The funeral was Wednesday. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Scott Smith of the Dallas area died on Jan. 8. Please remember his wife, **Debbie**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Betty Foster** fell in her living room. Although she is dealing with some pain, she reports that there are no broken bones.

On Friday, family of **Virgil Webb** came to get him and take him back to their home in Baton Rouge, La. Here is a brief history about recent months. In late summer, he went to Baton Rouge. In November, he returned to his dilapidated RV. After **Dave Havir** tried unsuccessfully to convince him to be with family members who wanted to take care of him, Mr. Havir called adult protective services to help nudge him back to staying with family. Many people are happy that he will receive the help that he needs.

On Sunday, **Alice Day** of Marshalltown, lowa (mother of **David Coleman**), fell in her bedroom and said her head hurt. Her husband (and David's stepdad), **Don**, took her to an ER for treatment. Upon returning home, she still had pain and they went to Mayo Clinic. Here are some excerpts from a report on Monday by **Joyce Coleman:** "It turns out she has broken her neck. They had to sedate her. She does not know why she is wearing a neck brace and keeps trying to take it off. This is going to be a real struggle since she can't remember anything more than a few seconds. Her dementia is quite advanced." Here is an excerpt from a report on Wednesday by Don: "She was a wildcat yesterday and last night. She wants the neck collar off and wants to escape. They finally had to tie her down in the bed. I don't know when (or if) I will be able to take her home" (dependent upon securing round-the-clock care at the house).

Lance Holloway of Lindale (son of Elaine Holloway) is dealing with a serious health problem. He had been feeling poorly since Thanksgiving and was initially diagnosed with pneumonia. On Dec. 27, he was admitted to UT Health Center (north of Tyler) and discovered through an MRI that he has cancer in his right lung. Two weeks ago, he learned through another MRI that he also has cancer in his bronchial tubes. (Doctors believe that the origin of the cancer was present months ago and that the stress of caring for Kit before his death probably compromised Lance's immune system.) He recently began an aggressive regimen—six hours of chemo on Mondays and Tuesdays followed by radiation on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. (Lance's sister Cheryl Cain noted that both MRIs were full-body MRIs and that they concluded that there was no cancer anywhere else in his body.)

Bill Glover of Eugene, Ore., fell earlier this week and was taken to a hospital, where he spent the night. After treatment for dehydration he was released.

Tucker Davis of Mount Pleasant, Tenn., who broke a vertebra at the top of his back in October 2017, recently fell and broke three more vertebrae.

Alfred Mitomoni of Lilongwe, Malawi, died on Jan. 4. Please remember his wife, **Esther,** and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Randy Hooser of Arlington died on Jan. 7. Please remember the family in your prayers.

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"Comments About Romans 1"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigsandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Jan. 13, 2017.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At this time, I want to begin a series of brief articles to discuss chapters in the book of Romans. This week, we will talk about chapter 1.

May this project encourage you to review the valuable history found in the book of Romans.

Paul's introduction

The apostle Paul began his letter with a quick review about his relationship with Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-6).

- Verse 1 has three bits of information—a servant of Jesus Christ, called an apostle (Acts 13:2 and Acts 14:14) and separated for the gospel of God.
- Verse 2 mentioned that God promised the gospel through the prophets in the Holy Scriptures.
- Verse 3 mentioned that the gospel was about the Son of God (Jesus Christ), who was born of the seed of David.
- Verse 4 mentioned that Jesus Christ was declared to be the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead.
- Verse 5 mentioned that people received grace and apostleship through Christ.
- In verse 6, Paul reminded the readers of the letter that they were the called of Christ.

Letter to Rome

In verse 7, Paul mentioned that the letter was addressed to people in Rome. These people were called "the beloved of God" and called "saints" (same verse).

Paul also called people saints in his letters to the following cities—Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi and Colosse.

Desire to visit

In the next section (verses 8-15), Paul mentioned about visiting them.

■ He wanted to find a way to visit them (verse 10).

- He mentioned that he had often planned to visit them, but those plans had previously been hindered (verse 13).
- He mentioned how he wanted to preach the gospel to those who were in Rome (verse 15).

Live by faith

In verse 16, Paul mentioned one of the important phrases in the letter ("for the Jew first and also for the Greek") that is repeated later in the letter.

In verse 17, Paul quotes "The just shall live by faith" (which was taken from Habakkuk 2:4).

Wrath of God

The rest of the chapter (verses 18-32) deals with the wrath of God. Notice some of the concepts he mentioned.

- Ungodliness and unrighteousness (verse 18).
- God's attributes are revealed by the creation (verse 20).
- Their foolish hearts were darkened (verse 21).
- They changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image of corruptible people and animals (verse 23).
- God watched them follow the lusts of their heart to dishonor their bodies (verse 24).
- They worshiped the creation more than the Creator (verse 25).
- God "gave them up" to vile passions (verse 26), and he proceeded to describe a particular "lust" (verse 27).
- God "gave them over to a debased mind" (verse 28).
- Paul proceeded to list over 22 characteristics (verses 29-31).
- Those who practice such things are worthy of death (verse 32).

Romans 11:32—"For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all."