

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 17, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:06

Bible studies and classes

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

Order of service

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Rev. 12:1-6 by David Coleman
Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Thank you to the Budget Committee—Thank you to the members of the congregation who were part of the Budget Committee that met recently in the building. This committee will submit their budget to the board at the next board meeting.
2. Board meeting on Feb. 19—There is a board meeting scheduled in the building on Monday, Feb. 19, at 6:30 p.m.
3. 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.
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Comments About FISA Courts" by Dave Havir.
5. Among Friends—The week's article is "Comments About Romans 6" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 24 pages.

Prayer updates

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Al Donahue** went home from the rehabilitation facility on Thursday (Feb. 8). What we did not mention was that he was not sent home because he was doing better. However, we were not aware of how quickly his health was deteriorating. On Friday, **Dave Havir** and other members of the congregation visited him in his home, knowing of the possibility that he might not live through the day. We will give an oral update at church today.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Lisa Smith** had an MRI and was diagnosed with Chiari malformation. Here is a report that she sent to **Dave Havir** on Friday morning: "I am currently at the Spine Institute to see a specialist. Neck pain and headaches are not good today. But I will let you know more later today, when I am done here."

Jean Benedict reports that her rash is diminishing, but **Eli's** challenges (rash, swelling in his legs and sore back) are not progressing as fast as they desire. On Thursday, Mr. Benedict went for an appointment with his regular doctor. He is awaiting an appointment with his dermatologist.

Sonny Rosenberger thanks you for your ongoing prayers.

Laura Moran had an appointment with her cardiologist on Tuesday and with an allergist on Wednesday.

Betty Foster continues to experience pain from the cracked vertebrae. (She misses coming to church and hopes to attend today.) On Monday, she has a doctor's appointment.

On Friday, **Joyce Coleman** was scheduled for a follow-up doctor appointment in dealing with a urinary-tract infection.

Annette Payne is scheduled for surgery to deal with a knot on her tongue on Feb. 28.

Please remember **Elaine Holloway**, who has been experiencing extreme swelling in her legs.

Please remember **Lance Holloway** of Lindale (son of **Elaine Holloway**), who is being treated for cancer in his right lung and his bronchial tubes.

Brian Biggs (son of **Judy Biggs**) reports improvement in dealing with his post-traumatic stress disorder and his chronic anxiety (that contributes to physical symptoms). He and his mother thank you for your prayers.

New prayer requests

In last week's bulletin we mentioned that **Marilyn Boston** has been experiencing back pain. On Monday and Friday, she fell in her home. After the fall on Friday, a neighbor was not able to lift her and she was taken by ambulance to East Texas Medical Center in Athens.

Paula Monsalvo of Mobile, Ala., has been dealing with health issues. First, she had the flu one month ago, and it has recurred. Second, her gums had become red and inflamed to the point that she went to an emergency room last Saturday evening. Their diagnosis at that time was an “abscessed tooth.” On Monday, her dentist diagnosed her as having a gum infection called a “viral blister.”

Kaleb Howell of Dallas, Ga. (7-year-old son of **Philip** and **Veronica Howell**), has been diagnosed with an irregular heartbeat. (The family is still grieving from the death of 14-year-old **Preston** last month.)

Phil Rishel of Fort Wayne, Ind., went to an ICU and was diagnosed with pneumonia (and a possible stroke).

Angie Brewer of Columbia, Tenn., was scheduled this week to have surgery to remove her gallbladder.

Rusty Washam of Huntsville, Tenn., died on Feb. 14 in Iraq. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Luke 4:16-22—So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?”

Luke 4:23-27—He said to them, “You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.’” Then He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”

Luke 4:28-30—So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.

John 10:39-40—Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand. And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John was baptizing at first, and there He stayed.

“Comments About Romans 6”

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 Feb. 17, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a series of brief articles to discuss chapters in the book of Romans. This week, we will talk about chapter 6.

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

Follow-up question

Many years ago, the letters in the New Testament of the Bible were organized as chapters. The last part of chapter 5 mentioned a connection between law and grace.

■ Paul described a true connection between law and grace—the law identified abundant sin and paved the way for abundant grace (verse 20-21).

Many Bible students believe that Romans 6:1-2 is a follow-up to the concluding verses of chapter 5.

Romans 6:1-2—“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”

Death and resurrection

The apostle Paul described how baptism pictures the death and resurrection of the Son of God (verses 3-6).

■ Are you aware that those who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death (verse 3)?

■ Just as the Son of God was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, disciples should also walk in newness of life (verse 4).

■ Just as disciples are planted in the likeness of His death, they certainly shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection (verse 5).

Romans 6:3-5—“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the

glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”

■ Just as the “old man” of each disciple is crucified with the Son of God, they should no longer be slaves to sin (verse 6).

Dead to sin

Paul proceeded to discuss the concept of being dead to sin and alive in God (verses 7-14).

■ He who has died has been freed from sin (verse 7).

■ He who has died with Christ shall also live with Him (verse 8).

■ Death no longer has dominion over a disciple (verse 9).

■ Christ died to sin once for all, and He lives to God (verse 10).

■ Disciples should consider themselves dead to sin and alive to God (verse 11).

■ Therefore, disciples should not allow sin to reign in their mortal bodies (verse 12).

■ Disciples should be instruments of righteousness instead of instruments of unrighteousness (verse 13).

■ Sin should not have dominion over a disciple, since he is under grace (verse 14).

Analogy of a slave

■ Paul asked another question similar to verse 1 (verse 15).

Romans 6:15—“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!”

■ Are you a slave to sin and death or a slave to obedience and righteousness (verses 16-22)?

■ Paul used the physical metaphor to describe a spiritual concept (verse 19).

■ In the last verse in chapter 6, Paul described an amazing concept (verse 23).

Romans 6:23—“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”