

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 7, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:24

Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Wynn Skelton
Bible study (2:00) Wynn Skelton

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Revelation 22:8–15
Sermon Wynn Skelton

Quick takes

1. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
2. Prayers for victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
3. Reminders for attending—Here are some reminders for people who choose to attend the church service in the building.
 - We do not provide masks or gloves. If these are important to you, please bring your own.
 - We expect attendees to make good use of our spacious hall by spreading out.
4. Thank you—The congregation thanks Neil and Martha McIver for organizing the “food and movie” last Saturday afternoon and early evening.
5. Guest speaker today—The congregation welcomes Wynn Skelton today. Mr. Skelton is scheduled to give the 2:00 Bible study and the sermon at the 3:00 church service.
6. Upcoming guest speakers—Dave Havir is pleased to announce that several guest speakers are planning to join us over the coming weeks. The tentative list includes the following: Wynn Skelton (today), Morris Foster (Nov. 21), Jim Johns (Dec. 5), Blake Silverstein (Dec. 12) and Bill Crow (Dec. 19).

7. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Dave Havir is giving a Bible study and a sermon in Fort Worth.
8. Community Thanksgiving service—The community Thanksgiving service will be held at First Baptist Church on Nov. 22 at 5:00 p.m. Because of the coronavirus, the ministerial alliance chose to forgo any food or drink that evening. Dave Havir is planning to attend.
9. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Cardinal Burke: Christians and Muslims Do Not Worship the Same God" by Michael W. Chapman.
10. Among Friends—This week's article is "Historic Spiritual Battles" by Dave Havir.
11. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 15 pages. (Dave Havir generally chooses articles based upon what he reads. Mr. Havir acknowledged that he has spent little time reading articles about the main story, the U.S. election—choosing to avoid the drama of the corrupt media, the voting shenanigans and possible legal actions. Therefore, there are fewer articles than usual.)

Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker** and **Elaine Holloway**.

It was nice to see the **Benedicts** at church last Saturday—even though **Eli** continues to deal with itching and some difficulty sleeping. His rash caused him trouble again this week. (Also, please remember **Jean** while she does a great job providing care for her husband.)

Annette Payne is anticipating a doctor appointment this week to discuss treatment options (following the diagnosis of cancer in her lung and in one lymph node).

As was announced orally, **Andrew McIver** has been dealing with pain for two months and he suspected a hernia. A CT scan several weeks ago and an ultrasound last Thursday ruled out a diagnosis of a hernia.

In the Oct. 24 bulletin, we mentioned that **Laura Moran** was feeling better concerning her sinus infection and breathing troubles. As it turns out, she hadn't told **Dave Havir** how poorly she was feeling. Apparently, her sinus infection causes her severe pain in her right sinus. She is scheduled to see the doctor on Monday.

Grace Kouniadis of Carrollton (sister of **Laura Moran**) is anticipating moving to The Heights of Tyler retirement home in the near future.

Don Day of Marshalltown, Iowa (stepfather of **David Coleman**), is still at the Mayo Clinic due to breathing issues from covid-19. **Joyce Coleman** reported: "Don started dialysis yesterday, and he was able to get some sleep. He said he is having a lot of problems breathing. Several other family members have tested positive [for covid-19]."

In the Oct. 24 bulletin, we mentioned that **Cassandra Jenkins** (daughter of **Shirley Spearman**) had surgery to repair a hernia. Her recovery is going well.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Shakyr Johnson** of Grand Rapids, Mich. (wife of **Montrail Johnson** and daughter-in-law of **Veronica Miles**), had a heart transplant. (We first heard about her heart difficulties in April, but the arrangements for the transplant didn't come together until recently.) Mrs. Miles reported: "She is doing great. She will get out of the hospital next week. She is in therapy two times a day."

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Marcus Franklin** of Arlington (nephew-in-law of **Shirley Spearman**) was able to go home. The family reports that his recovery is going slowly. Please remember him in your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Jean Rogers** of Denton (who with her husband, **Jimmy**, is a part of our extended congregation) went from the hospital to a rehab facility. (Her release from the hospital was delayed due to a hernia in her esophagus.) Yesterday, Mrs. Rogers was able to return to their home. The Rogerses appreciated your continued prayers. (Mr. Rogers reports that the cancer of his liver is in remission.)

Jerry Jones of Ojai, Calif., who was diagnosed with lymphoma, appreciates your prayers for his improved energy level.

The surgeon of **Brad Ellis** of Kailua Kona, Hawaii, placed a vacuum on his foot "to draw out the buildup of purulent exudate" and reported that that helped the foot to begin healing.

New prayer requests

On Tuesday, **Dave Havir** is scheduled for surgery to remove his left cataract. (He previously had his right cataract removed in December of 2016.)

After **George Mayo** of Epworth, Nfld., Canada, fell in his home and was taken to a hospital, he was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

Joe Ross of Monroeville, Pa., has been diagnosed with dementia.

Rodger Sandsmark of Simsbury, Conn., has been diagnosed with a pseudomonas infection in his blood.

Romel Gabuya of Bacolod City, Philippines, had successful heart-bypass surgery.

Rita Arritt of Lansing, W.Va., has been diagnosed with covid-19.

Morne Roets of Pegasus, New Zealand (11-year-old son of **Jaco** and **Marlene Roets**), died from leukemia on Oct. 31. Please remember the family in your prayers.

John Pruner of Lebanon, Va., died on Nov. 3. Please remember his wife, **Marcia**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Cathy Fergusson of Oshawa, Ont., Canada, died this week. Please remember the family in your prayers.

“Historic Spiritual Battles”

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 Nov. 7, 2020.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—The book of Daniel is an interesting mix of biblical history and future prophecy. It is obviously much easier to recognize the history lesson than to comprehend the potential prophecy lesson.

Four visions

Early in the book of Daniel, a Bible student can read about how Daniel interpreted dreams that came to King Nebuchadnezzar (in Daniel 2 and in Daniel 4).

Later in the book, a Bible student can read about four dreams that came directly to Daniel (found in Daniel 7-10).

Let’s notice some information about this fourth vision.

Heard a message

■ Daniel 10:1—The fourth vision was in the third year of Cyrus (king of Persia).

■ Daniel 10:2-3—This vision came upon Daniel while he was mourning for three weeks.

■ Daniel 10:4—The vision came on the 24th day of the first month while he was standing along the bank of the Tigris River.

■ Daniel 10:5-6—When Daniel looked up, he saw a glorious man.

■ Daniel 10:7-8—None of the men with Daniel saw the vision.

■ Daniel 10:9-11—Daniel’s knees buckled as he saw the image and heard a voice. Notice the words of verse 11.

Daniel 10:11—“And he said to me, ‘O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.’ While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.”

It was Gabriel

When Bible students ask about the identity of the speaker in Daniel 10:11, they find the answer in the previous chapter.

Gabriel had previously introduced him-

self to Daniel in Daniel 9:21-23.

Daniel 9:21-23—“Yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, ‘O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision.’ ”

Titanic battles

■ Daniel 10:12-13—Gabriel told Daniel that he came because of Daniel’s words—but that he was delayed for 21 days.

An interesting question is this: Why did it take Daniel three weeks to receive this vision?

Daniel 10:13—“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.”

This must have been quite a battle. The enemy must have been strong, battling Gabriel for 21 days. It took the help of Michael to subdue the enemy.

Gabriel gave some insight into additional battles.

■ Daniel 10:20—Gabriel told Daniel that he had to return to fight with the prince of Persia and with the prince of Greece.

■ Daniel 10:21—Gabriel mentioned that no one besides the angel Michael helped him against those two princes.

Spiritual battles

Someone could ask: What do these scriptures have to do with us today?

At this time, I want to ask the question: Is it possible that Gabriel, Michael and other protective spirits are engaged at this time in battling the negative behavior of various evil spirits?