ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 8, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:30

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dixon Cartwright

Presentation study—2:00 Blake Silverstein

(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader	Ron Avey
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	Daniel 9:1-27
Sermon	Blake Silverstein

Quick takes

1. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.

TodayBlake SilversteinJan. 22Wynn Skelton

- 2. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is attending a funeral for Albert Foy (who died on Dec. 25) in Huntsville. (He hopes to make it back for the later part of the Stevenson visitation tonight and plans to attend the funeral tomorrow.)
- 3. Wednesday-night Bible study on Jan. 12—The next Wednesday-night Bible study is scheduled for Jan. 12.
- 4. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.
 - Mickey Ashcraft
 - David and Becky Bonilla
 - Timberly Dunnam
 - Elaine Holloway
 - Annette Pavne

- Ruth Roe
- Sonny Rosenberger
- Ronnie Shirley
- Elaine Townsend
- Donna Weese

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5. Visitation and funeral for Herman Stevenson—Following is the information for Herman Stevenson (husband of Dorothy).

Visitation

■ Date Saturday
 ■ Time 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
 ■ Location Harmon Undertaking
 ■ Address 1112 N. Palace Ave., Tyler
 ■ From funeral home's website Face mask is "required"

Graveside funeral

■ Date Sunday ■ Time 2:00 p.m.

■ Location Pine Springs Cemetery, Frankston

■ From funeral home's website Face mask is "required"

- 6. Bad weather doesn't stop us—Since the beginning of this congregation, it has been our tradition to avoid canceling a church service due to weather. We expect each individual to use personal judgment and freedom for himself and his family. (Besides, you could join our Internet audience to watch our presentations online.)
- 7. Loss of electricity could slow us down—Although the circumstance would be rare, we would probably cancel a church service in the building due to a loss of electricity. (However, knowing our audience, anyone who showed up might enjoy a small Bible study—as long as we stayed warm enough.)
- 8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "America Is Still a Beacon of Liberty" by Dennis Prager.
- 9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Three Goals for 2022" by Dave Havir.
- 10. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 42 pages. (This edition has four articles and 338 headlines.)

Prayer updates

In previous bulletins, we mentioned that **Timberly Dunnam** was waiting to hear from Longview Orthopedics to establish an appointment. Due to insurance technicalities, she has now been referred to Texas Spine and Joint Hospital in Tyler.

David Bonilla (who is recovering from hip surgery to have a metal rod inserted from his right hip to his knee) continues to do physical therapy at home twice a week. He is anticipating occupational therapy at home to be added next week. He and **Becky** express: "Thanks again for your continued prayers."

Andrew McIver (who has been experiencing digestive issues since the Feast of Tabernacles) reports that he mostly has good days, mixed with an occasion day that is not so good. Last week, we announced that he was scheduled for a colonoscopy on Jan. 18. However, due to his busy schedule, he rescheduled it for Jan. 31.

Vern Case reported that he was able to return to work—with the provision that his oxygen tank was with him.

New prayer requests

In the May 29 bulletin, we mentioned that **Willis Hogg** fell at work and broke his leg—resulting in two surgeries on his ankle and tibia. There are two complications since that time. First—since August, he has been suffering from a skin rash after his cast was removed in August. (The second incident has produced a diagnosis about the cause of the skin rash.) Second—On Monday, Mr. Hogg fell and hit his head, knocking him unconscious. **Brenda** was able to wake him up, and **Kelli** took him to the emergency room. Following are excerpts from Kelli: "Dad didn't suffer from any head injuries in the fall, but test results did indicate an infection. The doctor has determined it is possible the rash is caused by a bone infection at the surgery site. Unfortunately, they are unable to do an MRI because the surgeon installed metal hardware to repair the leg break. In order to determine if the bone is infected, they have to do a series of nuclear bone-marrow tests. Dad has been admitted to Christus Trinity Mother Frances and is scheduled to undergo those tests." The family appreciates your prayers.

Herman Stevenson of Winona died on Jan. 4. Please remember his wife, **Dorothy,** in your prayers.

Tracy Glover of Montgomery, Ala., died on Jan. 5. Please remember her husband, **Stephen**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Proverbs 25:2—"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter."

Acts 17:11—"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

Romans 12:1-2—"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

1 Thessalonians 5:21—"Test all things; hold fast what is good."

1 Peter 3:15—"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."

Matthew 7:24-27—"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

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"Three Goals for 2022"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigsandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Jan. 8, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled "Three Goals for 2022." I wanted to share some of the scriptures in this short article.

The three main points of the presentation (and this article) were taken from Matthew 6:1-18.

Giving

The Son of God taught that giving should be done to please our Father in heaven—and not be done to receive the praise of people.

Matthew 6:1-4—"Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly."

Here are other scriptures that discuss the habit of giving.

Luke 10:33-35—"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, "Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you."

Matthew 25:40—"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Luke 14:14—"And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Praying

The Son of God taught that praying should be done to please our Father in heaven—and not be done to receive the praise of people.

Matthew. 6:5-6—"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

Fasting

The Son of God taught that fasting should be done to please our Father in heaven—and not be done to receive the praise of people.

Matthew 6:16-18—"Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

The Bible has a number of instructions about the habit of fasting. One of the best sections of Scripture that gives instructions about fasting is found in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 58:6-7—"Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?"