

# DONNA JONES

Grace Communion Big Sandy  
Big Sandy, Texas

## Background:

**How do you serve in GCI?** I serve my congregation in several ways. I compile the weekly bulletin and prepare communion. I am on the GC Big Sandy Board of Directors, the Finance committee, and the Missions team, and I have previously served on the Advisory Council.

**How did you get connected to GCI?** My parents were members of the church in the early 1960s. I joined them in 1963 and have been an enthused member ever since.

**What is your ministry or calling?** As an 83-year-old widow of an unbeliever and as a great-great-grandmother, I want to show everyday people that we can all serve in the “little things” and still have a positive impact on others.

**If you could describe your congregation in one sentence, what would you say?** We sincerely and deeply love God, love each other, and love our community, and we strive to show it in our daily lives.

**Is there something unique about your church services that connects with your community?** Our Wednesday Night Gathering uniquely appeals to the teens and young adults in our community. It includes recreation time after school beginning at 5:30, followed by a free meal, praise and worship, then breaking into age groups for Bible study, and ending at 8:00.

**What does your community look like?** Big Sandy is a tightly-knit, small, rural community with less than 1,400 people, but with at least 10 churches of different denominations. I am thankful for the fellowship we can have with others because of the small-town atmosphere.



## Get to Know Donna



Snapshots from Big Sandy.

1.

**For what are you most grateful?** I am most grateful for my salvation, but also that God has given me the ability and opportunity to lovingly serve my congregation and other people.
2.

**What is one of your greatest accomplishments?** I feel my greatest accomplishment is that I have raised five sons and a daughter to be good, God-fearing, happy people.
3.

**Favorite scripture?** My favorite scriptures are “...I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:12-13) and “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

4.

**Struggle or life lesson you would like to share:** The main life lesson I want to share is that we do not have to worry or be stressed over any problem that comes our way. I was very stressed and worried while raising my six children with my husband dealing with a serious health issue, but I have since learned to give my problems to God—and NOT to grab them back again and continue worrying over them. I now have total joy and peace in spite of my circumstances. Sure, I still have to deal with things, but now I allow God to lead me in this. I know that God loves me, and that he does what he says he will do.

5.

**How do you experience/feel close to God?** I don’t do anything unusual, but if God gives me the opportunity and ability to help, I want to do it. I feel that I don’t really do enough, so I have been asking God to give me a “mission,” some way to help or encourage others, and I just recently realized that he already has. For the past three to four years, God has been bringing new Christians to me to encourage and help them grow in God’s way of life - to mentor them. We become good friends, and as we spend time together, we talk about God and his way of life, and we both become stronger. Our God is SO good!



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