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SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

November 12, 2026

Though the Vision Tarries



A person living 200 years ago would be in awe at how far communications have progressed. These days we can send a text or email that arrives in seconds. From the forming of the thought in our mind, we're limited only by how fast our fingers can fly to send the text or email across the world. That extraordinary feat would exist only in the imaginations centuries ago when long-distance communication was by foot, horse, stagecoach, ship, or a combination thereof.

The invention of the telegraph in 1844 was a life-changing event. But the story really begins 19 years earlier with a successful artist named Samuel Morse who was commissioned to paint a portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette in Washington, DC. While painting one day, a letter arrived via horseback from his father in Connecticut telling him that Samuel's 25-year-old wife was very sick. Morse began the long trip home, but because horse-rider mail was terribly slow and the news had taken so long to arrive, by the time he made it home his beloved Lucretia had already been buried.

That tragedy sent Samuel into the depths of depression and sadness, but it also became the catalyst for an idea that would change the world. Over the next two decades he began experimenting with ideas to create instant long distance communications. After much struggle and trial he succeeded, and suddenly an urgent message could cross hundreds of miles in minutes instead of weeks. On May 24, 1844 when he sent his first telegraph, the message was just four words, “What hath God wrought?” His immediate instinct was to honor God.

As I thought about this story again recently, several key themes emerged:

Following the sudden loss, Morse’s career took an unexpected turn that completely reshaped his life’s purpose. And today he is remembered not for his art but for how God worked through him in the latter part of his life. His journey mirrors Ephesians 2:10: “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” We sometimes think it’s up to us to figure out our purpose and develop a “five-year plan.” And yet God already knows the purposes and plans He has ordained for us from before we were even born. We don’t need to see the entire roadmap; we just need to remain faithful to what’s in front of us at this moment.

Second, it was hard. Exceedingly hard. Success stories always tend to look so glittery and shiny on the surface, and yet underneath every success story is usually years of not-so-glamorous hardship. The road to success for Morse was filled with financial struggles, frustration, failed attempts, and endless setbacks and delays. It took nearly twenty years for his vision to become reality. As Charles Spurgeon noted, “By perseverance the snail reached the ark.” Likewise, the prophet Zechariah reminds us not to despise small beginnings.

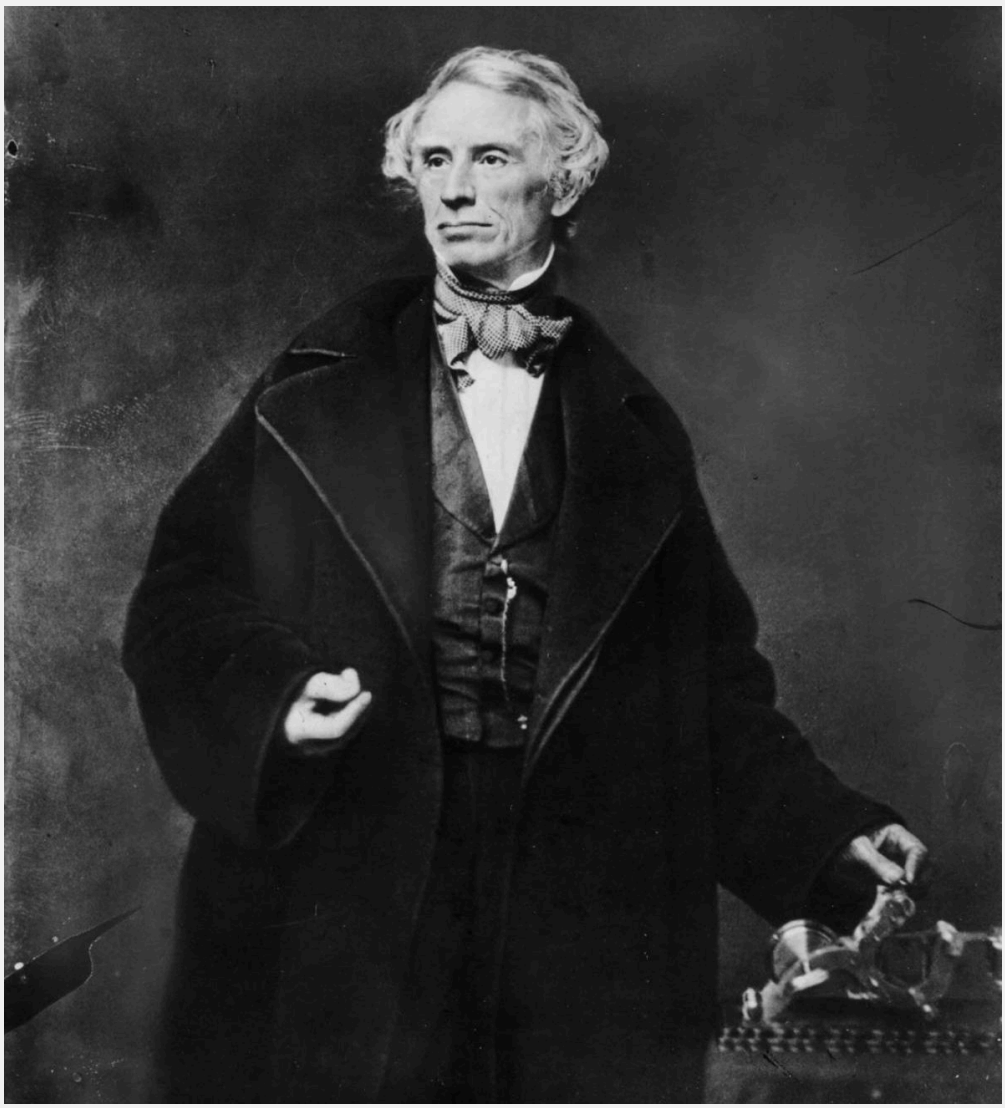
Third, what began with a mustard seed of an idea gave birth to the father of the communications system we enjoy today. God used Morse’s tragedy in a way that transformed the world, and the telegraph eventually became something much bigger than his original reason for creating it.

God makes everything beautiful in its time, wrote Solomon in Ecclesiastes 3:11. Sometimes our role is to plant, someone else waters, and someone else harvests. But the growth and the glory belongs entirely to God. Our part is to stay faithful to the work in front of us, knowing God is orchestrating a harvest greater than we could ever imagine.

Blessings,

Holly Klein
Director of Communications


THE FIRST TELEGRAPHIC INSTRUMENT
BENJ. FRANKLIN
17 52
ALFRED VAIL.
1844
LENGTH
16 INCHES
WIDTH
6 INCHES
HEIGHT
7 INCHES
DIAMETER
OF MAGNETS
3/4 INCHES
WIDTH
OF PAPER—
1/2 INCHES
WEIGHT
20 POUNDS
The above photograph is a true representation of the earliest instrument constructed for public use, and operated upon the experimental Telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore in 1844. It was in charge of Alfred Vail Esq. at the Balt. Station, and its Counterpart, a similar instrument, was under my charge at Washington.
New York, May 31. 1870. — Saml. F. B. Morse.
S.F.B. MORSE
1844
CYRUS W. FIELD
1858
Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1870, by THE NEW-YORK FINE ART COMPANY, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New-York.
LC 1406







MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
"Discerning the Times and Seasons" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-14)

I believe there is a compelling argument to be made that we are witnessing a kind of "Pendulum Effect" in our nation's elections over the past decade—one that may be unprecedented in much of American history. Along with this, we have experienced a degree of political and cultural division that arguably has not been seen in our nation since the Civil War, when our country was literally divided in two.

This Sunday, I want to explore some evidence of the times and seasons in which we find ourselves as a nation and consider what these developments

might mean for us as disciples of Christ, called to reflect and bear witness to His life and teachings in the world in which we live today.



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY--NOVEMBER 15

This Sunday is **Stewardship Sunday on November 15**, when we are asking our Sandia Fellowship family to present their Estimate of Giving (EOG) cards for the upcoming 2027 ministry year.

If you are unable to attend worship this **Sunday, November 15**, please mail your completed card to Sandia Fellowship, P.O. Box 16702, Albuquerque, NM 87191. Alternatively, you can take a picture of your completed card and email it directly to **jrech@sandiagmc.org**.

Our goal is to receive nearly all Estimate of Giving cards by **November 23**. Please remember that we are not asking for a commitment, but rather an estimate of your intended giving for the coming year.

Thank you for your faithful support, which has brought Sandia Fellowship to where we are today. We look forward to everyone's participation in this important event as we prepare to step into God's plans for our future together.

See you Sunday!

Pastor John



CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE THIS SUNDAY

Sandia Fellowship will host the area Charge Conference this **Sunday, November 15 at 3 PM.** This gathering will include our church and several other congregations in the area, with similar conferences taking place throughout the conference.

Everyone is invited to attend. We will address budget matters, renew Certified Lay Ministry servants, and hear a presentation from our new Bishop, Lyndol Loyd.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this special opportunity to gather with other churches and participate in the life and ministry of our conference.



BUILDING UPDATE

Currently we have an install date on the countertops for the bathrooms and the café area for December 4-5. We have yet to install the remaining exterior doors and we recently ordered additional TV's that will be placed in the middle of the worship center area. Please keep all these in your prayers.



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP GOLF GATHERING

Join us the first and third Thursdays of each month for a round of 9 holes! We meet at Arroyo del Oso Dam 9 at 9:30 AM. Our next date is Thursday, November 19 at 9:30 AM. Please RSVP TODAY by clicking **here** and provide us your contact information.



NEED ASSISTANCE WITH HEARING AT CHURCH?

If you are needing assistance with hearing, please download the **Listen Everywhere** app on your cell phone.

When you arrive at our service, please connect to our Wi-Fi. The password is: 17x9c9s0ua.

On your hearing aid, make sure your Bluetooth is turned on. If you do not want to use the app on your phone, we have two devices available. It has a headphone that goes over your ear and you can adjust the volume on the provided phone. Please ask an usher if you need one of these devices.



THERE'S A LIFE GROUP FOR YOU!

Sandia Fellowship has several LIFE Groups regularly meeting in homes throughout Albuquerque, as well as two that meet in local restaurants:

Tramway Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 PM. Contact: **Ed Boucheron**

Northeast Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 PM. Contact: **Tim Ownbey**

Women's Group: This LIFE Group meets every second and fourth Saturday at 10:00 AM at the church offices (2609 Texas St NE). Contact: **Lindy Rech**

"The Story" Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Monday from 12:00-1:00 PM at the church offices. Contact: **Pastor John**

"The Chosen" Interactive Bible Study Group: This LIFE Group meets seasonally using an interactive guide that follows along with the popular TV series. The group meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM at the church offices (2609 Texas St NE). Contact: **Gina Rivera**

Men's Breakfast: This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 AM at Sunnyside Up (6909 Menaul Blvd). Contact: **Ed Boucheron**

Women's Breakfast: This group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM at Dave's High Desert Grill (5200 Eubank Blvd). Contact: **Linda Hess**

All of these groups welcome new members! If you're interested in information about any of these, please contact the person listed or send an email to the church **here**.

Visit our **LIFE Groups page** on our website to learn more!





VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Have you visited our website lately? There's always fresh content being added: announcements and church news, current sermons as well as past sermon series, weekly newsletters, and more.

You can also submit a prayer request, learn about our various Life Groups, read about the missionaries and outreaches we support, set up online giving, learn more about the mission and vision of Sandia Fellowship as well as the Global Methodist Church, and so much more!

Bookmark our site and check back regularly!

www.sandiagmc.org



SEND US YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS!

Sandia Fellowship has a dedicated Prayer Ministry that intercedes weekly for various needs and requests. The Apostle Paul wrote, "**Do not be anxious about anything,** but in **everything** by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving **let your requests be made known to God**. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

There is no prayer need "too small" or "too big" for the Lord. If our hearts are burdened by anything, God wants us to bring it to Him in prayer -- and He promises us His peace when we do.

You can submit a prayer request in one of three ways:

- Send a request through our **website** or click the red button below.
- Email us at **prayer@sandiagmc.org**.
- Fill out a **Prayer Request card** available at the Welcome Tables on Sunday mornings.

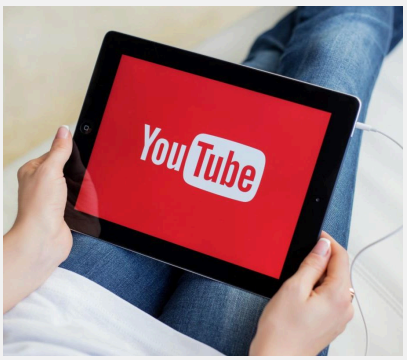
If you'd like to be a part of this Prayer Ministry, please email Holly at **hklein@sandiagmc.org**.

SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST HERE



Childcare is available for ages six months through five years old.





SANDIA FELLOWSHIP YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Did you know you can subscribe to the Sandia Fellowship YouTube channel? All of our weekly sermons are uploaded to our YouTube channel **here** as well as on our **website**.

Search ***@sandiafellowship*** on YouTube (or just click the photo).



This exciting venture in faith would not be possible without God moving upon the hearts of people to give towards this work. Your generosity helps create a church where we can bear witness to the transforming power of the Gospel. The mission of Sandia Fellowship is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. We strive to humbly serve others as ambassadors of Christ.

Click **HERE** to give safely and securely online.

NOTE: Donations can be made to either the **General Budget** or the **Building Fund** by choosing from the dropdown menu. You can also make a donation to our monthly **Communion Offerings** via the dropdown.

Checks can also be mailed to:

Sandia Fellowship GMC
P.O. Box 16702
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87191



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