



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

August 6, 2026

Thinking About Church

"And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make."

So just what is a church? My dictionaries give a number of definitions, but the first two comprise first the building where Christians worship, and then the people who come together in that building. While I was thumbing through my dictionaries, I noticed that the word church comes to us from the old English (which is to say, Germanic) word cirice. English is considered a Germanic language, rather than a Romance one, even though there are more modern English words derived from Latin and French than from Anglo Saxon. This is because the most important, foundational words of English, as well as its syntax, come from a Germanic source. These foundational words include love and hate, beginning and end, heaven and earth, life and death – and church. In other words, when the people of the British Isles were busy borrowing words from all over the world, they kept their existing versions of the



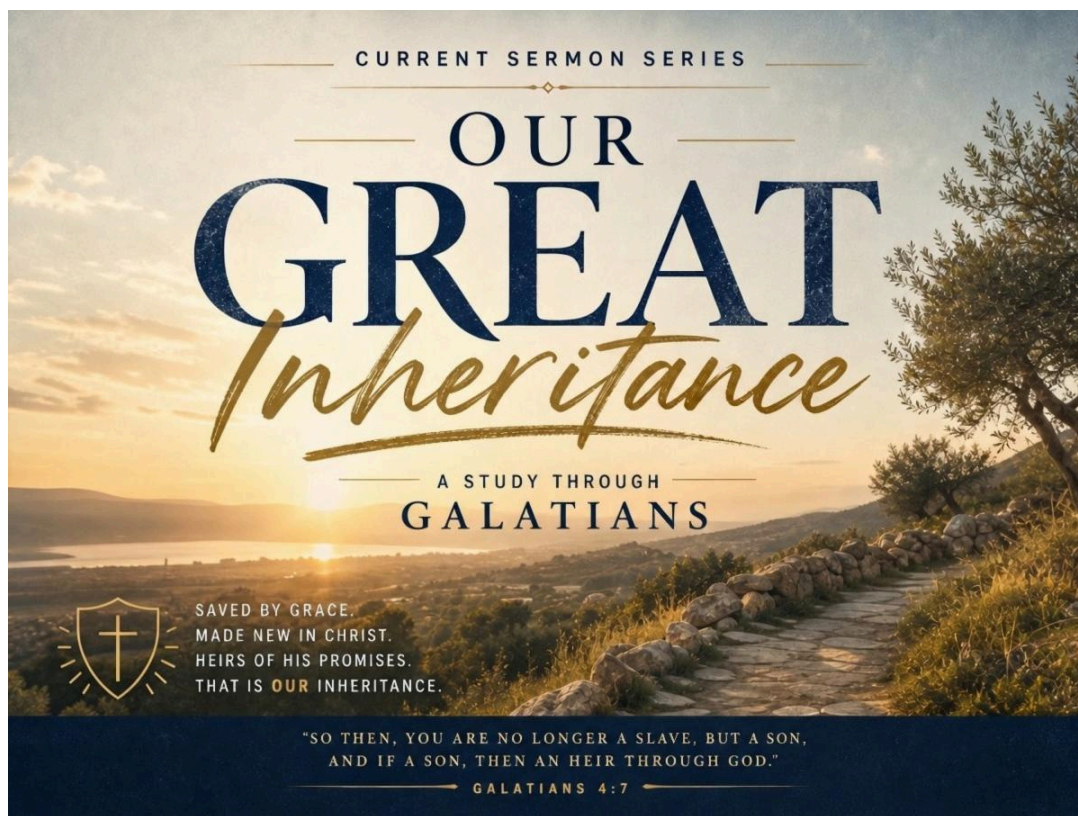
words describing the truly important things in life. And one of those words was “church.”

So church was very important to people centuries ago, and I believe it still is for most of us today. But is that because of the building in which worship takes place? I have been in some very impressive church buildings in my life. And while I appreciated the architecture and the stained glass windows, those buildings did not bring me nearly as close to our Lord as the people of Sandia Fellowship do – even when we met in a movie theater. In fact, it’s the people of a church that make it what it is. Of course, all good things ultimately come from God, but He relies on us to make church everything it can be. It was the faithfulness and generosity of our congregation that provided the funds to purchase, and then remodel, our new property. And when we were given the opportunity to sign up to provide furnishings and supplies for our new buildings, it reminded me of the similar opportunity that Moses gave to the people of Israel when they were building the tabernacle, as described in the book of Exodus. As related in the verse quoted above, the people responded so positively that Moses had to tell them not to bring any more! And while I don’t think any of us brought any “badger skins dyed red” to Tennessee Street, the people of Sandia Fellowship responded similarly to the Israelites, with an open hand, and with joy.

So when Jesus told Peter that he would be the rock on which Christ would build his church, we have the privilege of joining that same unbroken chain of Christian saints in answering the call of our Lord. I, for one, know of no other faith community which I would rather call my church home than Sandia Fellowship.

Wishing you blessings and joy,

Cliff Renschler
Leadership Team Chair



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 9 "A Bold Confrontation" (Galatians 2:1-14)

We are continuing our sermon series this Sunday through the book of Galatians, "Our Great Inheritance." Together we are exploring Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia and his explanation of the foundational truths of the Gospel of Christ.

This Sunday we will be looking at Galatians 2:1-14 where Paul confronts Peter on his avoidance of associating with Gentiles and being influenced by the Judaizer's instead of the Holy Spirit. It raises the question of how someone who is so clearly called to lead the New Testament church is so easily led astray.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY



CHANGING HEARTS, TRANSFORMING LIVES, IMPACTING THE WORLD

WOMEN'S KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY WEEKEND

The Women's Kairos Prison Ministry Weekend is quickly approaching, taking place **August 13–16**. As announced during worship, **Pat Housman** and **Gina Rivera** will be serving on the team ministering to women at the prison in Grants, New Mexico.

You, too, can be part of this life-changing ministry. As Paul reminds us in **2 Corinthians 3:3**, *"You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."* Even if you are not entering the prison, your support is a powerful witness of Christ's love.

Please stop by the Kairos table to:

- Sign up for the **prayer vigil**
- Pick up **placemats** to decorate with encouraging messages
- Make a **donation** to help provide meals for the weekend

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent communion offering. We are grateful for your generosity and look forward to sharing how your prayers, gifts, and support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of the women participating in this Kairos weekend.

Fellowship Luncheon @ Marriott Albuquerque

Sunday, August 9
11:30 AM



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON TODAY!

We look forward to seeing everyone today at the Fellowship Luncheon at the Marriott (2101 Louisiana Blvd NE)! It begins at 11:30 AM, after our worship service.

We still have a handful of tickets left, so if you didn't sign up but want to attend, please email Holly ASAP [here](#).

Memorial Service

Dick Copeland

August 10, 2026



SERVICE FOR DICK COPELAND

A memorial service for Dick Copeland will be held on Monday, August 10 at 10:00 AM at French's Funeral Home Chapel at Lomas and Eubank. There will be visitation/reception at 11:00 AM at the Chapel. Inurnment will follow at approximately 2:00 PM at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.



SYMPATHY FOR BEN AND CAROLYN MILARCH AND FAMILY

This is a difficult time for the Milarch family as Ben's brother Andrew passed away July 24. We have just received news that Ben's mother Lois Milarch just passed away Wednesday, August 5. She had been under Hospice care for a while and had been declining in health.

We lift up Ben and Carolyn, Kylie and Jack. We also lift up Jack Milarch (Lois's husband) and the entire family as they grieve these difficult losses.



UPDATE FROM THE HUNTERS Missionaries to Armenia

Hello from the Hunters,

Up until now, our team has had different dreams and ideas about what ministry and community impact could be in Armenia, but we have decided on four concrete goals that we have for our team, and I'd like to share them with you:

1. To create a profit generating business that can financially supplement ministry we do here.
2. To create an additional business that focuses on engaging the community and building relationships. (for example, a climbing gym where we invite people we meet through the gym to join a weekend hiking group)
3. Formalizing an organization structure
(This most likely will be to officially establish a YWAM presence in our city.)
4. To develop ministries and outreaches from the foundation of the Gathering.

Many of these goals aren't new, as I'm sure you'll notice, but this is the consolidation of what we've been working on and figuring out as a team, and what we will be working towards together.

In all of this, the foundation and "why" behind these goals is that we want Armenians to have restored hope through a relationship with Jesus.

This brings me to a challenge we've been facing and an invitation for you to pray.

By God's grace, we have been able to make friends with lots of different people in our city, many of which are atheists or agnostic. We've even been able to have really great conversations about Jesus and faith in Him that have seemed totally God-ordained; however, as soon as the conversation becomes about surrender to Jesus and actually making a decision, it's like we abruptly hit a solid, icy wall of resistance.

I REALLY think this is not a matter of methodology, but rather that breakthrough NEEDS to come through prayer.

So, please join me in praying for a softening of our friends hearts: that they would become hungry for Jesus, that God would continue to orchestrate conversations at the perfect time and that God would empower us to work miracles to confirm the Gospel message!

We love you lots, and need your prayer now more than ever!
Amelia, Bardo, and Ken Hunter



Faith & Family Night @ the Isotopes!



**Sunday, Aug. 23
1:35 PM**

FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT AT THE ISOTOPES!

Come join your church family for "Faith and Family Night at the Isotopes" on Sunday, August 23! The game starts at 1:35 PM. Group tickets must be purchased in advance, so please email us [here](#) to let us know if you and/or your family would like to participate. Tickets are \$20.



HELP AT THE ASBURY PIE CAFE!

Volunteers are needed to work at the Asbury Pie Café during the New Mexico State Fair. Sandia Fellowship will be sending a crew to work the morning shift, 8:45 AM – 2:00 PM, on Tuesday, September 15. Six or seven workers are needed.

If you'd like to participate or want more information, please contact Stacy Camacho by phone/text at 505-585-8969 or via email [*here*](#).



BUILDING UPDATE

Thankfully we now have a good balance of attendance between our two services at 8:30 AM and 10 AM at our **2609 Texas Street NE location**. We no longer need additional attendees to join us at the 8:30 AM service. We appreciate your help during this transition.

Concerning the Tennessee building, the ceramic tiles are being delivered this week and plan to be installed getting in the bathrooms and the kitchen area. The lighting is all in place and we have more electrical inspections scheduled. All the sound and AV equipment is almost finished. Things are moving along.

A promotional poster for a golf event. The background is a scenic view of a golf course with mountains in the distance. A golf ball sits on a tee in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the image.

Sandia Fellowship **GOLF**

THURSDAY
Aug. 20

AT
9:30 AM

Arroyo del Oso

RSVP

SFGMC-golf@sandiagmc.org

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, August 20 at 9:30 AM. Please RSVP by August 13 by clicking [here](#) and provide us your contact information.

A promotional poster for a men's breakfast event. The background is a wooden table with a breakfast meal. The text is overlaid on the image.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 AM

MEN'S BREAKFAST

@ Sunnyside Up

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Men's Breakfast meets this upcoming Tuesday, August 11 at 7:00 AM at Sunnyside Up (6909 Menaul Blvd NE). All are welcome!



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Our monthly Women's Fellowship Breakfast meets this upcoming Tuesday, August 11 at 9:00 AM at Dave's High Desert Grill (5200 Eubank Blvd NE). Reservations are helpful but not required. Please email Linda Hess [here](#).

Visit our LIFE Groups page to learn more about the various LIFE Groups Sandia Fellowship offers: www.sandiagmc.org/life-groups.



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**

Foothills Group: This LIFE Group meets every first and third Tuesday from 2:00-3:00 PM. Contact: **Jim Turner**

“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:

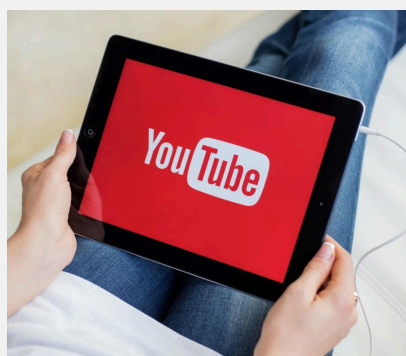
- Send a request through our **website** or click the red button below.
- Email us at **prayer@sandiagmc.org**.
- Fill out a **Prayer Request card** available at the Welcome Tables on Sunday mornings.

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).



**SANDIA
FELLOWSHIP**
Global Methodist Church



PARTNER WITH US!

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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