



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

July 30, 2026

Got a Favorite Teacher?

Believe it or not, summer is almost unofficially over as many schools prepare to begin a new school year. This Sunday, we will be lifting up our students, teachers, administrators, and everyone who serves in our education system in prayer for the upcoming school year.

As I reflected on this new season, I found myself thinking about a question: Who was your favorite teacher? Do you have one? Maybe my story will help you remember one of yours.



My favorite teacher was one of my professors at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. His name was Dr. Donald Joy, and he truly lived up to his last name. I first met Dr. Joy while I was a student at Texas Tech, when he came to speak at our Wesley Foundation. I found him to be a fascinating teacher and an exceptionally friendly person. Years later, when I arrived at Asbury Seminary to begin graduate school, I sought him out, and he was instrumental in helping me find a place to live.

I took several of his courses on Child and Human Development. While I don't remember many of his lectures in detail, there was one moment in class that I will never forget. About halfway through one lecture, one of my classmates fell into a deep sleep. Dr. Joy quietly walked over, gently nudged him awake, and—with no hint of condemnation—held out the keys to his office, inviting the exhausted student to get some rest on his couch.

Dr. Joy understood that many of us were working full- or part-time jobs while attending seminary full-time. Some days, we were simply too tired to stay awake in class. He was clearly one of the most compassionate professors I have ever known.

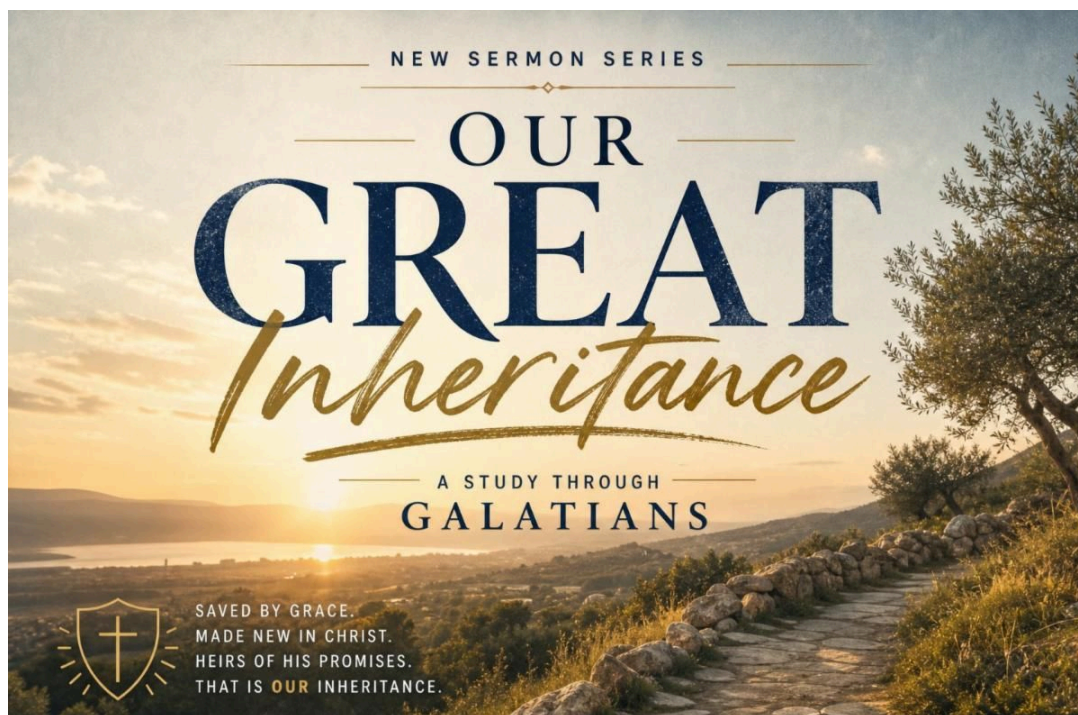
Dr. Joy also hosted accountability/support groups in his office for students who were interested. I learned so much from him—not only through his classes and his books, but even more through the way he genuinely cared for his students and invested his life and time into them.

I could tell more stories about Dr. Joy, but I'll close with one last memory. More than a decade ago, I returned to Asbury to attend a seminar and to revisit the campus I hadn't seen since graduating in the late 1980s. As you might expect, so much had changed. Dr. Joy had long since retired, but he was still living. I called ahead and asked if I might have the opportunity to visit him.

He and his wife Robbie graciously invited me to their home for dinner, and afterward we attended a Wednesday evening church service together. Although much about Asbury had changed over the years, Dr. Joy's love and care for his students was a constant and a blessing I'll never forget. Dr. Joy passed away in 2020, and I remain deeply grateful that I had the opportunity to spend that evening with him and Robbie.

As we begin this new school year, perhaps this is a good time to thank God for the teachers who have shaped our lives. They never fully know the lasting impact they have made, but God certainly does and so do we.

In His Grace,
John



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 "God's Amazing Grace" (Galatians 1:1-24)

This coming Sunday, we are beginning a new sermon series through the book of Galatians titled "Our Great Inheritance." Together, we will explore Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia and his explanation of the foundational truths of the Gospel of Christ.

Through this letter, we have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the blessings that are ours because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. This Sunday, we will begin with chapter 1, where Paul corrects the Galatians' misunderstanding of the Gospel and explains the divine calling and authority behind his ministry as an apostle of Jesus Christ.



HOLY COMMUNION THIS SUNDAY

COMMUNION OFFERING FOR JOY JUNCTION

Our communion offering this month is for Joy Junction, an Albuquerque faith-based ministry that offers emergency and short-term essentials such as food, clothing, counseling, transportation, and shelter to homeless men, women, children, and families throughout Albuquerque. Joy Junction serves approximately 350 people (including 60 to 80 children) every day, with over 340,000 meals each year provided to the homeless in Albuquerque.

Donations can be made at church or on our website here:

<https://sanddiagmc.org/how-to-give>



A photograph of a kitchen area. A woman with short white hair, wearing a light green short-sleeved shirt and olive green pants, stands in the center-left, smiling at the camera. To her right, a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a blue and white striped shirt and blue pants, is sitting on a black chair, leaning over a small, square, light-colored table with blue legs. He is working on something on the table. Another man, wearing a blue t-shirt, is kneeling behind the table, also working. The table has various items on it, including a blue bag, a white box, and some tools. In the background, there are wooden cabinets, a white microwave, a white dishwasher, and a black refrigerator. A black vacuum cleaner is on the floor next to the dishwasher. On the right side, there is a white desk with a box of water bottles and a white box on it. A black stool is under the desk. The floor is covered with a patterned rug.

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
- Volunteer to bake a few dozen **cookies** (click **here** for instructions)
- 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 FOR AUGUST

Our next Fellowship Luncheon is coming up on Sunday, August 9! It will be held at the Marriott (2101 Louisiana Blvd NE) at 11:30 AM, after our worship service.

Click [here](#) to RSVP by **August 4** and let Holly know how many are planning to attend, as well as which entree selection each person in your family would like. The entree will be a chicken dish.

For kids 10 and under: chicken strips, French fries and fruit cup

Cost is \$25 and children are free. Pay online [here](#) (select **Monthly Fellowship Luncheon** from the **Fund** drop down menu)



OUR FIRST SERVICE ON THE NEW PROPERTY!

This Sunday we met for the first time as a church on our new property -- three years and three days from when Sandia Fellowship first began! For now we're meeting in the office building we own while our Worship Center next door is being renovated!

PHOTO CREDIT: Ed Boucheron











UPDATE FROM S.E. COLEMAN Missionary to Guatemala and Africa

"California Edition"

Did you read that right? California edition!! Yes, instead of flying to Colombia mid-June, I left early morning the first of June for California. My son Thaddeus went into the Emergency Room and was admitted to the hospital in really bad shape! Didn't know he was admitted, just knew I needed to get up there as soon as possible. As it worked out, I thought I was booking for the 2nd, but it was the 1st, in realizing that, I got ready in 3 hours as the flight left at 2 in the am! Booked seat for Telma also. We got to airport and found out her visa had just expired! I had looked at an old visa in my haste that had not been voided and thought she had another week. Stunned, I knew, I had to go on and see what I could do. Was surprised when I got to Thad's apartment and he was not there, but discovered he was admitted and I immediately went to the hospital. One of the doctor's initial assessment proved to be right when MRIs were done. Thad had bacteria circulating in his system and his spinal column was the concentration of the poison circulating in his entire system. They operated a few days later, then the next week found his heart had been affected, also he had a small stroke on the right side. His right hand was blown up so big that he could not bent his fingers. As of today, 2nd of July, he is still in the hospital, for one week he had a setback with left foot on its top, they never knew exactly what it was. Gout? Cellulitis? He had x-rays, CT imaging, ultrasound. They just threw more antibiotics at his system. Now he is so much better, the first 2 weeks, his strength had waned so much and he was not able to do simple tasks. I was there to help him early mornings, would take an afternoon break, then go back late afternoon for the evening. I have not missed a day, soooo at my age, it has been a stretch. Since his energy is better and he is able to do for himself, I have been less hours, but consistent. The day of his big operation, was there, I think 12 hours!! Here's Thad now:



Believe me, when he saw the first picture I took of him, he said, "Looks like I am dead." He was close! With massive prayer coverage, his determination, knowledge of his muscles, anatomy, and training kicking in, Thad has come so far!!

Click [here](#) to read the rest of S.E. Coleman's ministry update.

A promotional graphic for a baseball game. The background is black with several bright stadium lights at the top. The text "Faith & Family Night @ the Isotopes!" is written in large, white, bold letters. To the right of the text is the Isotopes logo, which features a stylized atom with a red nucleus and yellow and orange orbits, with the word "ISOTOPES" in a colorful, stylized font below it. At the bottom, a wooden baseball bat and a white baseball with red stitching are shown lying on a green artificial turf field. The date and time "Sunday, Aug. 23 1:35 PM" are written in yellow, bold letters in the bottom right corner.

**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.



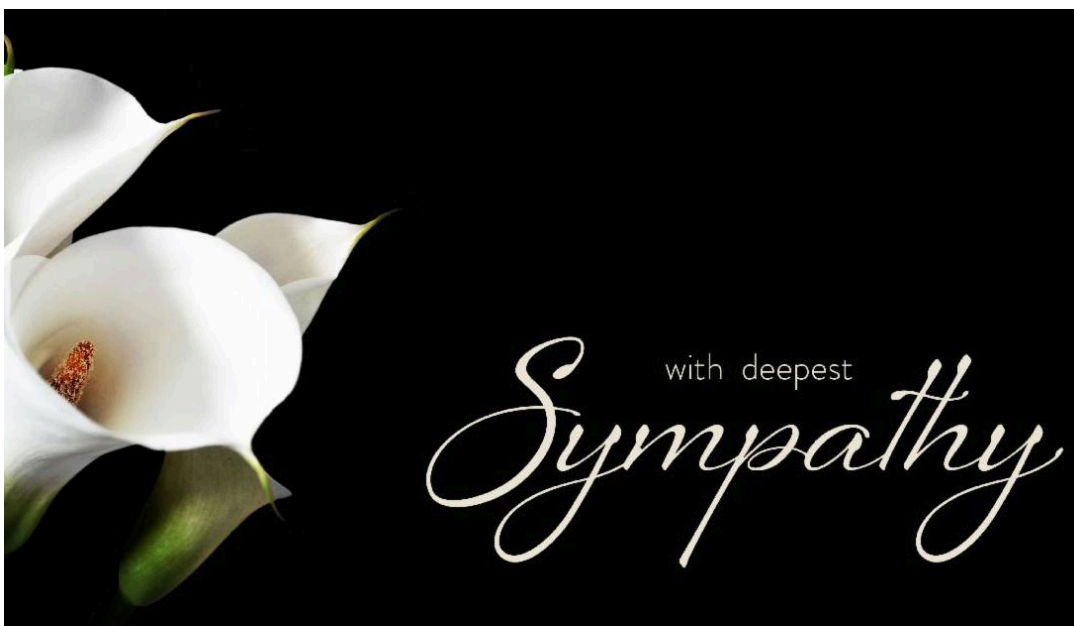
HELP AT THE ASBURY PIE CAFE!

Volunteers are needed to work at the Asbury Pie Café during the New Mexico State Fair. Sandia Fellowship will be sending one or more crews to work a shift or two.

Shifts are typically 4-5 hours long, and six or seven workers are needed for each shift.

Shifts needed: September 10, 11, 15, and 17

If you'd like to participate or want more information, please contact Stacy Camacho [here](#).



WITH SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS
Dick Copeland

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Gloria and the family on the passing of Dick Copeland who entered the presence of Jesus on Sunday, July 19. Services are pending.



BUILDING UPDATE

We will continue to meet at **8:30 AM** and **10:00 AM** at 2609 Texas Street NE. We are still doing some scheduling on trying to balance out the attendance in both services. We are still in need of a few more people to attend the 8:30 AM service, so please email us [here](#) and let us know if you would be willing to attend that service and we will respond back.



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

SERVE ON OUR **CONFERENCE** *Prayer Team*



You will participate in a Zoom meeting from 10–11 AM on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.



The Conference Prayer Team also involves connecting with up to eight churches to be their prayer connection to the Conference Prayer Team.



Email us at info@sandiagmc.org if interested.



PRAY
WITH PURPOSE



SUPPORT
OUR LEADERS



STRENGTHEN
OUR CHURCH

COULD GOD BE CALLING YOU TO SERVE ON OUR CONFERENCE PRAYER TEAM?

Are you looking for a ministry opportunity that you can do from your own home? Last week Les Hall (who is the Supervising Elder for the West District of the West Plains Annual Conference) called and asked if I could find someone who would like to serve on the West Plains Conference Prayer Team.

Here is the information if you are interested in pursuing this ministry opportunity. It first involves participating in a Zoom meeting from 10-11 AM on the first and third Wednesday of each month. It also involves connecting with up to eight churches to be their prayer connection to the Conference Prayer Team.

This is an important ministry in the life of our conference and all the churches of our conference. If you are interested in knowing more, please **email** us today and we will help you with the next steps into a new ministry.



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, July 16 at 9:30 AM. Please RSVP TODAY by clicking [here](#) and provide us your contact information.



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

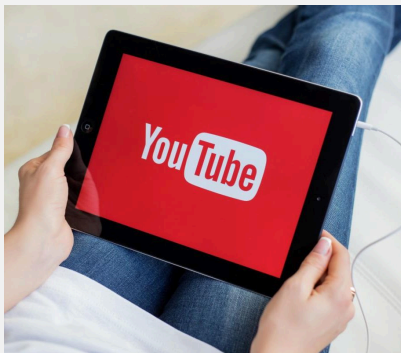
Join us Sunday mornings

at 8:30 AM and 10 AM

2609 Texas Street NE



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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