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SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

March 12, 2026

Free At Last

To bystanders witnessing the passage of the wooden crate, it undoubtedly seemed like any other ordinary parcel making its way north. But this was no ordinary box. On that chilly day in March 1849, the crate contained none other than Henry Box Brown. The 33-year-old slave from Virginia arranged to have himself mailed to the free state of Pennsylvania. In order to have an excuse for why he was not at work on the day he planned to escape, Brown purposely burned his hand to the bone with sulfuric acid. In a box the size of a medium dog crate with one small air hole and inscribed with the words "Dry Goods," Brown traveled 250 miles by wagon, train and boat and sometimes upside down. It was a perilous 27 hour journey, fraught with all manner of danger, especially if he was caught. He eventually arrived in Philadelphia and was welcomed to freedom by leaders of the Underground Railroad.



Later remarking on his journey, Brown said, "If you've never been deprived of your liberty as I was, you cannot realize the power of that

hope of freedom, which was to me indeed an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast."

Fourteen years after Henry Box Brown's brave journey, the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, resulting in the freedom of over three million slaves from ten Confederate states. The 13th Amendment two years later officially abolished all slavery.

Truly, the yearning of every human heart is to be free.

The Bible also contains an "Emancipation Proclamation." The human heart is enslaved to sin, according to the Bible: "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin" (John 8:34). Jesus is the only remedy to this problem. His death and resurrection overcame the power of sin in our lives: "Our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we would no longer be enslaved to sin" (Romans 6:6). His sacrifice on the cross redeemed us from sin's cruel slavery and the hold it had over us; the Greek word "apolutrōsis" literally means to purchase a slave out of captivity: "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" (Ephesians 1:7). And the good news of the Gospel gets even better. After He redeemed us, He then adopted us into His family: "You are no longer slaves, but sons and daughters" (Galatians 4:7).

Historians say when Henry Box Brown emerged from his wooden crate, alive and free, he stated, "I had risen as it were from the dead."

In the same way, the Bible likens our salvation as a passage from death to life and from slavery to freedom. Through Christ, we have been set free from sin's slavery and now we serve the Lord. "Never could there be a better master, for His service is freedom and His rule is love," said Charles Spurgeon. Our life in Christ is a spiritual Emancipation Proclamation we can celebrate every day.

The old spiritual hymn said it well,

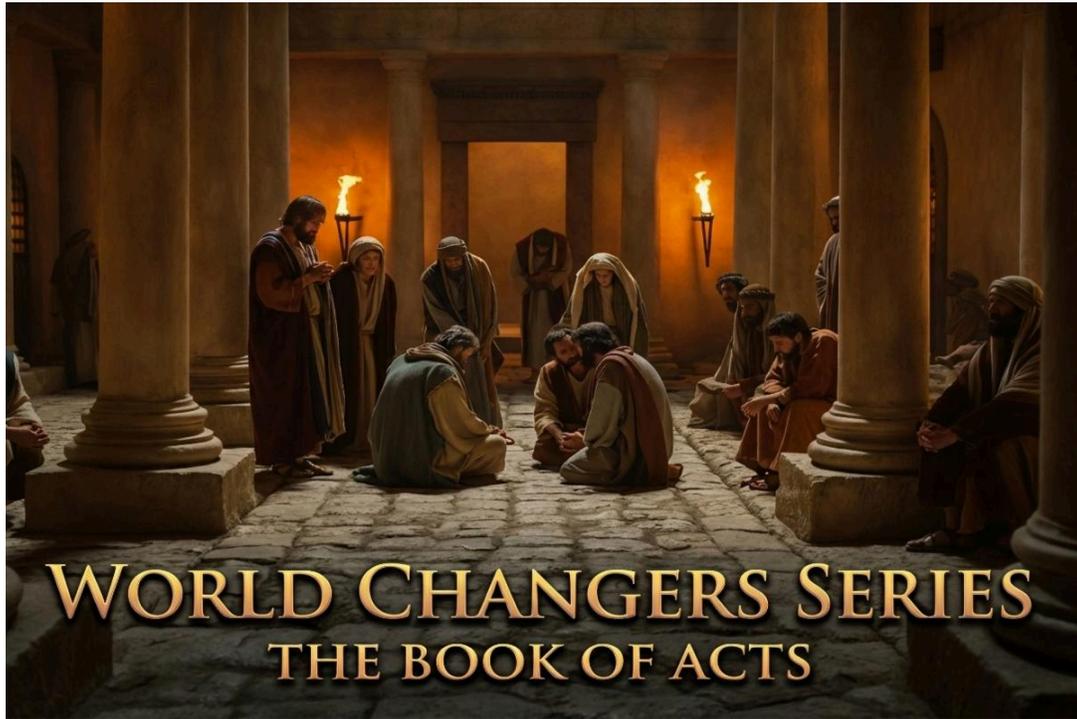
*Free at last, free at last,
Thank God I'm free at last.
Serve you Lord while I have breath,
Thank God I'm free at last.*

*See my Jesus after death,
Thank God I'm free at last.
Goin' to heav'n and put on my shoes.
Thank God I'm free at last.*

*One of these mornin's, bright and fair,
I'm goin' to meet my Jesus, way in de air.*

*Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty, I'm free at last.*

Blessings,
Holly Klein



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 15
"Paul's Persuasion"
Acts 19, 25-26

In the latter portion of this series on the book of Acts, we are focused primarily on the life of Paul and his missionary journeys. This Sunday we will mostly focus on Paul's arrest in Jerusalem and his subsequent and bold efforts to persuade King Agrippa to become a Christian. This conversation Paul has with King Agrippa reveals the multifaceted approach that Paul expresses when sharing about his faith in Christ Jesus.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH THIS SUNDAY! Every 1st and 3rd Sunday

Children's Church is held on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of each month for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. This program takes place during the message portion of the morning service. Please inquire at the Welcome Desk on Sunday if you have any questions, or email us at info@sandiagmc.org.



BUILDING UPDATE

We are still making progress and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Fellowship Luncheon @ Sheraton Uptown

Sunday, March 29
11:30 AM



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON FOR MARCH

Our next Fellowship Luncheon is coming up on Sunday, March 29. It will be held at the Sheraton Uptown at 11:30 AM, after our worship service.

Click [here](#) to RSVP by March 23 and let Holly know how many are planning to attend, as well as which entree selection each person in your family would like.

Choose from one of these options:

- Sliced Beef Pot Roast with a Mushroom Madeira Reduction. Served with Chive Whipped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable, *or*
- Green Chile Chicken Enchiladas, Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice & Flour Tortillas

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)



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE Thursday, April 2

Please join us for our Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 PM at the Sheraton ABQ Uptown.



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](#)



SANDIA FELLOWSHIP

Global Methodist Church

SHERATON ABQ
UPTOWN
2600 Louisiana Blvd NE

VISIT US ONLINE
www.sandiagmc.org



Sundays @ 10 AM

Join us for worship this Sunday!

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



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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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