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SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

March 19, 2026

Equipped But Not Experienced

This past Sunday afternoon, I faced a challenge where I found myself equipped but not experienced. The previous Friday our landscaper Mike came to look at our property to offer some ideas on a few small areas for our front and back yard. During our conversation, Lindy mentioned to Mike how she was wanting me to mow the front and side area of our yard -- an idea of which I was less than enthusiastic since this was desert grass and I liked the idea of the "zero landscaping" look.



Mike then suggested that I could probably find a cheap used riding mower for the areas that Lindy wanted mowed. Lindy liked the idea, and then suddenly I had an "attitude adjustment" with the suggestion of something with wheels and a motor that involved riding. I was now in search mode and thanks to Craigslist, I quickly found an "almost new" Cub Cadet riding mower for sale in Placitas. This riding mower reminded me of my early 1960's IH Cub Cadet that I spent countless hours on when I started my own landscaping business as an older child and teenager.

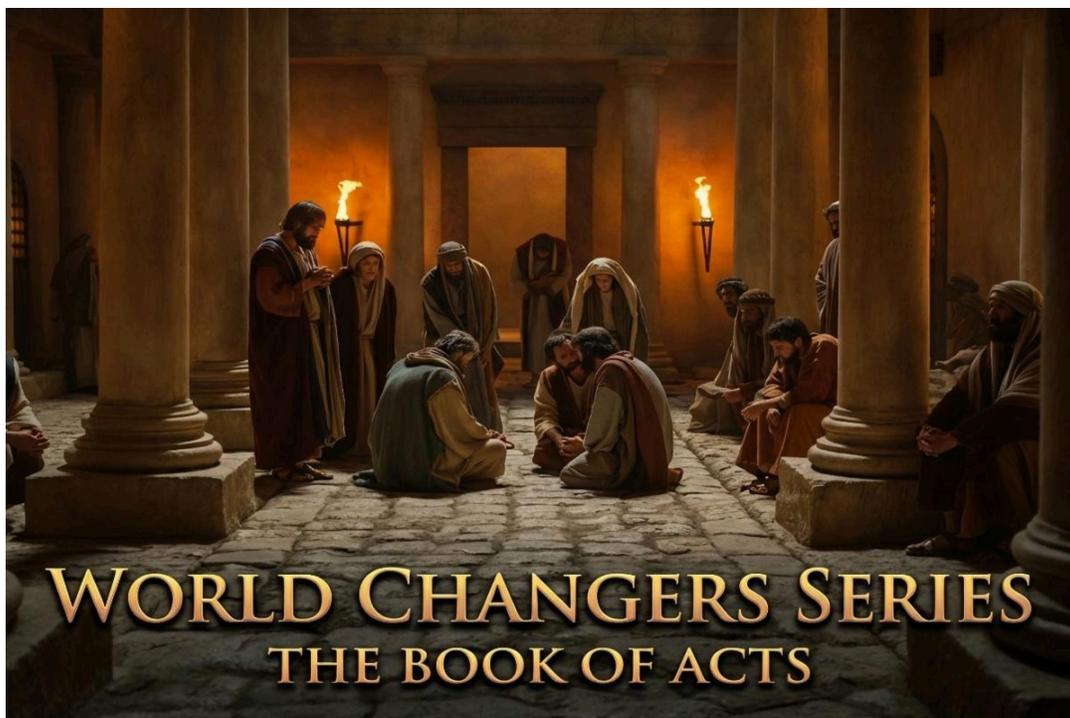
Sunday afternoon I met with a guy named Jack to purchase the riding mower, and fortunately as advertised he offered to deliver it to our home. About ten minutes after dropping off the mower, I got a call as Jack's Jeep had broken down and he was in a parking lot in Cedar Crest. He said his serpentine belt (named for weaving like a snake) had broken and wondered if there were any auto parts stores nearby. I told him the nearest auto parts store was in Albuquerque, but I would be there shortly to pick him up and get the needed part.

I always carry a spare serpentine belt and tools in my car because if your serpentine belt breaks, everything quits except your engine which will only last a few minutes before it overheats. So, I've always been prepared to replace the belt -- but never had the experience of doing the task. I took Jack into town to get the replacement belt and headed back to the Jeep.

Did I say I was equipped but not experienced? We both looked at that engine and the belt thinking, "How in the world does this go back together?" I had brought my computer and was able to pull up the belt diagram for his Jeep. I then pulled up a YouTube video and figured out how release the tensioner pulley and set and tighten the new belt which was different from my car. After two hours, we finally finished a job that should have taken 30 minutes. The Jeep started up and we "high-fived" our accomplishment together and Jack returned safely home.

Is there is a spiritual lesson here? Of course, as I can do that with almost any event. Jack and I overcame this repair challenge even without experience, but it did require determination, the right tools, the right information and working together. With our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ, God gives us the Scriptures (our tools & information), the Holy Spirit (specific guidance like the YouTube) and the Church (Jack and I worked better together) to overcome life's challenges. If we try to follow Jesus without any of those three gifts from God, it's like a three-legged stool missing one leg. Instead, let's enjoy life and face challenges by staying in His Word, listening to the Holy Spirit and staying together in the fellowship of believers.

Blessings,
Pastor John



WORLD CHANGERS SERIES THE BOOK OF ACTS

MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 22 "The Storms of Life" Acts 27-28

This Sunday we are finishing our World Changers series on the book of Acts. This week Paul and Luke endure a massive storm and survive being shipwrecked on their journey to Rome. These last two chapters detail this tragic journey that contains some humorous events that also include some great lessons on enduring the storms we experience in our lives. It is a classic ending to an amazing life lived through Paul that has been detailed through the writings of Luke.



BUILDING UPDATE

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Hap Richardson and I continue meeting each week with Lorenzo and others to work through the details of our church renovation. We find ourselves continually making adjustments and improvements to make this the best renovation possible. We are making progress and are working toward being in the building by mid-May with a new target date of June 7 as our Grand Opening. This will be interesting if June 7 ends up being our official Grand Opening, as it will be three years to the date of our first meeting which began on Wednesday night, June 7, 2023. I can't promise that date, but it is possible. Please keep praying.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Men's Breakfast meets this upcoming Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 AM at Sunnyside Up (6909 Menaul Blvd NE). All are welcome!

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

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 **this Monday, 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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