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## SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

November 13, 2025

## The Impermanence of Life

Our beloved Opie passed away this summer just shy of her 16th birthday. I had rescued her as a neglected puppy and her loss was especially difficult. To commemorate her recent 16th birthday in heaven, I decided to create a compilation video of her life. I soon discovered the project to be no small feat considering I have over 8,000 photos and videos of her. Though I'm regarded as our family photographer due to my love of



photography, even I was surprised how many photos I had of Opie.

We recently celebrated my mom's milestone 80th birthday as well as an early celebration of my father's 83rd birthday. Between all the family gatherings here in Albuquerque with my parents and my children and grandchildren, hundreds more photos were added to my burgeoning collection.

And I thought of a quote that has always reverberated in my soul: "If

you want to know what someone is afraid of losing, look at what they photograph." And when I look through my thousands upon thousands of photos, I realize that the vast majority are of my beloved family, both human and canine. I've always regarded the act of taking a photo as an attempt to sear the precious memory deep into one's memory banks, willing oneself to never forget the cherished moment.

In some ways, taking photographs is testimony to the impermanence of life. Even in the happiest moments of life, we know that everything beautiful is also and already fleeting. We are here for just a short time. Like radiant flowers, we bloom and then we die. Every beginning has an ending; every parting hug tinged with the knowledge that a final goodbye is coming. Every time we take a photograph, deep within our heart we know it may be the last photo we ever take of that person. Life is fragile and fleeting.

The impermanence of life comes into sharp view every time a death occurs and we attend the memorial. These remembrances are both a time of sorrow and yet also comforting testimony to the fact that this life is not the end. Death will one day be swallowed up in victory. "I will not fear to die," said Charles Spurgeon. "Death is not banishment. It is a return from exile: a going home to the many mansions where loved ones who died in Christ welcome us."

As I look back over decades of family members, friends, and pets who have departed this earthly vale, the poignant memories of each wrenching loss reminds us that God carries us through every sorrow. In the midst of the deepest heartbreak shines the hope of the resurrection. God has written the final chapter of the Book, and we know He wins. My favorite Scripture passage has always been Revelation 21:3-4: "I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among His people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever, for the old order of things has passed away."

On that glorious day, the impermanence of life will give way to the permanence of joy forevermore in the presence of God, blissful world without end. Separation and death will be no more. Christ is the final victor in a saga that has long ago been decided. Death is the last enemy to be destroyed. And so shall it be.

Holly Klein



# MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 "The Gold Standard for Life" Matthew 7:12

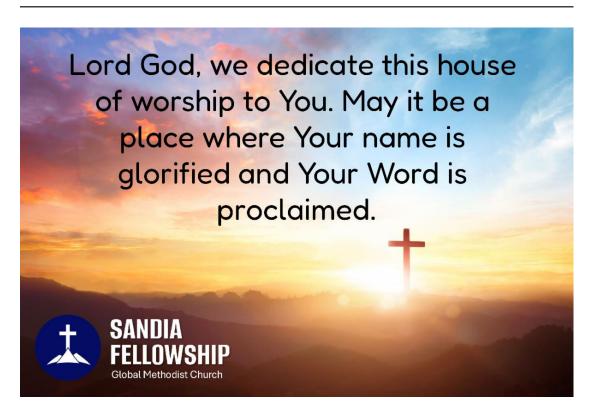
This Sunday we are looking at one of the most well-known phrases spoken by Jesus on how we are to relate to others. This phrase "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" is rather simplistic when read on its own. However, it was spoken in the context of some other statements that are challenging and thought-provoking when it comes to the application of this famous statement.



2026 ESTIMATE OF GIVING THANK YOU for Your Response!

I want to thank everyone who turned in their Estimate of Giving cards for 2026. We had a great response and I am really encouraged as we prepare for new ministry opportunities in the coming year. If you haven't turned in an EoG card, please do so as soon as possible or at least bySunday, November 23. The EoG cards are a vital tool in helping us accurately plan and prepare for the ministry opportunities of 2026.

If you are **unable to attend** this Sunday, feel free to mail it to Sandia Fellowship, P.O. Box 16702, Albuquerque, NM 87191 or you can take a picture of your EOG card and email it directly to **jrech@sandiagmc.org**. Copies of the EoG cards are also available on our website (click **here**). Please remember that we are not asking for a commitment but an estimate. We know that life includes unexpected changes which is why we are simply requesting an estimate based expected income. Thanks again for your support in this effort.



### PRAYER GATHERING AT TENNESSEE BUILDING Sunday, November 23

On Sunday, November 23 right after the morning worship service, we are inviting the Sandia Fellowship family to gather at 2608 Tennessee NE in what will be our new worship center for a time of individual and community prayer. This will be an opportunity to write prayers and Scriptures onto the walls and floors of our building and place them into the foundations of this building prior to its completion. We will provide a time for individual prayers and writings and then gather in what will be the main worship center for a corporate prayer.



#### SANDIA FELLOWSHIP FINANCIAL UPDATE

Recently our leadership was asked about the communication of financial information regarding Sandia Fellowship. The Leadership Team decided at its last meeting to provide a quarterly update of our financial status through the newsletter. Below is our third quarter summary report. Normally quarterly reports will come out a few weeks after then end of each quarter. We do have an open policy on our financial information for our members, therefore additional information or details can be obtained through emailing us through our **church website**.

Sandia Fellowship GMC Quarterly Financial Information 3rd Quarter 2025 September 30, 2025

**Financial Statement** 

Income: \$408,782.94 <u>Expense: \$377,914.56</u> Net Income: \$30,868.38

#### **Outreach/Missions**

Church Budget: \$23,173.43 <u>Congregational Giving: \$9,140.00</u> Total Outreach: \$32,313.43



#### TEMPORARY ROOM CHANGE

Please note that we will be meeting in the Ambassador Room for the next three Sundays:

- Sunday, November 16
- Sunday, November 23
- Sunday, November 30

We will return to the Baldwin Room on Sunday, December 7.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.



#### **ADVENT READERS NEEDED**

Advent is right around the corner and we will need some readers. If you are

interested in doing a short Scripture reading, please contact Allan here.



#### CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Please join us for our Christmas Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday, December 7! It will be held at the Sheraton Uptown at 11:30 AM, after our worship service.

Click here to RSVP by December 1 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 turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy
- Roast beef with burgundy mushroom sauce
- Vegetarian option

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

Cost is \$25 and children are free.





#### **BUILDING OUR FUTURE - UPDATE**

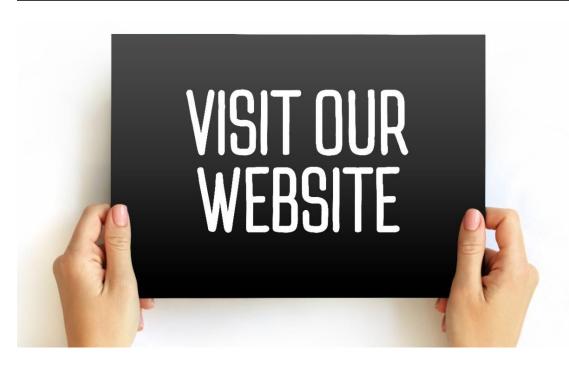
Lorenzo and his crew continue to make a lot of progress on the demolition and removal of construction debris. They have filled two construction dumpsters which are the size of a tractor trailer. Once all the debris is cleared, construction will begin.



## CHILDREN'S CHURCH Every 1st and 3rd Sunday

Thanks to an enthusiastic response to our call for volunteers to help with our Children's Church, we now have a great team in place for this new ministry.

We now offer Children's Church on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of each month. This program is for children in kindergarten through 6th grade and it will take place during the message portion of the morning service.



#### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE!**

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

You can also <u>submit a prayer request</u>, learn about our various <u>Life</u> <u>Groups</u>, read about the <u>missionaries and outreaches</u> we support, set up <u>online giving</u>, learn more about the <u>mission and vision</u> of Sandia Fellowship as well as the <u>Global Methodist Church</u>, 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, "<u>Do not be anxious about anything</u>, but in <u>everything</u> by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving <u>let your requests be made known to God</u> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

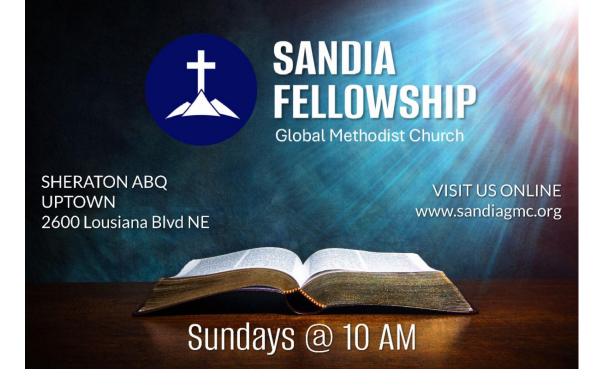
There is no prayer need "too small" or "too big" for the Lord. If our hearts are burdened by anything, God wants us to bring it to Him in prayer -- and He promises us His peace when we do.

#### 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 <a href="mailto:hklein@sandiagmc.org">hklein@sandiagmc.org</a>.

SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST HERE



## Join us for worship this Sunday!

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.

<u>NOTE</u>: 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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