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### SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

October 30, 2025

### **Thinking About Home**

When Pastor John asked me to write an article for this week's newsletter, I had to first think of something to say. I discovered that the quickest way to develop a renewed appreciation for a preacher who has to write a new sermon every week is to be asked to develop something to say yourself (even if only occasionally). It became clear to me that I wanted to express how much I appreciate Sandia Fellowship Church. The word that



came to mind (and I hope it was planted there by the Holy Spirit) is "home."

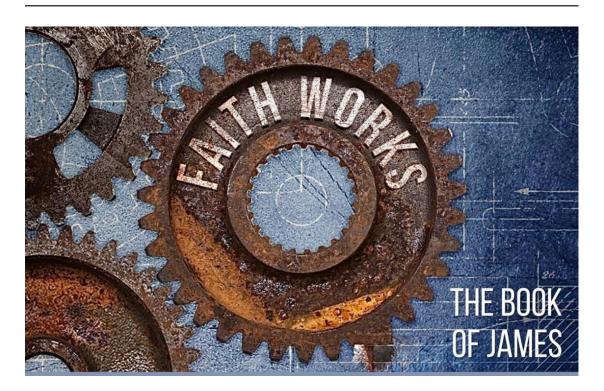
I looked up the word "home" in three dictionaries and a thesaurus, and you might be surprised just how many definitions you can find. One was "an environment offering security and happiness." Another was "the place where something is discovered, founded, developed, or promoted." I think that one fits our church pretty well. But the definition that stuck out for me was "an institution where people are cared

for." Now I'm sure that the editors of the dictionary meant by that definition the physical place where people reside when they need help with daily living. This would be the place I'm referring to when I ask my granddaughters if they will visit me in the home one day. But don't you think that definition describes Sandia Fellowship? Our church is not a physical place. We have already met in three locations and, God willing, will soon have a permanent place to gather for worship. But whether we meet in a movie theater, a hotel, or a former credit union, our church is made up of a wonderful group of people, collectively the Body of Christ, who gather together in the presence of the Spirit, to serve God, and the world, and to care for each other. In theory, you can make a similar statement about any Christian church. But let's face it – some churches just have more of the spirit of love, community, and joy than others. I recognized that spirit most vividly a few weeks ago as we took communion. As we were called by name and offered the Elements, it was a reminder that Jesus knows us all by name, and loves us unconditionally.

We are all destined for our true home one day, in the mansions Jesus said he went ahead to prepare for us. Until then, for me at least, Sandia Fellowship is a pretty good place to call home.

Wishing you blessings and joy.

Cliff



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2
"Practicing Wisdom with Our Wealth"

James 5:1-12

This Sunday we are continuing the sermon series Faith Works which is

based on the New Testament Book of James. This Sunday James writes a letter that was likely targeting believers and unbelievers on the matter of how we manage businesses and the wealth that God provides for us. This chapter contains some of the most challenging words related to our call to the stewardship of our resources.



### COMMUNION OFFERING: A PEACEFUL HABITATION

Our communion offering this month is for A Peaceful Habitation. This ministry aids women in New Mexico who are transitioning from incarceration back into their homes and communities.

### A Peaceful Habitation provides:

- Structured, supportive life skills workshops (parenting, financial planning, trauma healing, and other workshops).
- One-on-one mentoring and community partnerships to assist participants in their journeys back to family and community life.
- Teaching the Word of God and Christian morals and principles.
- Referrals and resources for participants to comply with all their probation/ parole mandates.



### **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.



Update from the Hunters Missionaries to Armenia

Hello from the Hunters,

We wanted to send you a more in-depth update, so you can follow this link to watch a video from us: October Update

#### Here's a summary of what we discuss in the video

### What We've Been Up to Lately:

- Our main commitment as a team is still learning Armenian, so that is what takes up the majority of our time.
- Ken shares some specifics about what we've been learning.
- As a team, we realized that if we jump right into starting a business or ministry we wouldn't have time to prioritize language like we really need to, so we will resume work and prep towards starting a business in May.
- In the meantime, we are taking much more time to pray together as a team and seek out God's will for our community. Remember "go slow to go fast later"?
- We are expecting a baby!
- We are planning to give birth in Armenia, at a clinic in the capital city.

#### How We've Seen God's Faithfulness:

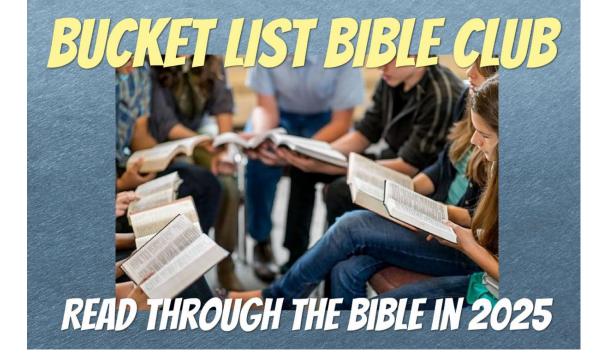
- Amelia shares the story of how God connected us with our "home church" here in Vanadzor.
- Overall, we have experienced God putting us in the right place at the right time over and over again since moving here.
- Although things are still pretty unclear moving forward, we have seen that God is leading us, and we trust that He will continue to lead us into HIs purposes for us.

### Prayer Requests:

- Pray for health for Ken, Amelia, and the baby and that we would have everything we need to welcome a child into our family.
- Pray for discernment for our team, specifically that we would know how God is leading us to move forward, and that we would continue to love each other like Jesus does.
- Pray for the DTS coming to Armenia this winter from YWAM Yosemite.
- Pray for Ken and our pastor to be able to establish a soup kitchen at our church to bless the needy in our community.



Ken and Amelia Hunter



### **BUCKET LIST BIBLE CLUB MEETING**

Our next Bucket Bible List Club meeting is coming up on Monday, November 3. The in-person meeting is at 12 noon at our 2609 Texas St NE building, and Pastor John will also host a Zoom meeting this Sunday at 4:00 PM.

You are welcome to bring a lunch with you and eat while we meet at noon. Don't forget to bring your Bible!

Thank you for participating in this great opportunity to regularly study God's Word together, stomp out biblical illiteracy, and grow together with others as we strive to be faithful as disciples of Jesus Christ who are anchored in the Scriptures.

# STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 9



### Launching a Living Legacy

# STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 9 Launching a Living Legacy

In 2024 we got the keys but in 2026 we are going to OPEN THE DOORS and gather to worship, fellowship, and be discipled together as followers of Jesus Christ in our new building! We are also looking forward next year to expanding our staff to include a **Director of Family Ministries** that will focus primarily on our children and youth ministries. We invite you to prayerfully prepare to discern your investment in partnering with your church for this coming year through our **Launching a Living Legacy** Stewardship Campaign.

Sunday, November 9 will be our Stewardship Sunday where we are asking our Sandia Fellowship family to present their Estimate of Giving cards for the upcoming ministry year of 2026. These EoG cards are critical tools that help our church leadership become the best stewards of resources that you provide for ministry. The Estimate of Giving cards are an opportunity to express our gratitude to God and generosity in supporting Sandia Fellowship in our call to make discipleship of Jesus Christ.

We will be mailing out our EoG cards on November 1 so that everyone will have copies to pray over and bring them to worship on November 9 (or mail them to the church post office box: PO Box 16702, Albuquerque, NM 87191).



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

Lorenzo and his crew are making 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, they will start on construction.



### **FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**

Thank you to everyone who attended our October luncheon! Our next

luncheon will be held on December 7 and will feature a Christmas theme with carols! Watch for more details and menu options coming soon.



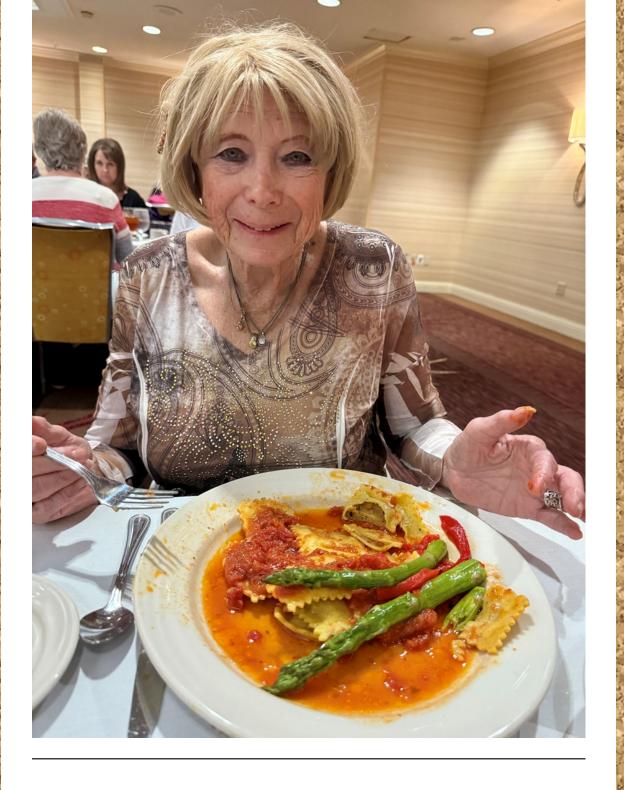














### CHILDREN'S CHURCH BEGINS THIS SUNDAY!

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 to begin this new ministry. We will be starting the Children's Church this Sunday, November 2 and then continue 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.



### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

This Sunday is our All Saints Sunday Communion Service. In addition to recognizing our members who have passed away this past year, if you have

a spouse, parent, sibling or a child that has passed away since November of 2024 and you would like to have that person's name read in the communion service, we would like to offer that opportunity. Please email the family member's name and provide the date of their passing. Pastor John will read these names during our memorial portion of the All Saints Sunday Communion Service on November 2.

These names must be emailed **here** by the end of the day today (Thursday, October 30).



#### **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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