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SANDIA FELLOWSHIP WEEKLY NEWS

September 18, 2025

An Aramaic Tony Robbins

Last Sunday I split my message time to offer a tribute to Charlie Kirk and talk about his ministry, his love for Christ, and the impact of his death. I also focused on how several Christian leaders saw his death not just as an assassination but that he was martyred for his faith. While I have listened to Charlie Kirk's videos and podcasts occasionally in the past, I've found myself watching more of them since his death last Wednesday.



I mentioned last Sunday that Charlie obviously had more influence in our nation than I had realized. He in fact produced one video that had over a billion views, and it appears that this particular video may have doubled its viewing since his passing. That's incredible and rare among communicators.

I was watching one interview where Charlie was being questioned about his view of the popular version of Christianity in America and

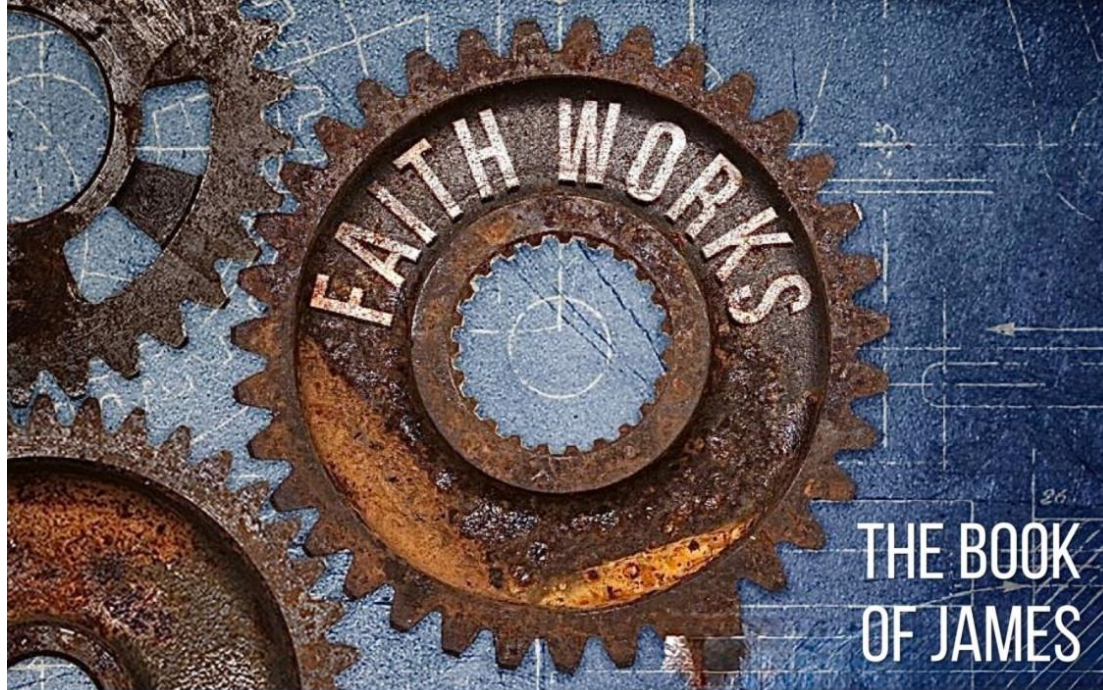
how it just isn't effective nor accurate. He stated that we are not clearly communicating that we are dead in our sins and in need of repentance. Instead of telling people that Jesus is on a rescue mission and clarifying what Jesus is rescuing us from, he suggested that the popular version of Jesus is something like an "Aramaic Tony Robbins."

Charlie was saying nothing against Tony Robbins who is the most popular motivational speaker in the world, but he was saying that some have reduced Jesus down to a person who simply can help us overcome any addiction and then make us more successful, prosperous and blessed in this life. Charlie stated it this way, "The Gospel becomes sweeter and your relationship with Christ is real and truer when you understand the stakes of the damnation that you were saved from."

In that interview, Charlie challenged churches who were communicating a "soft" version of Jesus that doesn't focus on the fact that we are sinners in need of salvation. We think that focusing on sin and the reality of hell is a negative emphasis until we realize that real love comes at a real cost. The rescue mission of Jesus involved experiencing the judgment of our sin which includes separation from God or the reality of hell. To deny the reality of hell is to attempt to remove the expression of Christ's love in redeeming us.

This has raised my awareness to be careful not to reduce Jesus down to an "Aramaic Tony Robbins" or something of that nature. It does raise a good question concerning the error of seeing ourselves and others in need of Jesus just because He can improve our lives versus looking deeper and seeing that we are truly dead in our sin without Him. I am reminded that Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life" -- not "life and resurrection." To me that seems to indicate that the awareness of Jesus saving us from our sins comes before experiencing the fullness of life in Christ.

Blessings,
Pastor John



MESSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
"Treating People Right"
James 2:1-13

This Sunday we are continuing in our series on the Book of James, "Faith Works." In this first half of James chapter two, we will be looking at the strong emphasis James places on how we treat others in our life. It has to do with destructive favoritism which is something all of us have witnessed and unfortunately practiced but needs to be confronted.



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON THIS SUNDAY

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the September Fellowship

Luncheon this Sunday after our worship service! The meal begins at 11:30 AM.

NEXT LUNCHEON: Our next Fellowship Luncheon is set for October 26. Watch this space as we will have menu options soon!



BUILDING OUR FUTURE - UPDATE

For this week's update I want to pass on to you the email that I shared last Sunday. Hap Richardson sent this to me and a few others:

I talked to Joe [our architect] today and he has been at the city and made sure they entered the revisions right then. He is going to stay on top of them and expects a permit very soon.

Then I talked to Lorenzo [building contractor] - he is expecting final plumbing and HVAC costs in next couple of days. He also has turned down some work so his team can be on this job full time.

Things are looking up.

Thanks everybody.

That is what I know so far. Keep the prayers coming. -- John

**2nd & 4th
Tuesdays, 7 AM**

MEN'S BREAKFAST

@ Sunnyside Up



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Men's Breakfast meets this upcoming Tuesday, September 23 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

**Sandia Fellowship Women's Breakfast Group
is collecting**

**GENTLY USED
PURSES, JEWELRY,
& TOILETRIES**



MORE INFO: www.sandiagmc.org/current-news

DONATION DRIVE STILL ONGOING

The Sandia Fellowship Women's Breakfast group is still collecting gently used purses, jewelry, and new toiletries for Pursonalities Plus ABQ for distribution to deserving women in our community.

We will be collecting donated items every Sunday through the end of

September. Items can be given to Brenda Knisely or put in the blue cart near the name tag table.

We are collecting:

- Gently used purses and handbags
- Personal items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, brush and comb, hairspray, mirror, hand cream, hand sanitizer, lip balm, lipstick and makeup
- They are especially in need of jewelry donations of any kind (new, used, broken, jewelry making supplies) because they make jewelry sets to put into the purses they deliver.

If you have any questions, please check with Brenda. Thank you for your support - we really appreciate your donations!

WHAT IS PURSONALITIES PLUS?

Pursonalities Plus ABQ is a program that provides purses to women in various programs: victims of domestic violence, sex trafficking, homelessness, sexual assault, and incarceration. Since 2016, the organization has collected, filled and distributed 11,469 purses! Currently the program gifts purses to 35 groups such as A Peaceful Habitation, Barrett House, CareNet Pregnancy Center, Family Promise, Joy Junction, SAFE House, and many others.

Learn more here: [Pursonalities Plus ABQ](#)



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

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www.sandiagmc.org

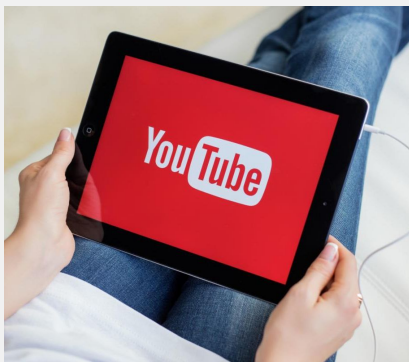


Sundays @ 10 AM

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.

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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