



Estancia United Methodist Church,  
600 Williams, Estancia, New  
Mexico

Church School 9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship 10:00  
AM



Nursery Provided  
Rev. Linda Mizell, Pastor  
P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016  
Church Office 384-5215  
Parsonage 384-2710  
email: revlinda2@juno.com

**OUR MISSION: To honor God by  
leading people to become devoted  
followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.**

# ♥ ♥ FEBRUARY, 2003 ♥ ♥

## SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Julianne Welch  
Ushers: Angela & John Creamer  
Acolytes: Rose Daniel & Eric Kurtz  
Greeters: Pam & Mark Lambert

### YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Feb 2: Megan Bird  
Feb 9: Rose Daniel  
Feb 16: Youth Sunday  
Feb 23:

### KINGS KIDS

Feb 2:  
Feb 9: Marcia Fitzner  
Feb 16: Youth Sunday  
Feb 23: Morrow Hall

### NURSERY

Feb 2: Lois Van Meter

## DECLARATION OF A YEAR OF PRAYER

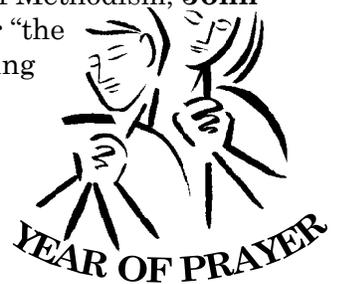
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The founding father of Methodism, **John Wesley**, called prayer “the grand means of drawing near to God.” All the teachings we have received throughout our Christian walk have no doubt stressed the importance and

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centrality of prayer. Prayer is the key to communion with God. **Terry Teykl**, a UM pastor from Texas, wrote a very provocative book called *Pray the Price*. His book focuses on prayer evangelism. **Rev. Teykl** feels that the UM church has struggled in recent years because we have placed the accent on the wrong syllable. We have had many programs in the church such as Vision 2000, the Lay Witness Ministry, even Emmaus. But why do so many of these programs fail after a period? I agree with his diagnosis. They are not under girded with prayer. **Rev. Teykl** says, “Any other solution that excludes a renewed commitment to prayer is like shifting the chairs around on the deck of the Titanic. We may change the appearance, but the ship is still going down.”



It is God who chose prayer as a major way of interacting with his people. We can learn from Jesus' pattern of prayer and his radical dependence on the Father for everything. **Jesus** prayed to know **God**, to know his will, to have power to do that will, and to have perseverance to finish his course. Through prayer, **God** is able to bless His people and their mission. Without fervent prayer, spiritual awakening will never come, and the church will see little of eternal value accomplished.

Prayer is not complicated, it is simply asking **God** to help us. We must continually go before our Father and seek his guidance and help. We need His blessing, wisdom and guidance in all we do. Without prayer we all too easily fall into the pitfall of human centered agendas. Let us ask him to awaken our church, community, district, conference, and denomination.

What I want you to consider is a specific type of prayer – prayer evangelism. To pray with a specific driving purpose, aimed at bringing new converts into the Kingdom. Out of 1000 residence in any community 700 –800 of them are unchurched. On any Sunday you will find packed Wal-Mart's, soccer matches, local restaurants, even dog Frisbee catching contests. You can see neighbors out mowing lawns, washing cars as you leave to come to worship. When we sit down in church on Sunday we are in the minority. We need a spiritual awaking to save the lost. This ties right into **Bishop Whitfield's** challenge to the churches in our conference. We are to bring into our church five new, unchurched families in 2003.

Prayer evangelism is simply praying with a burden for the unchurched – for the eyes of the blind to be opened to see the love of **Jesus** and the meaning of the cross for them. It is to target the Great Commission in prayer (Matt. 28: 19,20).

Prayer and evangelism are natural partners. In the Acts of the Apostles we see the story of the early church where things happened as the disciples were going to pray, while they were praying, or after they prayed. Therefore, we should be praying for our neighbors, friends, and co-workers, and even strangers to know **Jesus**.

If we were put on trial for being a praying church do you think there would be enough evidence to convict? How many professions of faith, ergo new Christians, do we see? How much time is spent at our meetings in prayer? The one thing that **Jesus** desires for the church is that it be a "house of prayer" (Matt. 21:13). The most important, powerful, life-changing, soul-winning thing we can do as a church is pray.

**John Wesley** believed that God could do nothing except in answer to prayer. If we are to accomplish anything of eternal value we must do it from our knees. That is why I asked **Nick Griffo** to chair a new committee named the *Prayer Evangelism*

committee. Prayer is the church's rudder. Without it, we have no sense of direction and no ability to steer. **Wesley** believed that every good thing began with prayer, was sustained by prayer, and finished by prayer. This means a radical dependence on **God**. We need to live to pray and pray to live.



Resolve  
to pray  
each  
day

Are we willing, as members of Estancia United Methodist Church, to pray the price? Are we ready to make prayer a real priority in the life of the church? Our success will be only as great as our reliance on **God**. When we work without prayer we reap the best of our efforts; but when we pray, we reap the best of **God's** efforts. When we pray we allow **God** to give us divine glimpses of where He wants to take us. We can choose to muddle along under our own power and ingenuity by simply implementing the newest programs, and working harder to meet weekly expenses; or we can ask **God** to show us His charted course and desire for His church.

We must begin by praying fervently and continually for an organized, visible, attractive prayer ministry in this church, in the district, and the conference. A good place to start is with a committee with the word prayer in the title. I know I'm asking us to do something that for many of us is very difficult. It goes against our sense of independence, self-confidence, and self-reliance. Our culture looks down on dependence, humility, and brokenness as a sign of weakness. Our society places a high value on independence -- to ask for help, even from **God**, is like admitting defeat. The pioneer spirit drives us to push faster and work harder. It is difficult for us to cry out to our Heavenly Father, "Help me, Lord!" Yet, we know somewhere deep inside that God is the only one that can help. Why wait until we are at the end of our rope to ask for His help?

*Below is the current list of committees and Administrative Council members for the coming year.  
Please keep each one in your prayers as they work to guide our church's future.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS  
AND COMMITTEES OF ESTANCIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2003**

Chairperson of Administrative Council	Mel Stephenson
Recording Secretary	Shellee Stewart
Lay Leader	Tracy Hemke
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Carolyn Moore
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	John Creamer
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Education Committee	Cheryl Chavez
Youth Representative	Alice Daniel
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Alma Wimsatt
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Melanie Chavez
Financial Secretary	Sylvia Levy
Church Treasurer	Pam Lambert
President UMW	Ethel Floyd
President UMM	TBE
President UMY	Alice Daniel
Honorary Members: Francis Tyler, Woody Clements	

**Organist:** Morrow Hall

**Choir Director:** Ethel Floyd

**Newsletter:** Bill and Barbara Simms

<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Pastor-Parish Relations</b>	<b>Committee on Lay Leadership</b>
(03) John Creamer, Chair Carolyn Moore Kathleen Long	Lay Rep./Leader Carolyn Moore/Tracy Hemke (03) Dee Dee Young Elaine Darnell	(03) Alice Daniel Julianne Welch (04) Bill Simms Lowell Clark Mel Stephenson
(04) Mel Stephenson Allan Avery Marcella Reynolds	(04) Sam Wilson Lacy Daniel	(05) Angela Creamer Agatha Garrison
(05) Morrow Hall Ray Darnell Francis Winn	(05) Barbara Simms, Chair Jan Winn	

**Finance Committee**

Chair:	Melanie Chavez	Council Chair:	Mel Stephenson
Financial Secretary:	Sylvia Levy	Board of Trustees:	John Creamer
Treasurer:	Pam Lambert	Pastor-Parish:	Barbara Simms
Member at Large:	Mary Hemke	Lay Leadership:	Rev. Mizell
Evangelism:	Nick Griffo	Mission:	Marcia Fitzner

*Admin. Council & Committees Cont'd.*  
Education: Cheryl Chavez  
Care and Outreach: Alma Wimsatt  
History: Ethel Floyd

Food Pantry: Bonnie Thomas  
Worship: Julie Griffo

**Mission:** Marcia Fitzner

**Prayer Evangelism:** Nick Griffo, Sharon Avery,  
Lois Van Meter, Bonnie Thomas and Paul Mizell  
(Mom's in Touch) Julie Griffo and Angela Creamer

**Care and Outreach**

Alma Wimsatt, Chair  
Bonnie Thomas  
Renee Richards  
Nancy Oberg  
Della Stephenson

**Food Pantry**

Bonnie Thomas, Chair  
Raymond Moore  
Marcella Reynolds  
Melanie Chavez

**Education**

Cheryl Chavez, Chair  
Melanie Chavez  
Pam Lambert  
Gail Mora  
Renee Richards  
Nick Griffo  
Paul Mizell  
Francis Winn

**Worship**

Julie Griffo Chair  
Tracy Hemke  
Morrow Hall  
Julieanne Welch  
Marilyn Seddon

**History**

Ethel Floyd, Chair  
Marcella Reynolds  
Agatha Garrison  
Carolyn Moore  
Roy Daniel

**UMY**

Alice Daniel, Pres.  
Brian Wilson, VP  
Ashley Welch, Secretary  
Jacque Creamer, Treasurer

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**Please Help Us Find These  
Members and Friends**

The people listed here are members or friends that we no longer have addresses or phone numbers for. Please help us "find" these folks. You may call or e-mail our Pastor at 384-5215 or 384-2710 or [revlinda2@juno.com](mailto:revlinda2@juno.com). Or you may bring the information with you to worship and put it on the special clipboard for this purpose.

Jimmy Ayres  
Derek Burnett  
Jared Burnett  
Cheryle Coburn  
Justin Darnell  
Kendra Encinias  
April Fitzner  
Rebekah Friis  
Trish Garner and Tyler  
Kathy Gilbert  
Jeff and Kathy Gorum (Reserve)  
Charles and Sue Hughes  
Dale and Barbara Johnson  
Dan Cole and Kristie Brown  
Amy Lamb  
John and Marla Lehmon  
Kirby Morton  
Mark Riley  
Beth and Jack Roberts  
Kelly Roberts  
Michael and Khristy Rodriguez  
Riane Stinnett

**Mission Statement Task Force**

***Our Mission: To honor God by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.***

*Julie Griffo and Tracy Hemke from Worship, and Lacy Daniel and Jan Winn from PPRC*

On January 2 the mission statement task force met to discuss our current mission statement and its effect on the ministry of this church. For some on the committee, the mission statement lacked any meaning or actually inspired a negative connotation. For one member the mission statement was meaningful. We understand as a committee that no one statement will fit the needs of everyone. Having said that, we felt the need to try to place new words before the congregation in an effort to inspire vision and action.

One of the members of the committee suggested that there was no better mission statement than the *Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20)*. This brought us into a discussion of Rich Warren's book, *The Purpose Driven Church*. His book is based on the *Great Commandment (Matthew 22: 36-40)* and the *Great Commission*. God's will for the church

will always be found to fulfill these two great responsibilities of the life of faith. **Rick Warren** points out that there are five essential areas of activity within the church that must take place if a church is to be healthy and effective for the Kingdom of God.

- Σ **Worship** – honoring and loving God, praise, prayer, giving back to God
- Σ **Ministry** – experiencing and serving God within the church and in the world
- Σ **Evangelism** – serving as witness – sharing our faith with one another and with those living in darkness. Reaching beyond ourselves
- Σ **Fellowship** – Support each other, connecting and caring for the Body of Christ
- Σ **Discipleship** – growing and equipping members to walk the walk, serving as mentors, teachers, and learners to grow into the full stature of **Jesus Christ**.

As we discussed these five areas of God's plan and purpose for his Church, we were in agreement that as a body we were doing worship and ministry fairly well, but we do not have the underpinning support of the other three. The current mission statement seemed too vague to several and when some pointed out the part about "leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ," the question was asked, who are the leaders? Is every member supposed to be a leader? We can't lead when we don't know what we're doing. Without the aspects of evangelism, discipleship, and fellowship we cannot become the church we were meant to be.

We all saw the need for fellowship and discipleship as critical to developing members who can grow into leaders and become evangelists. **Lacy** took our discussion and came up with a summary statement that I present to you:

***Mission: To honor God through our worship, ministry, and discipleship based on God's Word; supporting one another with Christian Fellowship and reaching out to share the good news of Jesus Christ.***

This task force shared their vision for where we need to grow in the immediate future. It will take more work to begin to see God's vision for this church. God always asks what only stepping out in faith can do and reveals only as much as we can

handle in the immediate future.

**Wednesday Night Blessing**  
**Wednesdays 6:30 pm**

We discussed the Wednesday Blessing program as a way to build fellowship and discipleship – two elements of God's purposes for His Body that need to be strengthened. We felt that the night should start with some time for worship and then various Bible classes will be offered for all ages. After the class there would be a time to come together again for snacks and fellowship, The evening would conclude with a time of prayer to seek God's will. The time of 6:30- 8PM was suggested.

***LECTIONARY FOR THE MONTH OF FEB***  
This committee submits our thoughts to you for feedback and possible adoption.

**Feb 2**  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

*-Pastor Linda*

**Feb 9**

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

**Feb 16**

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

**Feb 23**

Isaiah 43:18-25

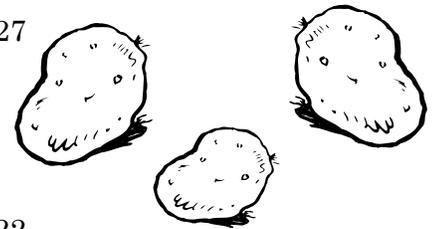
Psalm 41

2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Mark 2: ***Potato Extravaganza !!***

On January 13 a group of Logos volunteers gathered for a fun evening hosted by Linda and Paul Mizell. The

evening was in appreciation for the work done by EUMC members and included members from other local churches who helped make the program a success. Linda and Paul cooked a mountain of very large potatoes and onto these potatoes folks heaped various condiments - a wide variety of yummy things! In addition, there was a guest speaker, Ann Edenfield. She has traveled world wide bringing the Logos program to different countries. Presently, she is bringing a Logos- style ministry to inmates and their families at various prison facilities. The program is called "Wings Ministry". If you were unable to come that evening, you missed a fun filled potato evening!





*Sent with a prayer to:*



Estancia United Methodist Church  
 P. O. Box 378  
 Estancia, NM 87016

# February 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Dee & Charles Ivy Mission Moment & Potluck 6:00 pm: UMY (Snacks - Ashley)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown 7:pm: Trustees	<b>5</b> 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing 6:30 pm: Weighdown 7:pm: Trustees	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Friday -> Sunday Senior High Youth CCYM at SMA	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Raquel Mull guest preacher (Native Am. Church) 11:30: Finance Meeting 6:00 pm: UMY (Snacks - Brian)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown	<b>12</b> 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:pm Emmaus Gathering at EUMC	<b>15</b> UMY Dress Rehearsal for Youth Sunday
<b>16</b> YOUTH SUNDAY 11:30: PPRC  6:00 pm: UMY (Snacks - Kelsey)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown	<b>19</b> 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7am: Men's Breakfast
<b>23</b> Special Music by the Mabrys  6:00 pm: UMY (Snacks - Jacque)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	