



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

*Sunday Worship 9:00 AM  
Nursery Provided  
Church School 10:30 AM*



**Rev. Johann Neethling, Pastor**

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016  
Church Office 384-5215  
Parsonage 384-2710  
email: siyabonga@aol.com

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



**TIME OUT**

**WITH "COACH" JOHANN**

**SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR JANUARY**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Lay Assist:** Alice Daniel  
**Acolytes:** Rose Daniel  
**Ushers:** Mike & Lisa Hughes  
**Greeters:** Julie & Nick Griffo

**YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS**

**Jan. 7:** Chris Hughes  
**Jan. 14:** Catherine Gomez  
**Jan. 21:** Miranda Gomez  
**Jan. 28:**

**NURSERY**

**Jan. 7:** Ashley Welsh  
**Jan. 14:** Renee Calhoon  
**Jan. 21:** Sherlee & Ashlea Stewart  
**Jan. 28:**

**KINGS KIDS** *Needed*

**Jan. 7:** *Needed*  
**Jan. 14:** Renee Calhoon  
**Jan. 21:**  
**Jan. 28:**

***Greetings Estancia Saints,***

What a *joyous Advent and Christmas Season* we have just celebrated. We have focused once again on the amazing love of God in sending into our broken and bruised world, the precious and life-giving gift of His only Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We rejoice that we were able to make the acquaintance of many of your relatives and friends who chose to worship with us during the holidays, and for those who are within reasonable traveling distance, we hope they will worship with us again in the very near future.

Anne's and my *very special thanks* to the ladies of the **UMW** and also to the *entire congregation* for the substantial monetary gifts that were given to us at the Christmas Eve service and also the other gifts that were given to us at our Christmas Open House and at other times. You have all become very dear and precious to us and we thank God for each one of you.

We have *much for which to thank and praise our God* as we look back over the year that has past – new members welcomed, **Nancy Oberg, Jason & Leslie Fastnacht, and Kenny & Shauna Paul**, the recent baptism of **Luke Macray** and **Lainey Marie Fastnacht**, phenomenal growth in the LOGOS program, the start of the monthly Saturday Men's Prayer Breakfast, the work of the UMW and also the Friday Evening Ladies Sewing Circle, the sacrificial giving of our members to pay 100% of our Apportionments and

those who have made pledges to the Lord to give regularly and systematically to the ministry of His Church, and for the many other more private and personal hurdles overcome, healings experienced, and new courage found to face the challenges that still remain.

As we step across the threshold of the new year it is my hope and confidence that we will continue to grow in our personal and corporate experience of God, of knowing and doing His will. The Mission Statement of this congregation is: To honor God by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ. I believe that God will be greatly honored if *each of us will commit to the task of bringing one person to saving faith in Jesus Christ during 2001* and to helping that individual become a devoted follower and minister of Jesus Christ. Begin your new year by asking the Lord to lead you to that one individual and start praying now that your life will begin to speak to that person about your Savior and encourage them to want to know more.

Our **LOGOS Program** gets under way again with Session II on January 17. Please keep this ministry uppermost in your prayers and ask the Lord for the opportunity for us to reach particularly the homes and families of those children where there is no church involvement.

In our last Newsletter you received an outline of the brainstorming session of the expanded **Vision 2000/2001 Committee** that met on Saturday, November 18 to share ideas on how to cope with our urgent need for larger, improved facilities for our youth and education ministries. Your thoughts and input were requested. To date I have not yet received any written feedback. A congregational prayer meeting was held on December 6 and two more will be held on Wednesday, January 3 at 10am and Wednesday, January 10 at 6pm. A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21, immediately following the morning worship service. You are strongly encouraged to attend.



Confirmation classes for all who feel they are ready to take on the responsibilities of membership, will commence on Sunday, January 28 during the Sunday School hour, and will continue for 9 weeks. Confirmation Sunday will be April 1, 2001. Please submit names to me by Sunday, January 21.

With the Lord in charge, 2001 is set to be our best year yet!!

God loves you...and I love you too!

*Upward and onward....*



*"Coach" Johann*

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL NEWS**

Even though we have not had a meeting since our last report, progress has continued.

The Finance Committee rejoices in the fact that all bills are paid and all apportionments are paid.

The young people under the leadership of Sharla Sharp decorated the church for Christmas Season. The United Methodist Women promoted the sale of poinsettias to decorate our church after which the owner could take their poinsettia home to enjoy. The poinsettia sales was a fund raiser for UMW and also benefited the ARCA (Association for Retarded Citizens of Albuquerque).

The Worship Committee planned music for both services on Sunday before Christmas. The choir will perform at both services.

On Saturday, December 17th, the congregation enjoyed an "Open House" at the home of our pastor



### **UMW COOKIE-FEST, BAKE-OFF**

On January 23rd, UMW members will meet at the Education Building to bake cookies. Each member will bring their favorite cookie recipe plus the needed ingredients. Pastor Johann along with others will deliver the cookies to folks who visit our church or to those who can't come to church. Come join the fun and help us bake cookies.



and his family. Lots of “goodies” and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

The Administrative Council wish the best for all of you for the coming year - 2001.

*Ethel L. Floyd, Chrm.*

### **FROM YOUR TREASURER**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

I would like to thank everyone for your givings this year. We paid our apportionments in full! Everyone asks, “Why is this so important?” The apportionments pay the salary, insurance and pensions for many people. They pay for missions, colleges, camps and other programs in our conference and throughout the world. This is the

***Thanks Agatha!!***

**NURSING  
HOME  
MINISTRY**

***Thank You!***

Thanks to all who helped make our holiday season happy and meaningful. Including:

**Clarks.....**Caroling hayrides

**Agatha & UMW...**Nursing home ministry

**Neethlings.....**Open house in their home

**Choir.....**Wonderful special music



## ***Helping at-risk Children 'takes a lot of money'***

Helping at-risk children and youth improve their lives takes more than a caring staff and long-standing traditions and programs. It also takes a lot of money.

Methodist Children's Home in Waco, Texas needs your financial support to continue providing the best care possible to today's youngsters. It costs an average of \$91 a day to care for one of the 400 children in the Home's care. The gifts the Home receives through the Christmas offering are crucial to helping the children.

“Your gift to the Methodist Children's Home is an investment in a ministry that results in life-long changes,” said Dr. Jack Kyle Daniels, president of Methodist Children's Home. “Through this historic institution, your local church can join many other churches and individuals, and multiply your ability to serve children.”

Methodist Children's Home in Waco is one of the largest non-profit child care agencies not receiving state funding to support its ministry. The Home also does not receive any church apportionments.

Offerings collected during December in United Methodist congregations across Texas and New Mexico support the Home's Foster Care, Boys Ranch, College Scholarship, Religious Education and Family Counseling programs.

Since it opened as an orphanage in 1890, Methodist Children's Home has helped thousands of children who have lost loved ones, been neglected or abused, or had a troubled home life.

**Many thanks to all who gave at the EUMC Dec. 24 evening service!**

**Don't  
Forget**

**Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Saturday, January 20th**



*Sent with a prayer to:*



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



There once was a rich man who was near death. He was very grieved because he had worked so hard for his money and he wanted to be able to take it with him to heaven. So he began to pray that he might be able to take some of his wealth with him.

An angel heard his plea and appeared to him. "Sorry, but you can't take your wealth with you." The man implored the angel to speak to God to see if the Almighty might bend the rules.

The man continued to pray that his wealth could follow him. The angel reappeared and informed the man that God had decided to allow him to take one suitcase with him. Overjoyed, the man gathered his largest suitcase and filled it with pure gold bars and placed it beside his bed.

Soon afterward the man died and showed up at the Gates of Heaven where he was greeted by St. Peter. Peter seeing the suitcase said, "Hold on, you can't bring that in here!" But, the man explained to Peter that he had permission and asked him to verify his story with God.

Sure enough, Peter checked and came back saying, "You're right. You are allowed one carryon bag, but I'm supposed to check its contents before letting it through."

Peter opened the suitcase to inspect the worldly items that the man found too precious to leave behind and exclaimed, "You brought pavement?!"