



NEWSLETTER
OF THE
Estancia United Methodist Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico
<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



APRIL, 2014

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Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Melanie Chavez
Recording Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Alma Wimsatt
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Worship Team Leader	Julie Griffio
Education	Julie Griffio & Melanie Chavez
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Nick Griffio
Food Pantry	Butch McGee
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Nick Griffio
McMurry Rep	Julie Griffio
Sacramento Camp Rep	Melanie Chavez

Bishop: Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe
District Superintendent: Rev. James E. Large
Visit our website at:

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

*From the Desk of... **Pastor Bonnie***

During the season of Lent we have been leaning into our Baptisms... renouncing the forces of spiritual wickedness, laying claim to the power and promises of God regarding new life in the present, and rejoicing in the gift of Living Water which has marked us for eternal life with Jesus.

Soon Easter will be here. We'll celebrate the Risen Christ and inaugurate a new generation of those claiming the name Christian, **HALLELUJAH!** Let us rejoice and praise His Name! Because He lives, each of us can affirm...

- I am loved by Jesus and He has forgiven my sins. (1 Jn.1) The past is left behind. Today is a gift from God (that's why they call it 'the PRESENT'!)
- God is on my side. In Him I am more than conqueror! (Rom.8)
- There is only One I need to please. (Mt.4)
- I am blessed. My value is not found in possessions; but in my relationship with God. (Mt.6)
- God's timing is perfect; therefore I can be patient. (Ecc.3)
- The world does not owe me anything. God does not owe me anything. I will live in humility and His grace; which is sufficient for all things. (2 Cor.12)
- The only person I hurt by holding onto bitterness is me. I will let it go. (Eph.4)
- I am not going to pass the buck. I will take responsibility for my own actions. (1 Tim.3)

- I will minimize contact with people who are gossipy, negative, and bring others down. Jesus wants me to think about things that are honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and worthy of praise. (Phil. 4, Col.4)
- I have my own unique contribution to make – there's no one like me. (I Cor.12)
- Success does not come without failure – but am resolved to fail *forward*, learning from my mistakes. I will not suffer fear of failure. (2 Cor.13)
- Our God is a God of abundance – there is always more grace in Him than there is sin in me. (Rom.5)
- I am fearfully and wonderfully made. (Ps.139) I am claiming a right relationship with God through Jesus.
- God has a wonderful plan for my life. (Jer.29) My future is brighter than I can imagine! As long as I am breathing, God has a purpose for my life.
- God will comfort me in my sorrow so that I will know how to comfort others in theirs. (Isa.49)
- Wise decisions are rarely made in a vacuum. I will seek the wisdom of Godly mentors. (Prov.3&4)
- Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Mt.5)
- God is in control. I will quit worrying! (Mt.6)

Happy Easter!

Methodist Men Unite !

On March 22, I had the pleasure of attending the United Methodist Men's Spring Conference. YES, I WAS the only female there & it was a fascinating day! Bishop Bledsoe was the keynote speaker; and several other gifted pastors and lay persons made informational and inspirational presentations. I learned a lot about the condition of our churches and the importance of men as spiritual leaders in the church, in the home, and in our communities. Some notable snippets included...

- If a child is the first in a family to attend church, the rest of the family will follow 3% of the time. If the mother is the first in a family to attend church, the rest of the family will follow 17% of the time. But if the FATHER is the first in a family to attend church, the rest of the family will follow 93% of the time!
- In the 144 churches of the NM Conference, only 11 have chartered United Methodist Men's groups.
- More active men in the church = greater propensity for church growth.
- Since 1994, church membership in the NM Conference has decline 28%.
- Successful parenting often turns on ONE issue – whether FATHERS are AFFECTIONATE (warm, loving, tender) with their children. Lack of Fatherly affection is the most significant factor driving children to look for love and acceptance in all the wrong places.
- The number of men involved in Men's Ministries in our Conference is down 31% since 1994.
- Women are spiritual kindling... they get the fire going quickly. Men are logs... slow to start, but long-lasting once the spiritual fire catches.
- You never know what will inspire others to faith in Christ. Wycliffe Bible translators working in Papua New Guinea reported that entire tribes were converted to Christianity when the story of Jesus driving the demons out of two men (Mt. 8:28-34) was translated into the local language. In that story, Jesus allows the demons that had occupied the men to instead possess a herd of 2,000 pigs. In Papua, a man's life is only worth 2 pigs. But Jesus loved them enough to sacrifice 2,000 pigs for them! **What GREAT LOVE!**

Can I get an A-MEN?!

April is Parkinson's Awareness Month.

As many of you may know, I have Parkinson's Disease often called PD for short. I know of one other person with PD within our two churches in Estancia and Mountainair and at least 4 families affected by PD. Many of you are getting a first hand look at the disease by observing, interacting and taking care of us when we need help. On all our behalves, I say **thank you**. If you would like to know more about PD... possible ways to get the disease----do not worry, it is not contagious. And to learn more about the treatment and prognosis, please ask, or visit some of the websites online. I personally like the Michael J. Fox Foundaiton's website. Type that name in on google or any search engine to read more. If you have an idea how to help us raise money for research, (like walk a thons), let me know. I thought about a pie eating contest as I love to eat...haha. In all seriousness, any ideas would be wonderful.

"Telling the Story"

Recently a very special lady in our church brought 4 books to our home for my mother and I to read as often we are home bound. Now I knew my mother would sit down and have those books read as quick as you can say "the bible is the original book club!" :) She had 3 of them read "in nothing flat", as the old saying goes. Why not all 4? Because slow poke here had that book and was reading it. haha.

It was a wonderful book and I'll sum it up like this: the author made me feel like I was a young British gal whose world changed all of sudden when Germany started bombing Britain every night in the early 1940's. In order to make her safe, her parents shipped Ms. Beatrice, age 14, to New Mexico. She came by boat, train and an old truck! She lived with a public health nurse and learned about our lifestyle here. It is called "*True Brit.*"

I so enjoyed learning about London and England and then realizing how she saw country, and how scared she was at the time. I am glad the story was told even though there never was a real Beatrice, just the story from the mother.

The Other Twelve Disciples

On April 17th, Holy Thursday (also called Maundy Thursday) some wonderful women in our church, will be sharing the stories of biblical women, young and older, who lived during a scary time. That would be the last week of Jesus's life. Many of them had followed him for 3 years. These women have been studying their parts and learning about the ladies. They are anxious to share these stories with you. We will hear about some of the following ladies: Salome, Joanna, Susanna, etc. These names just roll off your tongue when you mention the women of the Bible. Please come to their performance at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 17th. It is my prayer and hopefully others too, that the sanctuary will be overflowing with people physically and spiritually. Invite your friends and support the the thirteen ladies. It's thirteen because one family member drops by to see one of the ladies.

We could still use some **HELP**. We need ushers, and people to show others where the restrooms are, and a person to watch over Fellowship Hall during the performance. Ideally, we could use 2 baby sitters as well. Any HELP you can give us setting up would be greatly appreciated. Again remember to invite friends and loved ones to this wonderful presentation.

So, taking my advice I'd like to write here formally and lovingly

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at the Mountainair United Methodist Church:

We would like to invite you to come and see our presentation of the play "***The Other 12 Disciples,***" being sponsored by our Worship Committee and acted by 13 beautiful women who will tell the stories of those who risked much to follow Jesus. Mary Magdalene, Martha, Mary, Joanna, etc....

The play starts at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday April 17th. We hope you will come. I have to add that your "can do" spirit has helped us know that we "can do" this as well. So thank you.

We are still looking for items for the set like wooden plates, chairs, some big fluffy pillows to sit on etc. Here is who to contact...either Carolyn Hill, Julie Griffio or myself Terry Ann Moore. I am not publishing our phone numbers here but you can call the church at 384-5215 and Pastor Bonnie can pass the message on to us.

Call if you have any questions.

Vaya Con Dios!

Terry Ann and the members of the play.

Thank you.

Terry Ann Moore

Resurrection Cookies: Directions & Printable Recipe (From Terry Ann Moore)

April 3 by Stacie Nelson

This post may contain affiliate links. Please see my disclosure.

I've had this recipe for Resurrection Cookies in my Easter file for a while, but this is the first year I felt my girls were ready for them. (The last few years we've made Resurrection Rolls — just because I felt the simpler approach to the death and resurrection of Jesus was more age-appropriate for younger preschoolers).

I would suggest reading the Bible story of Jesus' death and resurrection aloud to your children before you begin making these cookies. I particularly like the version in *The Child's Story Bible* by Catherine Vos for older preschool and elementary-aged children.

resurrection cookies

Resurrection Cookie Recipe

Supplies:

1 cup almonds (or pecans)	Wooden spoon
1 tsp. vinegar	Mixing bowl
3 egg whites	Mixer
Pinch of salt	Cookie sheet
1 cup sugar	Spoons
Zipper baggy	Tape
	Bible



1) **PREHEAT OVEN TO 300 DEGREES.** Place one cup nuts into a baggy. Beat the nuts with a wooden spoon until broken into tiny pieces. Remind children Jesus was beaten by the Roman Soldiers.

Read John 19:1-3 ... I also included Isaiah 53:5:

2) Allow each child to smell the vinegar. Pour a small amount into a bowl and allow them to taste it. Explain that vinegar was given to Jesus to drink when he was on the cross. Add 1 tsp. vinegar into a mixing bowl.

Read John 19:28-30

3) Add egg whites to vinegar. The eggs in this recipe represent life. They remind us that Jesus gave his life to give us life abundantly.

Read John 10:10-11

4) Put a pinch of salt in your child's hand. Allow them to taste it. Add a pinch of salt to to the eggs and vinegar. The salt represents the salty tears cried by the women who followed Jesus.

Read Luke 23:27..... *27 A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him*

5) Place a pinch of sugar in your child's hand. Allow them to taste it. Add one cup sugar to the mixture. Up to this point, the ingredients have been very bitter, but the sweetness in the recipe comes from the sugar. The suffering and death of Jesus are bitter, but the sweetness is that Jesus died because He loves us. Oh, how He loves us!

Read Psalm 34:8 Read John 3:16

6) Beat the mixture for 12-15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed (I recommend setting a timer — it's important to beat the mixture well). The whiteness of the mixture reminds us of purity and the cleansing of our sins because of Jesus' death.

Read Isaiah 1:18:

7) Stir in the nuts.

8) Drop the dough by spoonfuls onto a cookie sheet. The mounds represent the tomb where Jesus was buried.

Read Matthew 27:57-60

9) After the oven is preheated, put the cookie sheets in the oven. TURN OFF the oven. Allow your child to place pieces of tape and “seal” the oven door.

Reread Matthew 27:59

10) Leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Your child might feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight (they were probably expecting to have a yummy treat soon – at least mine were). Jesus’ followers were very sad when the tomb was sealed.

John 16:20-22

11) In the morning, open the oven and have some cookies! The cookies should be hollow inside. Remind your child that the tomb was empty. Jesus is risen!

Read Matthew 28:1-9

1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

Although these are personally not my favorite cookies (two of my girls loved them — one did not!), they are a great way to learn about the crucifixion and resurrection in a hands-on way for kids. If you would like these directions in a printable form, please feel free to download the sheets I’ve put together with the Resurrection Cookies Recipe.

**I am unable to locate an original source for this recipe. If you know the original creator of this Easter cookie recipe, please send me an email so I can give proper credit! All Scripture references are taken from the NIV translation.

Taken from <http://www.motherhoodonadime.com/kids/resurrection-cookies-printable-recipe/>

CONFIRMANDS -- It's a Big Deal!!



So much to do, so little time! The confirmands have been working very hard. And, they have learned A LOT! Now we are getting down to the wire. Easter Sunday they will be joining our church as adults. They will be “confirmed” in the faith. The picture above shows 4 confirmands and their mentors having a little fun after sharing a meal together.

Annual Conference Missions: Houchen Community Center and Lydia Patterson Institute

Each year, the New Mexico Annual Conference includes several opportunities for mission giving. This year’s Annual Conference, which will be held June 4-7 in El Paso, highlights two giving opportunities - Houchen Community Center (609 S. Tays Street, El Paso TX) and Lydia Patterson Institute (517 Florence, El Paso, TX.)

The mission of the Houchen Community Center, Inc. is to make God's love a reality in El Segundo Barrio and nearby neighborhoods through working to meet the physical, educational, social and spiritual needs of children, youth, and adults. Pictures and other information about the Center are included below.

Lydia Patterson Institute is a United Methodist Christian college-preparatory school. Its Mission is to provide an environment in which Christian faith, values and knowledge converge to give students a cross-cultural, academic and state-of-the-art education... Founded in 1913, it offers programs for Spanish-speaking children, primarily from Juarez, to attend high school in the United States and attend an American under-graduate university. All high school classes are taught in English, and the school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. At the beginning of the 20th century in El Paso, there were very few educational opportunities for poor Hispanic boys. Mrs. Lydia Patterson, a Methodist laywoman, recognized the gravity of this problem, and in 1906, she began to set up day classes for boys in the homes of area Methodists. Upon her death in 1909, her husband Millard Patterson, a local attorney, decided to memorialize her by establishing the school that she had envisioned, and in 1913, construction began on the Lydia Patterson Institute. In 1921, LPI became one of the first schools in the country to emphasize the teaching of English as a Second Language. Nearly 100% of LPI graduates go on to

University studies, and the vast majority of those students earn full scholarships supporting their continuing education!

HOUCHEN CHILD CARE



HOUCHEN SENIORS



HOUCHEN ACTIVITY CENTER

HOUCHEN YOUTH

You Can Help Build the “Mission Mountain” at this year’s Conference by donating any of the following...

Art Supplies: Construction Paper, Markers, Coloring Books, Paint Brushes, Crayons, Pencils, Art Foam, Play Doh, Glitter, Scissors, (children’s), Glue, Tempera Paint

Athletic Equipment: Basketballs, Volleyballs & Nets

Office Supplies: Copy Paper, Sharpie Markers, Index Cards, Writing Pads, Laptop Computer, Manila Folders, Pencils & Pens, Post-It-Notes, Printer (w/Capability to be networked)

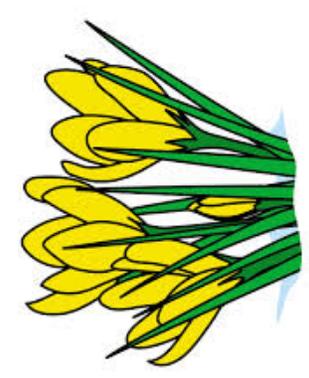
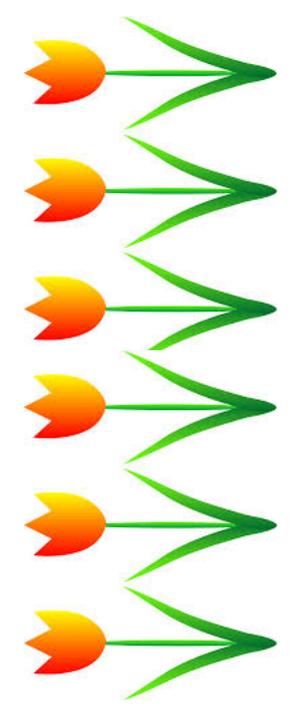
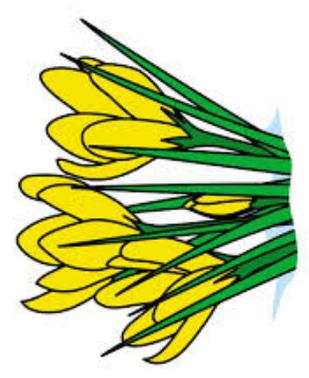
Cleaning Supplies: Brooms Mops, & Mop Buckets, General Cleaning Items, **General Supplies:** Children’s Balls, Teen Movies, Children’s DVD Movies, Baby Wipes, Board Games (Children & Teens), Batteries (all sizes),

Pastor Bonnie and Annual Conference Representatives Elaine Darnell & Wanda Glovengo will bring your gifts to Annual Conference and add them to Mission

Mountain! Financial Donations are also Welcome – Make checks payable to NM Annual Conference, and note either Houchen or LPI in the memo field !

APRIL 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 3:15 PM BIBLE GUPPIES	4	5
6 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair 3PM Confirmation Class	7	8	9	10 3:15 PM BIBLE GUPPIES 6:30 PM TRUSTEES	11	12
13 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair 2PM Confirmation Class	14	15	16	17 3:15 PM BIBLE GUPPIES 6:30 pm "The Other 12 Disciples"	18	19 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
EASTER 20 SUNDAY	21	22	23	24 3:15 PM BIBLE GUPPIES	25	26
27 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair PRE- Conference Briefing 4:00 pm	28	29	30			





Estancia, NM 87016
P. O. Box 126
Estancia United Methodist Church

Calendar Items:

Thursdays - Bible Guppies, 3:15 – 4:30pm (except April 10 – Spring Break)

Sundays - Confirmation Class:

- **April 6, Sunday 4:30-6:30pm**, Contemporary Worship Service at Asbury UMC, 10000 Candelaria NE, ABQ (be at the Asbury Church @ 4:30, leave Estancia ~ 3:20.)
- **April 13, Sunday MANDATORY 2-5pm**, Dinner, Class, & Worship @ Estancia Church (no baptism or confirmation will be completed without attendance at this session. Confirmands, Parents & Mentors ONLY. Please do not bring siblings or other family members.)
- **April 17, Thursday MANDATORY 6:30-8:30pm @ Estancia UMC - The OTHER 12 Disciples**, Easter Service Planning & Walk-Thru for Baptism/Confirmation.
- **April 20, Sunday MANDATORY 8:30-10:15am @ Estancia UMC - EASTER WORSHIP, BAPTISM, & CONFIRMATION**

Thursday, April 10 - Estancia Trustees, 6:30-8:30pm

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday, 9am in Estancia, come hear Bible Guppies ring Choir Chimes!

Thursday, April 17 – The Other 12 Disciples & Tenebrae Service 6:30pm

Sunday, April 20 – EASTER – CELEBRATE the Risen CHRIST and Confirmation of Estancia Youth!

Sunday, April 27 - Pre-Conference Briefing, 4-6pm

Saturday May 17, Bishop's Meeting with Laity and Clergy at Central UMC, 201 University NE in

Albuquerque. Bishop Bledsoe will meet with the laity (lay leaders, church leadership and others

interested) **from 10:00 AM until 12 Noon.** Clergy will meet with Bishop Bledsoe **from 1:30 until 3:30 PM.**

Wednesday June 4 – Saturday June 7: Annual Conference in El Paso