

NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/estancia/Home.html>



APRIL, 2010

Pastor: Rev. Charles Spooner
 600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
 email: spoonernote@gmail.com

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Marcia Fitzner
Recording Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Worship Team Leader	Sylvia Levy
Education Team Leader	Butch McGee
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Mel Stephenson
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Marcia Fitzner
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Jon Shively
McMurry Rep	Charles Spooner
Sacramento Camp Rep	Charles Spooner

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield

District Superintendent: Rev. Thomas Nagle

To see this newsletter in color, visit our website at:

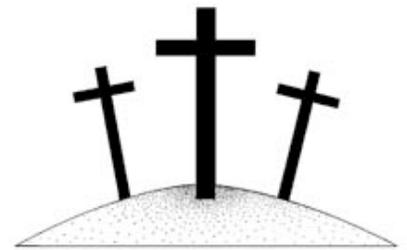
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Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM

Gospel of John 20:1-15 The Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)



Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

PROJECT "RADICAL HOSPITALITY"



EUMC

Spaghetti Dinner

GOOD FOOD GOOD FRIENDS GOOD TIMES

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010

5:00-7:00 PM

RSVP WITH JULIE GRIFFO, 384-2523 BEFORE APRIL 16TH

In response to the NM Conference's call for churches to display "radical hospitality" to show Christ's love to others, the Estancia United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a spaghetti dinner. This meal will be served from 5:00-7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 20, in the Education Building. The Joyful Singers will be organizing the first Extended Hand project of this type. Our hopes are that others in the church will want to volunteer to host more dinners throughout the year.

Everyone in our church family is asked to bring friends from outside the church to share in this time of food and fellowship. Please RSVP with Julie Griffo at 384-2523 before April 16 so that we will have a general idea of how many people we will be feeding.

CPR Classes

In accordance with our church's "Safe Sanctuaries" policy we are encouraging everyone in our church to take advantage of the CPR certification classes being offered on Saturday, April 17th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM here in our Education Building. The Moriarty Fire Department will be bringing their instructors to teach the class which will cover CPR for adults, youth and infants. The cost is \$15 per person. Mary Alice Drolte will be accepting the fees in advance of the class. Please sign up as soon as possible on the form in the Education Building.



From Our Administrative Council Chair

Can you believe that it is April already? Spring is just around the corner. Spring is a time of renewal. Our faith is renewed at Easter with the realization of just how much God loves us and how far God is willing to go to show us that *LOVE*.

At this time of year, the earth comes alive with new life. And new life and new things are happening right here within our church and community. Last Sunday we experienced a different type of worship giving us more insight into the real purpose of Easter.



Barbara Simms and others from the church and community prepared and presented a luncheon for children from the Estancia school who had excelled in their studies. So many times the only ones that get attention are those that have mis-behaved, so it is time that the "good guys" get some attention. Many thanks to those who put in the effort to do this.

Julie Griffo with the help of the Joyful Singers is making plans for a community dinner (details in this newsletter). This will be an effort to let the community know that we are here and welcome their presence.

The choir will perform an anthem style piece of music on Easter Sunday instead of the usual gospel style. Choir members are also participating with others from the community learning how to play guitars. Jon Shivley is our leader. Folks from the community as well as EUMC members are enjoying the fellowship with one another.

UMM are still working with folks within our church membership and others in the community who need help with repairs, etc. What a wonderful way to show the love of Jesus Christ.

The stained glass project continues to make progress (more information in this newsletter). You have probably noticed the new windows that continue to make their presence known. We were very pleased to be recognized by the United Methodist Communication branch of our General Church. They have interviewed several of us and plan to publish part of the interview in United Methodist publications. They also sent a film crew out to film our progress and again interviewed some of us. They will show parts of this film on their website and will also market the video to other news agencies. What a blessing it is to be a part of a connectional church and to be recognized by it.

Yes, spring and new beginnings are here and we are blessed to be a part of it.

We continue to be blessed with the volunteers that keep our church facilities clean and supplied with needed items. Snacks are always available for church fellowship time which we **all** enjoy. Thanks again for all the goodies and the faithful folks that bring them when some of us never think of it. So be alert and take your turn to share.

The continued giving that keeps our budget on track is truly a blessing.

Yes, what a wonderful time is Spring as we look forward to new beginnings and opportunities with God's guidance while keeping our ears and eyes open to the will of God.

-Marcia Fitzner

Stained Glass Project

This month there has been very good progress on the primary job of making windows for the Church. Three windows depicting the Lord's Supper will go into the three lower windows on the South side of the Church. One is installed and the other two window panels are progressing very well. The complexity of these windows is very noticeable compared to the other windows completed to-date. This results in a significantly longer time to make the windows. Jan Cool is doing a good job as the lead on these windows. We are down to only one member of the crew making special projects, since everyone else is working on the windows.

Another interesting event that happened the last Saturday of March was that the national Methodist Church contracted with a local TV producer, Carey Moots, to video tape the stained glass operation. This included taping the installation of the center panel of the Lord's Supper as well as the work in the glass shop. He also interviewed the pastor and several of the people working on the glass. The national Church wants to air a segment on Easter Sunday, but I have no details as to time or channel. They will, however, have it on the Internet. I think this is wonderful advertisement for our Church.

-Mel Stephenson



Filming Mel Stephenson and Ladd Hagmaier Installing Window



Center Panel Installed



Mel's Interview

Lord's Supper Windows



Jan and Della about half done with
Left Panel



Butch and Marcia are working on Right Panel



Carey Moots, Moot's Productions



Filming Jan Cool and Della Stephenson

THE METHODIST MEN'S MISSIONS

Because of bad weather on the 20th the Methodist Men met on Saturday, March 27. The breakfast was prepared by Phil Levy with his special recipe for French toast. Ten men attended the meeting

The meeting started out with prayer and singing "Bringing in the Sheaves". Jon Shively led a devotional time based on the introduction to E. Stanley Jones' book, *IN CHRIST*. "In Christ" does not mean near, around, for, or beside. It is a state of being in which our lives are surrounded by Christ in a relationship of love and obedience.

Following the devotional, Mel Stephenson gave an excellent summary of the stained glass window project. Mel relayed the history of the project from its inception, the number of people involved and how they contributed to the project, and the impact on the community. Mel also detailed some of the technical problems that the glass workers had to solve in order to complete the glass images.

Because Nick Griffo has to work most Saturdays, he asked that he step down as treasurer. The Men's group elected Harry Irvin to replace Nick. Jon and Harry will work with the bank to change over the signature authority to Harry.

Butch McGee will serve as head chef next time with Jon Shively as assistant when the group meets on April 17.

MUSIC PROGRAMS IN THE CHURCH

The Joyful Singers have been working on special music for the Easter Sunday service. Several rehearsals were held this month to work out the harmony parts and to practice with Morrow Hall. The accompaniment has presented new challenges for both the musical group and the accompanist.

The beginning guitar class continues to meet twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. There are 7 to 10 regular attendees including two promising young guitarists.



What's Behind This Crazy Weather??... And, What's El Niño, Anyway?

Scientists knew last summer that this was going to be an El Nino year. But it wasn't until the winter that its effects really hit the United States.

The strong El Nino and the subsequent precipitation are a result of something that started thousands of miles out in the Pacific Ocean.

"Ocean temperatures across the equatorial and tropical Pacific Ocean are somewhere upwards of two degrees above average," says Mike Halpert, deputy director of the Climate Prediction Center at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "So we have had what we would characterize as a strong El Nino."

Scientists say this is the strongest El Nino since the winter of 1997-98. What happens is that unusually warm sea surface temperatures in the western Pacific move east. That changes the heating pattern of the atmosphere, which in turn pulls the Pacific jet stream farther south. A jet stream is a fast and narrow current of air that travels high up in the atmosphere.

"And that jet stream is where we see a lot of storminess typically," says Halpert. "And we saw a very classical case of that, a superstrong jet extended all the way across the Pacific with storms impacting California one after the other."

A strong El Nino also alters another jet stream nearer to the equator that brings more storms to the Gulf area.

In fact, a strong El Nino plays havoc with weather from Indonesia to the Atlantic, but in different ways. Indonesia gets unusually dry weather, and in fact fires in parts of Indonesia have been frequent recently. Peru, on the west coast of South America, tends to get what California gets — flooding rains.

Halpert says storms are local events and no single storm can be attributed directly to the phenomenon. "One way to think of it is that El Nino conditions the atmosphere for these types of storms," he says.

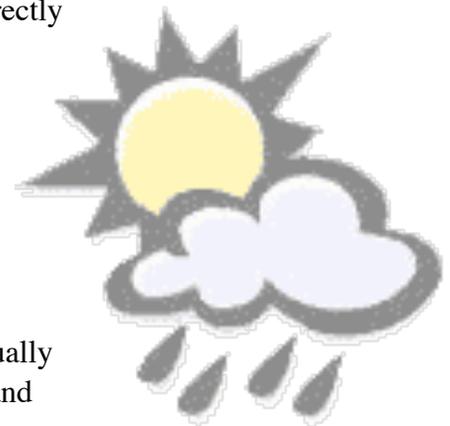
Weather Changes

Halpert also points out that scientists don't know yet whether climate change is influencing the frequency or strength of El Ninos.

Scientists say El Nino will very likely persist another month or two. That usually means drier than usual weather in the Pacific Northwest, wetter in the West and Southwest, and colder in the Southeast.

El Nino has done some good, though, in the Southwestern United States.

"Nobody can remember seeing such a small amount of drought on the map," he says, "So this El Nino has taken a pretty big bite out of some pretty severe drought conditions that had developed last summer."



April 2010

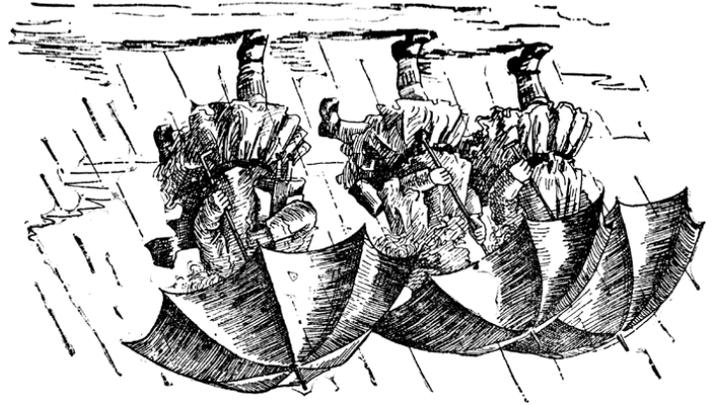


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
4 9 AM Worship EASTER Sunday	5 9:am Glass Shop	6 9:am Glass Shop 6:30pm Bible Study	7	1 1	3 9:am Glass Shop
11 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	12 9:am Glass Shop 7:pm TRUSTEES	13 9:am Glass Shop 6:30pm Bible Study	14	8 8	10 9:am Glass Shop
18 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	19 9:am Glass Shop	20 9:am Glass Shop 5:00pm EUMC Spaghetti Supper	21	15 15	17 9:am Glass Shop 9:am CPR CLASSES
25 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	26 9:am Glass Shop	27 9:am Glass Shop 6:30pm Bible Study	28	22 22	24 9:am Glass Shop
				29 29	30 9:am Glass Shop



Sent with a prayer to:

APRIL



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

*Beneath the cross of Jesus, I fain would take my stand,
A shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
A home within the wilderness, a rest along the way
From the burning of the noontime heat and the burden of the day.
-Fredrick Maker*



***There is more
need for love and
recognition in this
world than for bread.
-Mother Teresa***