



NEWSLETTER
OF THE
Estancia United Methodist
Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



APRIL, 2017

Estancia United Methodist Church

www.EstanciaMethodist.org

600 W. Williams, P.O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016

Rev. Robert Hunt Ph 505-301-4100

Email RobertHunt50@gmail.com

Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustees Chair	Bill Simms
Finance & Worship Chair	Julie Griffio
Kitchen Crew	Alma Wimsatt
Lay Leader Ann. Conf. Delegate, Recording Sec.	Elaine Darnell
McMurry College Representative	Raymond Moore
Membership Nurture	Barbara Simms
Membership Rolls	Carolyn Moore & Marque Sturges
Music	Morrow Hall
Outreach & Food Vouchers	Butch McGee
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
United Methodist Men Chair	Nick Griffio
United Methodist Youth Fellowship	Alexandra Chavez

Mountainair United Methodist Church

211 S. Sunset, Mountainair, NM 87036

Rev. Robert Hunt Ph. 505-301-4100

Email RobertHunt50@gmail.com

Church Council Chair, Lay Leader, Worship Chair & Recording Secretary	Patty Mahoney
Finance Chair	David Dixon
Trustees Chair & Treasurer	Kent Potter
Annual Conference Delegate & Outreach	Wanda Giovengo
McMurry College Representative	Anna Hopping
Native American Ministries	Rebecca Lueras
Social Concerns Chairpersons	David & Maribeth Dixon
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Bertha Warner

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Greetings, here it is the end of March 2016 with April and Easter right here before us. WOW how time does move. The weather has been wonderful and great. Trees are flowering and leafing, flowers are popping up and bushes are blooming. TOO EARLY you say!!! I would be in full agreement with you after this week of 03/26 - 04/02/2017. So ask yourself this question, "Why do I know this, that it's early for Spring?" The answer would be "Experience." Most of us have lived long enough to know how to read the signs of the seasons of the year. It is experience which has taught us. Taught us what? Well, that Winter hangs on and hangs on hard some years. We have learned "from experience" that warm spells can happen in the middle of Winter. We do know we are very likely to have yet another blizzard or two before Spring actually arrives. We may see nature wanting and responding as if spring has arrived, yet we know from our life experiences here in New Mexico it has not.

The sad facts are, no matter how nice the weather has been, we will still have some very hard weather. Thus the trees get bitten back after leafing early, the fruit trees risk having no fruit, and flowers have to struggle with yet more snow.

Is this picture not also a reflection of our own lives. So often we find ourselves getting ahead of where we should be. Ahead of God and what the future will look like. So the question I pose to you is this, "What is the future suppose to look like? I think I will get as many answers as people whom I ask and no two

answers will be exactly the same. Thus, we each as children of God want and/or desire the future we mentally see and desire.

How do we grow God's Church? Who's measuring stick, expectations and values do we follow or allow to prevail? Unlike nature, maybe we need to not get ahead of ourselves, thus saving the "three ring circus" which would surely follow with its confusion. The answer we need to learn is to wait upon the Lord. Just as we have learned from experience that Winter is not totally over at this time. We need to remember and learn, God works in mysterious ways.

Not by the seasons, human time tables, our desires or wants, but by "His Ways." To understand God's ways takes a life time of experiences and learning from all the generations before. Our founder of the United Methodist Church understood this. John Wesley taught people to wait upon the Lord. From Experience, Rational, Tradition and most of all Scripture should model our lives.

Not an easy thing to accomplish when we collectively have many different experiences, different traditions, do not all think alike and interpret Scripture so vastly different. Yet as we wait upon the Lord we can and do find those similar experiences, traditions, rationalizations, and common threads of scripture which allow us to do God's faithful work and not get ahead of ourselves or God. GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME, and ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!

Now on to other opportunities here in the Estancia and Mountainair Charge. As we are in the Lenten Season, let us remember why we celebrate forty days of Lent. As we move to Easter let us keep central God's Great Gift becoming a Sin sacrifice for us on the cross. Jesus, God's Son. When it appeared as if all hope had died, God did what no Human being could do, "He Raised His Son from Death to Everlasting Life." This Lenten Season think on this great truth. Invite everyone you know to be in Worship come Easter Sunday, April sixteenth.

I need to leave some room for other articles and ministry opportunities within our Communities of Faith. So may the Peace and Grace of God go with you into the future of 2017. God Bless

-Rev. Robert Hunt (Bro. Bob)

The Meaning of Easter

The meaning of Easter is Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection symbolizes the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. The meaning of Easter also symbolizes the complete verification of all that Jesus preached and taught during His three-year ministry. If He had not risen from the dead, if He had merely died and not been resurrected, He would have been considered just another teacher or Rabbi. However, His resurrection changed all that and gave final and irrefutable proof that He was really the Son of God and that He had conquered death once and for all.



Butch McGee - Jack of all Trades!

Butch continually goes beyond the call of duty to keep our church running smoothly, manicuring our lawn, so it will be perfect for Easter Sunday, teaching King's Kids, helping with Sunday School, not to mention all his Trustee chores, and So Much More!

THANKS BUTCH!!

EUMC Administrative Council

Meeting

3/19/17



Join EUMC for:

Palm Sunday, April 9, 9 am

Butch is bringing a very special guest!



EASTER SUNDAY

April 16, 9 am

Celebrate His resurrection!

Bring cut flowers
to decorate the cross.

Easter egg hunt!



Order your
Easter lily
from Alma!



TRUSTEES AT WORK

Thanks for cleaning the sewer pipes, and planning our concrete and clean up projects!



St. Patrick's Day Community Dinner
was a success!

More than 75 dinners were served! Great food, great conversation, and great blessings were experienced by all who attended. Thank you to those who cooked, served and cleaned up!

Upcoming Events and Activities

April 23—Prepare Estancia Middle School spring athletes' snack bags

May 14—special Mother's Day service

June 18—special Father's Day service

July 4—Partner with Town of Estancia for festivities, food and fun

Stay tuned this summer:

Day Out Trips for seniors—once a month adventures!

Backyard Bible Club and Movie Night—for kids and families!





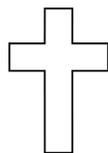
Butch giving the King's kids sermon on John 11:38-54. He used a flower for demonstrating something being alive and then dying. How do the seeds get spread around? The story was how God planned for Jesus to die. When Jesus died who becomes the seeds? Peter, John, you, me, and everyone around who believes in him would spread His word. Jesus died on the cross so we all can live.



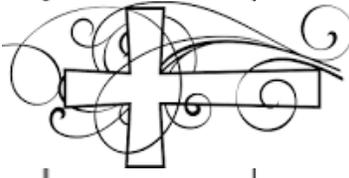
Lenten candles are lit at the beginning of Sunday service during Lent. During the service each Sunday until Easter, a candle is extinguished and a reading from the Bible is read.



March 17, 2017. St. Patrick's day corn beef and cabbage dinner. The church congregation prepared the dinner and invited the community. 65+ people showed up and gave donations of \$200+ that will go to the Methodist Children's Home. There were new friends made and old friends that came and had a good time visiting. Everyone that came to eat gave awesome compliments and said they couldn't wait for next year. Good job everyone!



2017 APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	3	4	5 Pastor's Office Day 10 AM - 4 PM	6	7	8
9 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM <u>PALM SUNDAY</u>	10	11	12 Pastor's Office Day 10 AM - 4 PM	13	14	15 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
16 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM <u>EASTER SUNDAY</u>	17	18	19 Pastor's Office Day 10 AM - 4 PM	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	24	25	26 Pastor's Office Day 10 AM - 4 PM	27	28	29
30 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM						



Sent with a prayer to:



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



PASSOVER

IN THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH AT EVEN IS THE LORD'S PASSOVER (LEV. 23:5)
April 11 this year determined by the lunar calendar, i.e...first full moon of spring. Passover is always on full moon.

The meaning of the Passover is surely the feast of salvation. On this day, because of the blood of the lamb ('without blemish, a male...' Exodus 12:5) the Hebrew nation was delivered from bondage. Clearly, in both Testaments, the blood of the Lamb delivers from slavery---the Jew from Egypt, the Christian from sin.

It is no mere coincidence, then, that our Lord Himself was sacrificed on Passover. At the meal He stated plainly, "This is My blood of the New Testament shed for many for remission of sin" (Matthew 26:27)
John the Baptist clearly marked out the person of Jesus Christ as a blood sacrifice when he stated, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

The Christian celebrates Passover, in effect, by participating in the sacrifice of the Lord. Back in Egypt the Jew marked his house with the blood of the lamb. Today the Christian marks his house--his body, "the house of the spirit"--with the blood of Christ. The Angel of Death will pass over each Christian as surely as he passed over each Israelite in Egypt. We are already living our eternal life.

The Passover, then, represents our salvation. We do not keep the feast in remembrance of the exodus from Egypt, since that was the mere shadow of the greater redemption to come. The Lord Himself instructed us to "Do this in remembrance of Me."

We do take communion, a part of the original Passover feast, in remembrance of the Lord.

From Zola Hevitt
The Seven Feasts of Israel

-Contributed by Alma Wimsatt