



# NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



# APRIL, 2018

## Estancia United Methodist Church

[www.EstanciaMethodist.org](http://www.EstanciaMethodist.org)

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

Rev. Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

Email [smithkw@gmail.com](mailto:smithkw@gmail.com)

Worship Chair	Susan Samuels
Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustee Chair	Bill Simms
Finance Chair	Julie Griffo
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 Griffo
United Methodist Youth Fellowship	Alexandra Chavez

## Mountainair United Methodist Church

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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 KEYBOARD**

Christ is risen! But Easter is *not* "over." In the simple sense, Easter Sunday is the first of the seven Sundays of the Easter season. But far more importantly, the resurrection of Jesus was not an event that can be neatly kept on a shelf to be brought out once a year along with chocolate in many shapes and marshmallow Peeps. His life, death, and resurrection forever changed the relationship between God and God's children. No longer would the sins of the people be assigned to a scape goat which was sent into the wilderness. No longer would atonement for sin require the blood of an animal. Our sins are forgiven by the sacrifice of the Lamb of God. We should never think of that as something to celebrate one day a year, then focus on other issues for the rest of the year. We should feel the joy of knowing that each of us, and whosoever believes in Jesus, has the promise of eternal life in Heaven for not just the seven Sundays of Easter, but every day of our lives.

Think of accepting that gift and accepting the Spirit of God into our hearts like a diploma, certificate, license or degree or any other learning. The knowledge we gained in the process of the achievement doesn't vanish when we finish the class or get the piece of paper. We are forever changed. Think about it. After we learn multiplication, we would never try to count six rows of six boxes by counting them one by one. After we accept the gift of eternal life, we never look at sin the same way again. We never look at death the same way again. And we should never look at family members, friends or quite literally anyone we meet in the same way again. The most important aspect of *everyone else in our lives* is whether they have accepted that same gift of eternal life. Making that our greatest concern is arguably the best way to obey the greatest commandment that we love one another. What

greater example of love can there be than doing whatever we can to help others find the way to joy that never ends?

We have a great advantage over those first Christians who after Jesus' resurrection and ascension had only His instruction to wait for the gift His father promised, that he had spoken about. They didn't know how long they were to wait, or what the gift would specifically be. We know, as they discovered at Pentecost, that it is the Holy Spirit, and we don't have to wait for tongues of flame over our heads to call upon that power. In fact, today would be a great time!

May the Holy Spirit empower you!

-Pastor Keith

## **Reminder – Way Forward Listening Session**

The final scheduled listening session on the issues to be considered by the special General Conference next February will be in Albuquerque on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The session will be held at Central UMC, 201 University Blvd. NE one block north of Central Ave. starting at 3:00 p.m. You are invited to attend.

## **Clovis Listening Session**

The most recent listening session was held in Clovis on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The New Mexico Conference news update reports that 110 people braved 70 mph winds to attend the session. They held small group discussion sessions on the following questions:

- What are your fears with regard to the current impasse of the church?
- For you personally, what are your most important values and convictions in seeking a way forward for the United Methodist Church?
- Considering the three sketches, what implications does this process have for your local congregation?
- What are your hopes with respect to the Way Forward?

## **Snapshot of the Options, Subject to Change**

The most recent status of the options before the Council of Bishops is that there are two possibilities. They can very briefly summarized as follows:

1. “local” choice: Annual conferences would decide whether to ordain practicing homosexual elders. Individual congregations would express acceptance or rejection of appointment of a homosexual elder. Elders would be able to choose whether to officiate at same-sex marriages.
2. Jurisdictional separation: Instead of geographic boundaries, there would be three jurisdictions in the U.S. (other jurisdictions around the world would be able to make their own determinations on these issues). The three would loosely be considered “traditional,” “progressive” and some other term for the middle, of course the names and specifics would be worked out. Annual conferences would be able to align with any of the jurisdictions according to their theological convictions.

## **So What? (Or, “What’s it mean to me?”)**

The first, and most important aspect of the national and international debates and decisions on the homosexual issues within the United Methodist Church is the personal relationship between God and each of us. We acknowledge that *all* persons are of sacred worth, and it is God’s will that every individual enter into eternal life. This will never change, no matter what other changes are made.

The main questions are: 1. Do we, as a denomination, ordain practicing homosexuals, and perform same-sex marriages. The impact, and potential decisions at the local church level are whether we are open to the appointment of a homosexual elder, and the use of our facilities for same sex marriages. Delegates to the Annual Conference might vote as to which jurisdiction to align with, if that becomes an option.

Of course, at this point it is not known what the Council of Bishops will recommend to the 2019 General Conference, or what other proposals will be presented to the Conference. We all and each need to be in prayer for these decisions.

*-Pastor Keith*

# EUMC Administrative Council

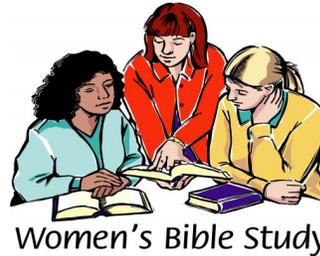
## Meeting

3/25/18



**Please welcome the new  
Worship Committee Chair.**

**Susan Samuels**



**Wednesdays,**

**5:30 pm**

## Upcoming Ministry to Others

**SPRING FOOD DRIVE for BETHEL STOREHOUSE** — Donate non-perishables at EUMC from 4/8—4/22. Let's collect a mountain of food!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** — Dates, times and activities to be determined. Do you have a great idea? Like to help? Children's ministry is fun and rewarding!

**MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL SERVICE** — Sunday, May 13. Join us!

**ESTANCIA SIDEWALK SALE** — Saturday, June 2. Bring items to sell. Proceeds will be donated to Bethel Storehouse.

**FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL SERVICE** — Sunday, June 17. Potluck picnic!

St. Patrick's Day

Community Dinner



Was a success!



Thanks for joining us!

**4th OF JULY at ARTHUR PARK**  
Events and community blessings  
TDB. Stay tuned!!





Why were Julie and Morrow playing cards in church?

They were helping Butch with the Kings kids.  
The story was when Jesus went into the temple  
and destroyed it.



Melanie gave a good Kings kid sermon on Sunday  
3/11/18.... John 3:16



Julie giving the Kings Kids sermon on the Holy Trinity



Palm Sunday 2018



Decorated for St Patrick's Community Dinner March 15th

# St Patrick's Day Community Dinner March 15th





# APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> EASTER SUNDAY Worship 9:00 AM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>16</b> ECHO Food Distribution 9:00 - 12:00	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
<b>22</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>30</b>					



*Sent with a prayer to:*



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P. O. Box 126  
Estancia, NM 87016

## More than meets the eye

***Faith** means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it. Hebrews 11:1*

*Faith is trusting what the eye can't see.  
Eyes see the prowling lion. Faith sees Daniel's angel.  
Eye see storms. Faith sees Noah's rainbow.  
Eyes see giants. Faith sees Canaan.  
Your eyes see your faults. Your faith sees your Savior.  
Your eyes see your guilt. Your faith sees his blood.*

**Your eyes look in the mirror and see a sinner, a failure, a promise-breaker. But by faith you look in the mirror and see a robed prodigal bearing the ring of grace on your finger and the kiss of your Father on your face.**

***When God Whispers Your Name, by Max Lucado***

*-Contributed by Alma Wimsatt*