



NEWSLETTER

OF THE

**Estancia United Methodist Church 600 Williams, Estancia, NM
and
Mountainair United Methodist Church 211 S. Sunset Ave., Mountainair, NM**

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



April showers, hopefully!



APRIL, 2019

From Your CLM

The third week of April, 2019 is called Holy Week. We begin with Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, remembered on Palm Sunday. The crowd was sure that Jesus was the promised Messiah who would return to Israel to its former glory. Fortunately, they were mistaken. This is fortunate for two reasons: first, if Jesus had been an earthly king, He would have died and His kingdom would have passed like so many kingdoms before and since. But He conquered death once and for all, and His kingdom will never end. Second, if He had in fact established His eternal kingdom at that time, would we have ever been born? In 2 Peter we are taught that God isn't slow about keeping His promises- He is patient. Would you be willing to wait one more day for Christ's return if in that day your friend or coworker would accept Him as their savior? Do you want the joy of seeing a (another?) child, grandchild, great grandchild? Do you want them to experience the laughter of a birthday party, to chase a butterfly, to witness the annual tumbleweed migration? Is it worth letting God determine the time of Christ's return in order for these events to take place? Hint: that's one of those rhetorical that Radar O'Riley wasn't any good at.

Back to Holy Week. Luke devotes about one fifth of his gospel to that single week of Jesus' life. In those few days Jesus went from the hero of the crowd to the man so hated by the mob that they wanted Him killed in one of the most brutal ways available at the time. He was mocked, tortured, and crucified. Whenever I receive the Lord's Supper I think about the pain He endured for me. Knowing that He did it willingly should bring every Christian to their knees in thanks. In part our sorrow at the suffering and death of Jesus is muted by that fact that we know the rest of the story. Looking forward to the happy ending can make the agony that went

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Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustee Chair	Bill Simms
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Membership Rolls	Marque Sturges
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Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
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Finance Chair	David Dixon
Trustees Chair & Treasurer	Kent Potter
Annual Conference Delegate & Outreach	Wanda Giovengo
McMurry College Representative	Anna Hopping
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Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Bertha Warner

before it a little easier to think about. And the ending **is** as happy as any ending could possibly be. On Easter Sunday we proclaim "Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed!" But we shouldn't limit that joyful exclamation to one day. Today, as you read this, **Christ is risen!!** At the least, every Sunday should be an Easter celebration, and ideally we can wake to every new day, or even in the middle of the night, with our first thought that through Christ, death has lost its sting. The battle is already won, and the final celebration will be truly something out of this world.

Christ is Risen!

-Keith

What's Going On

You might have noticed when I began to serve here the title of the preacher's column changed from *Pastor's Pen* to *Pastor's Keyboard*. This was partly out of mercy for newsletter editor Bill Simms. If I had written my column in pen, my poor handwriting would have quickly caused him to throw in the towel. And, of course, there is a time-honored (unwritten?) management principle that the safest way to make your mark on an organization is to change the name of something.

This month the name changes again as a result of my meeting last week with the District Committee on Ministry. They pointed out that in the United Methodist tradition the word "*pastor*" is reserved for reference to ordained clergy and that as a Certified Lay Minister it is a violation of the Book of Discipline for me to use the word. In addition, although the word "*reverend*" doesn't appear in the Book of Discipline it was stated that it is also improper to associate that word with me because it might give someone the false impression that I am ordained.

As a servant of two United Methodist congregations and as someone under the authority of the District Committee on Ministry I will follow the rules. So you will see that the *Pastor's Keyboard* has a new name, and I will make every effort to purge the term pastor from my speech. Since Certified Lay Minister is a mouthful, and CLM is somewhat unintelligible without an explanation it's probably easiest just to use "Keith." I have also, per guidance from the District Committee on Ministry, informed the Trustees that the "Rev" in Estancia and "Pastor" in Mountainair on our church signs are problematic because of the possible false impression and Book of Discipline violation, respectively. Remember that "Methodist" was originally a derisive term applied to the Wesley brothers and their group of fellow students because of their careful adherence to a methodical approach to study and worship. -Keith

Saint Patrick's Day Community Dinner in Estancia



On March 17, 2019 the Estancia United Methodist church had a community wide St. Patrick's Day dinner. There were between 60-70 people who attended. Thanks to all who participated in helping make it a BIG success.



Saint Patrick's Day. 3-17-19





Kings Kids 3-24-19
The parable of the Barren Fig Tree
(Luke 13:1-9)
When we fertilize our plants, they grow.
We can be like our plants and be fertilized with the
word of God

March 31st Singing

FROM MOUNTAINAIR UMC



The first "Fifth Sunday Sing" of 2019 is tonight at Mountainair United Methodist Church if you happen to be reading this on March 31. Everyone is invited, either to share a musical offering, or simply to enjoy the music, fellowship, and FOOD! The music begins at 6:00 p.m.

followed by a potluck feast. MUMC is at 211 S. Sunset, a block south of main street (aka Broadway, aka US-60), the church with the blue roof on the outside and smiling faces inside. If you are reading this after March 31st, the next 5th Sunday will be in June.

Answering the Call to Ministry.

Anyone who has had the chance to come and hear Keith's sermons during Lent, knows that one of his main themes is encouraging us to get out into the community. I've heard people say, "I'd like to do something, but I'm not sure what to do." This article describes a way that we could do something. First, when you have an idea, write it down. Then take it to someone you know at church and ask what they think, and if they would be willing to help. Let people in charge know you want to do it. If there is no objection, then organize and try it out. If there is an objection see what can be done to get it ready. Let me give you this example: the Lord has put it upon my heart to take donuts or muffins to the local businesses along with a card saying "thank you" for being here and tell them we are praying for them. It should not take much time from their day or ours. I've told this idea to some people, including those in charge and am waiting to see if there are any objections. Do you know how many businesses we have here in Estancia? Count them on main street the next time you drive down it. If there are any problems, we'll work them out, then we'll announce the activity from the pulpit when we're ready to start. What can you do for the Lord in our community? See, Keith! We do listen!

-Reverend Terry Ann Moore



Emmaus Update

De Colores! If those words strike a chord in your memory, or if walk to Emmaus is something more to you than one of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances, OR if you are curious about what on earth I'm talking about, read on. Estancia UMC will host the April gathering of the Northwest New Mexico Emmaus Community on Friday, April 26th. All are invited, whether you've been on a walk or not. If you've never attended an Emmaus event, here's the schedule: Gather about 6:00 p.m., pot luck at 6:30, worship service at 7:30. No passwords, no secret handshakes, just food and Christian fellowship. If you went on a walk (or Cursillo, or Long Walk, or Tres Dias or *any* "72-hour experience") come for a renewal of the sense of joy and love. If you know nothing about any of this, come for food (you don't have to bring anything, there's *always* more food than can possibly be eaten), joy and love.

-Keith

APRIL 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	4 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM	5	6
7 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	8	9	10 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	11 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM 4-H Meeting	12	13
14 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM PALM SUNDAY	15 ECHO Food Distribution 9:00 to 1:00	16	17 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	18 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	19 GOOD FRIDAY	20 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
21 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM EASTER SUNDAY	22	23	24 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	25 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM	26 Emmaus Gathering 6:pm Worship Potluck EUMC	27
28 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM AD COUNCIL	29	30				



Sent with a prayer to:



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PROMISES ABOUT CELEBRATING SUCCESS

She watches over the ways of her households,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her blessed:

Her husband also, and he praises her.

"Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all."

Proverbs 31:27-29

Then Miriam...took the timbrel in her
hand...and answered them:

"Sing to the Lord,

For he has triumphed gloriously!

the horse and its rider

He has thrown into the sea!"

Exodus 15:20-21

Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed
be the Lord, who has not left you this day
without a close relative, and may his name
be famous in Israel! And may he be to you
a restorer of life and a nourisher of your
old age.

Ruth 4:14-15