



## **NEWSLETTER**

**OF THE**

**Estancia United Methodist Church**

**600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico**

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



# **AUGUST, 2017**

## 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)

Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustees Chair	Bill Simms
Finance & Worship 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

211 S. Sunset, Mountainair, NM 87036

Rev. Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

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

As I listen to preachers on the radio and watch them on TV I sometimes wonder what translation of the Bible they're using, or whether they passed reading comprehension in school. There are simply some things that the Bible doesn't say, and there are others that the scriptures are very clear on.

Consider the simple, and admittedly unimportant question: How many wise men were there? If you say "Three" please tell me where you found that, and the song "We Three Kings" doesn't count as scriptural authority. They brought three symbolic gifts, but nowhere do we read how many there were.

Now consider Jesus in the garden before He was arrested. Luke (only) records that His sweat fell like drops of blood, and far too many people, including pastors, report "Jesus sweat blood." They even cite a medical condition called hematohidrosis which involves the blood vessels near the sweat glands basically leaking blood. Really? What does Luke say fell? *Sweat*. Not blood. If you've ever had sweat dripping off you after heavy exertion, or hot yoga (!) you get the picture. Extreme fear or pain can cause the same effect. Why do people seem to miss the word *like* (Greek ὡσεὶ)? The same word is used in Matthew 9:36, where Jesus had compassion for the crowds, because they were *like* sheep without a shepherd. Would people claim that the crowds actually were sheep?

The suffering and sacrifice that Jesus submitted to do not need to be made more dramatic by reading things into scripture that aren't there.

He was a man who knew what was about to happen, had the power to stop it, *but for our sake chose not to use that power*.

On Sunday, we will study the Bible, and share fellowship. Note that it doesn't matter when you are reading this, as the Church, that's what we do every Sunday. I promise not to add to, or take away from, any of the words. I remember reading somewhere that doing that would be a bad idea. God Bless you.

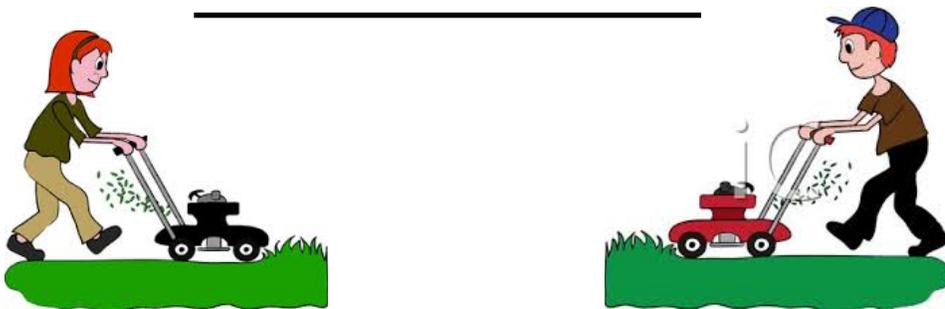
-Pastor Keith

# CHAMPIONS!



## **OLD TIMERS DAY - Saturday, July 29, 2017**

In a crowded field of 9 competitors, Butch and his granddaughter, Haley, won top honors in the Dutch Oven Cook-off held at the Estancia Park. Congratulations Butch and Haley!!



**THANKS to Jesse, Sydney and Justice!!** Sunday after church, these young people (who attend our church) got out the lawn mower and went to work mowing the extensive yard around the church. It is a big job and this time of year, a hot one. Butch has been diligently watering the yard and that makes the grass grow - imagine that! So, Kudos to these young ones who made the grounds look so nice. THANKS GUYS & GAL!

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## **NEWS FROM MOUNTAINAIR**

On Tuesday, August 8, MUMC will host the Mountainair School District staff, teachers, etc., for lunch at the church. We love doing this as it is so much fun to listen to the gathered laugh, shout, and generally have a good time before setting out on the great adventure of a new school year. It is also a good opportunity to share a blessing on them and their work.

# EUMC Administrative Council

## Meeting

July 16, 2017

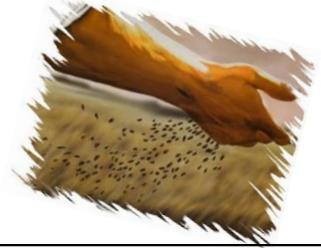


4th of July

a sweet success!

EUMC blessed everyone at Estancia's park with a Christian bracelet and popsicle. We handed out over 200 icy sweets!

Christ  
needs  
YOU!



Pastor Keith said our ministry doesn't happen inside the church. Our task is to sow seeds in our community. Are you sowing? Take a chance to talk to someone about Christ! Here are some church-based opportunities for you:

- Be a worship assistant
- Help make and deliver teacher blessings
- Donate school supplies
- Stay tuned and ready to help with the concrete project with Trustees.
- Help make and deliver student blessings
- Build & ride a float for Pumpkin' Chunkin'
- Participate in Trunk or Treat

### Committee Reports

**Worship**—please sign up for worship assistant, scripture reader, greeter, and usher. Many hands doing God's work makes every-one more fruitful!!

**Nurture**—EUMC is discussing making donations to support people in a third-world village through the Heifer Project or Save the Children.

**Outreach**—Are there folks who need extra help this month with groceries? See Butch for a voucher for Moriarty Foods.

**Finance**—Yahoo! EUMC is up-to-date on contributions to Shared Ministries. Church finances are still healthy but a slightly downward trend with the bank balance urges EUMC to take a closer look at its finances.

**Trustees**—The concrete entry and sidewalk projects are on hold until the fall when EUMC can gather enough folks to make the job manageable. All are welcome to help!

**Pastor's Report**—the website updates are almost complete! He is in the parsonage and making himself at home. He will coordinate a day trip for Estancia and Mountainair churches to attend the fall concert, "de Profundis at Quarai" by the a capella men's ensemble of Albuquerque group on September 17th the Quarai Ruins in Mountainair.



July 29, Saturday—Estancia's Old Timer's Day — Butch - good luck at the Dutch Oven Cook Off!

September 17, Sunday—de Profundis at Quarai

September —TBA—back to school blessings for Estancia teachers and students

September/October—EUMC concrete project

October—TBA—Pumpkin' Chunkin' parade

Stay Tuned  
FOR  
Something  
AWESOME

NEXT AD Council  
meeting SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 20—8 am



On Sunday July 9, Pastor Keith filled in for Butch during Kings Kids.

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### **Pastor Pounding**

On Pastor Keith's first Sunday at Mountainair UMC the congregation didn't just listen to him - they pounded him. The tradition of "pounding" a new pastor dates back to the *actual* concern over separation of church and state. Under British rule, the church was an agent of, and controlled and funded by the government through taxes. The United States ended the practice of funding the government-sponsored church, and congregations began providing new pastors with a pound of flour, a pound of sugar, butter, bacon, beans etc. to help the pastor get started in the new area.



Many churches carry on this tradition to this day, and after the service on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Staff Parish Relations Committee chair Bertha Warner presented Pastor Keith with the modern version of the pounding that the congregation had brought, including a wide variety of food, and, of course, a pound cake!

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### **Day Trip**

Let's go to a concert! The group *de Profundis*, an a cappella men's choir will be presenting their annual performance at the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument Quarai Ruins on September 17th at 3:00 p.m.. Pastor Keith is organizing a carpool trip to the event for the Estancia and Mountainair churches, and anyone else who would like to come along. He promises more details as the event gets closer.



**The First Appointment!** submitted by **Terry Ann Moore**

My first official appointment upon graduation took a whole lot of maneuvering and changing times of services, and other agreements to make it happen. I would be the pastor of the First United Methodist Churches of Sanderson and Marathon Texas. Yes, those two are in the New Mexico Annual Conference. I asked the Bishop to send me as far out from a big city as he could, and he did! It would take 14 hours to drive to Annual Conference at Glorieta every year.

The two churches I was given were very different from one another. One was more formal, the other laid back. One had a big youth group, the other had younger children. One church didn't want a woman pastor, the other said "who cares", we just want someone who will work hard in the church. One church informed me they wanted me at football games on Friday nights and the other expressed an interest in Rodeos. (Some day ask me about that one..haha.) The Conference ended up splitting that charge apart. I spent one year at one church and six years at the other, while being the Wesley Foundation Director at Sul Ross State University.

Even though the churches were different there are some things I learned and have passed on to others in helping to deal with "the new preacher."

1. They are as nervous as you are about meeting but are glad God wants to use their ministry skills in this way.
2. If you want to know something just ask, but they reserve the right to not answer.
3. Call ahead if coming to see them at the parsonage, which is their home.
4. Make sure you see that they take care of themselves and their families.
5. You know where they live and how to get there... do they have that same information for you? If not, bring it up at church some Sunday.
6. Now this is the big one...Pastors did not create the appointment system and we do not have any influence over who is sent where and when. So please, do not hold that against the new preacher. I found in my own appointments that they did try to match up church needs and pastor's skills.
7. In my first appointment I tried so hard to please everyone and failed at it so badly. Let us not require that of a new preacher, to please us all the time.
8. I only received two invitations to go to someone's home for dinner. I got taken out to lunch a few times. Open your hearts and invite the new preacher and family out to your home and/or out to lunch.

First appointments are difficult at times...let this not be one for our new pastor.

In these times when prayer is needed here are a couple I offer up. One I wrote, and one I found in a book along with this statement both found in "The Rebirth of America".

"The greatest thing anyone can do for God and man is pray. It is not the only thing, but it is the chief thing. The great people of earth are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor yet those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those people who take the time to pray. (Sid Gordon)

A Prayer for our Leaders (modified):

O God, I thank you for our country, our Constitution and our leaders. I pray for our President and for every elected and appointed official who serves with him.

I pray that You will build a spiritual wall of protection around the marriage and family of every national, state and local official.

I pray that You will give them the wisdom and the courage to uphold our Constitution which established a republic based on Your absolute laws not a democracy based on the changing whims of man's reasoning.

I pray that You will rebuke Satan for the deception of his lie that we can be "as gods" in deciding for ourselves what is right and what is wrong.

O Lord, may our leaders cast down every law, policy and personal example which weakens marriages, families or Your moral standards.....

In the name of Jesus Christ I pray,  
Amen.

# AUGUST 2017

24calendars.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	7	8 Mountainair Teachers Luncheon	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	14	15	16	17	18	19 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
20 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	28	29	30	31		



*Sent with a prayer to:*



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

### **GOD'S GOOD TIMING**

God will always give what is right to his people who cry to him night and day, and he will not be slow to answer.

Why does God wait until the money is gone? Why does he wait until the sickness has lingered? Why does he choose to wait until the other side of the grave to answer the prayers for healing?

I don't know. I only know his timing is always right. I can only say he will do what is best...

Though you hear nothing, he is speaking. Though you see nothing, he is acting. With God there are no accidents. Every incident is intended to bring us closer to him.

*A Gentle Thunder*      *by Max Lucado*

*Submitted by Alma Wimsatt*