



NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



AUGUST, 2018

Estancia United Methodist Church

www.EstanciaMethodist.org

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

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Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustee Chair	Bill Simms
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Music	Morrow Hall
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Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
United Methodist Men Chair	Nick Griffio
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Church Council Chair, Lay Leader, Worship Chair & Recording Secretary	Patty Mahoney
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FROM THE PASTOR'S KEYBOARD

In July, at least three of us spent a few days as extras on the production that filmed both in Mountainair and Estancia. Not surprisingly, things were not as they seemed. Despite our obvious wounds, Butch and I were never actually injured, and Julie doesn't work in emergency services. The disaster never happened, and as anyone who drives Highway 41 knows, the weathered old church was newly constructed just a few weeks prior. We understand when we watch a TV drama that the things we see are pretend. (Aside #1, when a commercial asserts "These aren't actors, they're real people" I wonder if actors take exception to being called artificial life forms!) And yes, there is a spiritual connection to this.

I am pretty certain that you (being alive on Earth) have never seen God face to face. You have probably never heard His voice audibly, and although examples and witnesses are out there, there's a good chance that you have never experienced a stage-4-inoperable-cancer-suddenly-vanishes class miracle. (Aside #2- we might have a presentation from a man for whom this is *not* true, stay tuned). So what proof do you have that God is real?

Let's answer that question with questions. Have you ever seen air, or a black hole, or an atom, or happiness? Wait, happiness? Exactly. You have seen the physical results of happiness, but you have no more seen actual happiness than you have seen the grace of God. You've seen, and hopefully felt, the effects of God's grace and Spirit at work, just as you have felt happy. As for the others, you believe them to exist because you have seen their effects, or because

people who have studied them extensively assure you that they really exist. If you refuse to believe in black holes unless you see or touch one, good luck with that. If you, *or someone you meet* won't believe in God without seeing or touching him, the black hole discussion might come in handy. We are reminded in *Hebrews 11:1* that "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." If we have faith in the existence of black holes, which are unlikely to ever affect us in any way, how much more important is it to have faith in God, by whom we will either spend eternity in glory, through Christ, or in a place of fire prepared for Satan and his angels. So, if you happen to see Butch on TV with a goose egg and a gash on his head, don't worry- it's not real. **God is.** And may He bless you, this and all days!

-Pastor Keith

Back-to-School Advice from a Former Teacher

by Janet Denison ChristianParenting.org

New shoes, new backpacks, new teachers—same attitude? Most kids are excited about returning to school, even if they don't want to admit it. Each year has a unique set of accomplishments and challenges. I used to teach school, and I will remember the first day of the year.

Some of the kindergarten kids were crying . . . mostly because their moms were.

The first graders came in looking nervous and looking to see who else had lost their front teeth over the summer.

The second graders came in feeling confident, and looking for the person they sat next to the year before.

The third graders came in and the boys went to one side of the room while the girls went to the other.

The fourth graders came in, already smelling like wet puppies. The boys punched one another in the arm or put a friend in a headlock, while the girls rolled their eyes and checked out each other's outfits.

After fourth grade, the conformity starts to change. Individual personality starts to emerge, except in what they are wearing. It is hard to find your child in the fifth– through eighth-grade years because everyone is wearing the same clothes, and that is mostly true even if the school doesn't require uniforms.

The high school years are clubs, different "groups," and The goal is finding the group because no one fits into for the rest of their lives.

Back to school means back managing, social training, enough sleeping—not to laundry. It also means a he like his teacher? Will the try harder this year? Will she be in trouble again? Every year provides something new to worry about.

So, allow a former school teacher to offer a few thoughts.

First, don't worry until October. Kids are amazingly skillful at working things out themselves. Try to stay out of their way, and out of the teacher's way until October. Chances are, whatever you were worried about will be resolved by Halloween.

Second, pray about how "involved" you should be. Our kids want to see you up at school, but after second grade, they probably don't want to see you that often. Allow them to develop their own circles, even if you had hoped for a different one. (With one exception: if they choose the group wearing skulls and fake tattoos, you might want to be a little more involved!)



unique. There are different different degrees of acceptance. of people that call you a friend, every group. And that stays true

to carpooling, schedule academic motivating, and not mention, a massive amount of certain degree of worrying. Will other girls include her? Will he

Third, (and I wished I had learned this one sooner), offer suggestions carefully. Most parents think they know what is best, but don't underestimate your child's ability to actually know what's best. I think I was right about fifty percent of the time, and I might be trying to make myself feel better with that percentage. The rest of the time, I was just making my kids think I didn't trust them enough.

Fourth, treasure these crazy, precious years. They do go by quickly. If you question that, look at a first grader and then look at a fifth grader. That is what five years looks like.

And finally, take a moment to realize that while so many things matter right now, Jesus still matters most. Will you find time in the coming weeks to pray for things like teachers, friendships, academics, and remember that spiritual success is the most important success your child can achieve. In fact, spiritual success is the best way to accomplish all the others.

A word from the Apostle Paul for back-to-school:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 4:6-7*).

Don't worry. God's got this!



NOTE OF THANKS

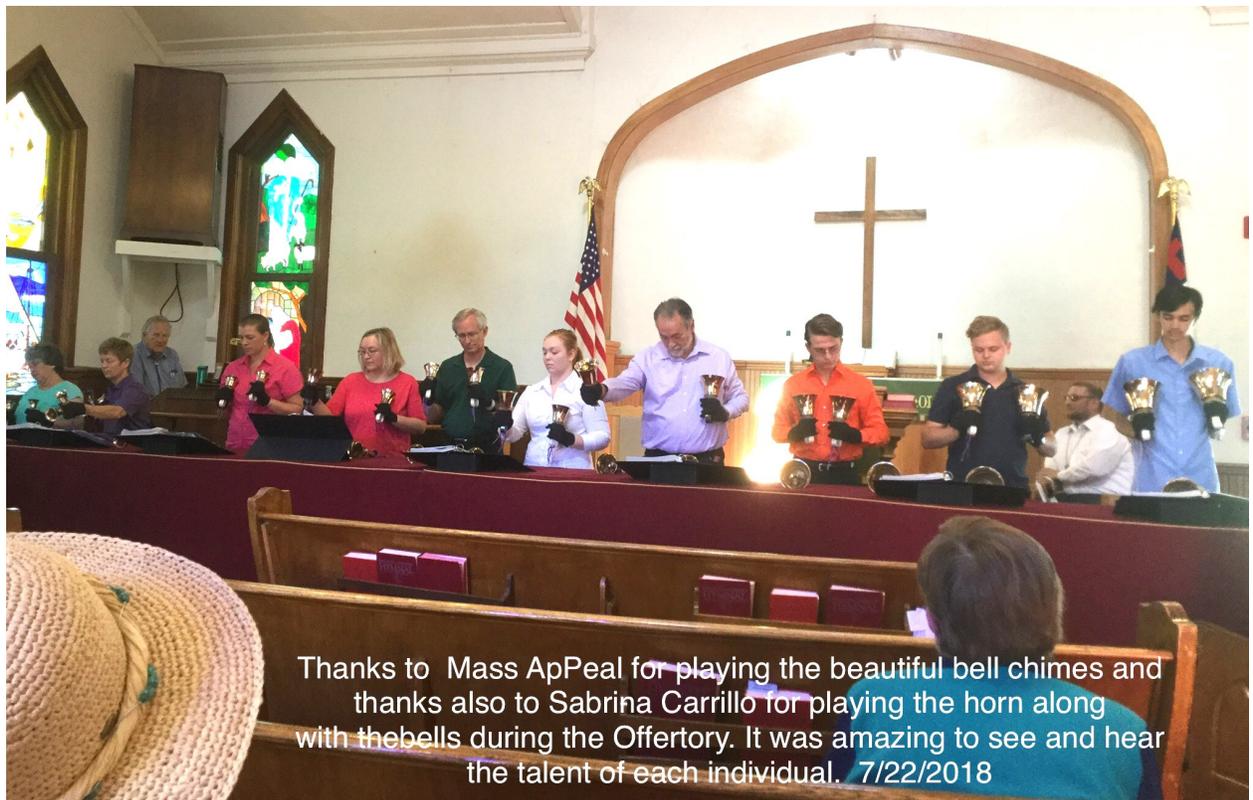
I want to express my deepest Thanks To Vicki D., Addie and all of the fellowship for the past year. Aug. 6th of last year my husband suddenly expired, after moving here from Nebraska. I don't know where I would be right now if not for the fellowship I have received from the church. Oh yes, a sincere thanks to Pastor Keith and Bill for the wonderful memorial service.

Darla Lautenschlager





Tamma telling the story from Mark 6:14-29 during Kings Kids on 7/15/2018. It was good to see all the "kids" participate in Kings kids.



Thanks to Mass ApPeal for playing the beautiful bell chimes and thanks also to Sabrina Carrillo for playing the horn along with the bells during the Offertory. It was amazing to see and hear the talent of each individual. 7/22/2018



Thanks Kitty, for playing the mountain dulcimer, Ray for playing the violin, Morrow for playing the piano to the hymn of "Shall We Gather At The River." It was beautifully done.
7/29/2018



A good crowd enjoyed fellowship after church on Sunday, July 29, 2018. If you were not there, we missed you!

FROM MOUNTAINAIR UMC



The MUMC is pleased to add an Al-Anon chapter meeting to our schedule. If you know of someone who might benefit by attending an Al-Anon meeting, it is held on Saturday at noon. On Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:00pm there are AA meetings also at the church. We are enjoying hearing of Pastor Keith's steps on his journey to ordination. Rock and roll! Preparations are underway for the annual School Staff Luncheon. It is always so much fun to host this event to demonstrate our support for their service to the students. We are having to increase our subscription to the Upper Room. We ran short of the copies for July/August. What a delightful "problem" to have. 'Til next time -
-Patty Mahoney, MUMC Admin Chair

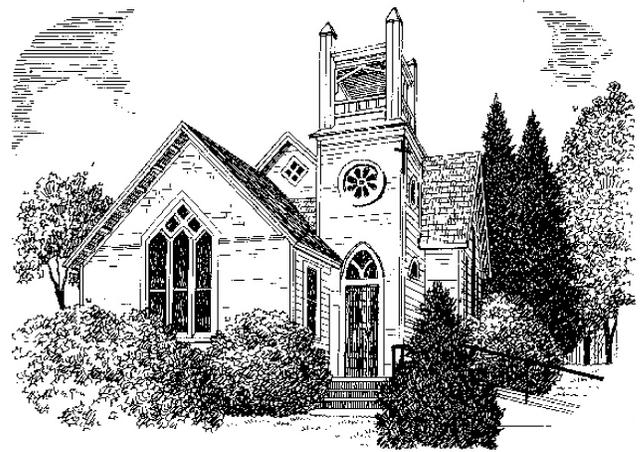


Don Fitzner, with his daughter Dottie and her son Ryan, who were visiting.
7/29/2018

What can I do to be a help to my church?

Faithfully attend and participate (Show Up). Obviously you can't be of much help to your church if you don't show up or take part. Some people underestimate their value of simply being present. Joining together with others adds to their encouragement, and it encourages the leaders and the pastor who have prayed and prepared all week to minister to you (*Hebrews 10:24-25*).

When I was a teenager, I "took for granted" those things my parents worked so hard to provide for me. I especially recall an incident where my mother spent her afternoon cooking something special for me for supper. However, preoccupied with something else, I didn't bother to even show up. How this hurt my mother, to feel that her labor of love was not appreciated. Pastors often feel the same way when their flock doesn't show up. I can remember times praying and fasting for the needs of our families, working into the late hours to prepare teachings that would stir their souls, only to find their empty seat on Sunday morning. This can discourage God's man from trying his best.



It helps your pastor and the whole church for you to come faithfully and on time. And don't merely sit there like a bump on a log. Be friendly, put a smile on your face, and enter into the service by singing and worshiping. You can even utter an audible Amen or two when the pastor makes a good point. Go ahead, it'll make his day!

Help shoulder the load of responsibility. Pastors and leaders of the church often feel much like Moses did when Israel fought with Amalek. Their arms become weary under the weight of so many responsibilities and they need brothers and sisters to stand beside them and help distribute the load. "But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun" (*Exodus 17:12*).

The Lord never intended for the whole ministry of the church to be carried solely by the pastor or a mere handful of people. It's said that the majority of the work is done by the same faithful few, and sadly, this has caused the "burnout" of its many outstanding workers. If everyone would simply pitch in and do their fair share in helping, serving, giving, and so forth, all the needs would be met and no one would be overburdened.

Use your gifts. According to the scriptures, the Lord distributes gifts to each in the body as it pleases Him. Spiritual gifts are not provided to you merely for your own gratification, but so the church would be edified or built up. God has given you gifts that will be a help to your church — it is up to you to discover them, develop and utilize them under the direction and cooperation with your spiritual leaders. By doing so, you will glorify God and be a great help to your church. "Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel" (*1 Corinthians. 14:12*).

It helps your church when you live and conduct yourself in a Christ-like manner. Whether you realize it or, you're a walking billboard for your church. Whatever the people of your community see in your life, they will tend to identify with your pastor and his flock. Behave yourself and speak well of the church and your pastor. Eyes and ears are always open to the things you say and do.

AUGUST 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	2	3	4
5 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	6	7	8 Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	9	10	11
12 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	13 First Day of School 	14	15 Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	16	17	18 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
19 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	20 ECHO Food Distribution 9:00 - 12:00	21	22 Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	23	24	25
26 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	27	28	29 Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	30	31	



Sent with a prayer to:



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

Let Nothing Disturb Thee

*Let nothing disturb thee;
Let nothing dismay thee;
All things pass:
God never changes.
Patience attains
All that it strives for.
He who has God
Finds he lacks nothing;
God alone suffices
-St. Teresa*

Wait On
To talk with God,
No breath is lost----
Talk on !
To walk with God,
No strength is lost---
Walk on !
To wait on God,
No time is lost---
Wait on !
-From the Hindi