



Estancia United Methodist Church,
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Nursery Provided
Church School 10:30 AM



Rev. Johann Neethling, Pastor

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
Church Office 384-5215
Parsonage 384-2710
email: siyabonga@aol.com

OUR MISSION: To honor God by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.



DECEMBER, 2000



SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR DECEMBER

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Kelly Darnell
Acolytes: Brian Wilson & Jett Sharp
Ushers: Bonnie Thomas & Marilyn Seddon
Greeters: Renee Richards & Sylvia Levy

YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Dec. 3: Jackie Creamer
Dec. 10: Laura Sanchez
Dec. 17: Rose Daniel
Dec. 24: Alice Daniel
Dec. 31: Brian Wilson

NURSERY

Dec. 3: Gail Mora
Dec. 10: Barbara Simms
Dec. 17: *(Please consider putting your name here!)*
Dec. 24:
Dec. 31:

KINGS KIDS NEEDED

Dec. 3: Gail Mora
Dec. 10: NEEDED
Dec. 17: Elaine Darnell
Dec. 24: NEEDED



ADVENT READERS

Dec. 3: Reynolds Family
Dec. 10: Kenny & Shauna Paul
Dec. 17: Jason & Leslie Fastnacht
Dec. 24: Darnell Family

Special Activities

Sunday December 17: We will gather at the church for carol singing. We may have horses, wagons and trailers to help get us around town. We will meet afterwards at the education building for cider and cookies.

Sunday December 24: We will have a regular morning service and a Christmas Eve Carols by Candlelight Service at 5pm.



Sunday December 31: At 11:30pm we will have a 30 minute Watchnight Holy Communion service.



Holiday Schedule



BABY SHOWER
for the Fastnacht family!
Where: EUMC
When: TBA



TIME OUT

WITH "COACH" JOHANN

Greetings Estancia Saints,

It is hard to believe that the end of 2000 is almost upon us! Thanksgiving has come and gone and the anticipation and excitement of the *Advent Season* is already here. I pray that your experience of Immanuel – God with us – will be greater and deeper than ever before. But that will not happen just by chance. Determine now that it will be so and set aside the time - for yourself and your family - for His presence and His peace to pervade your lives and your homes. Regular participation in worship and in your own individual and family prayer times will greatly assist that process.

Our *LOGOS Program* ended session I on a high note. Sincere thanks to **Joe, Kathy, and Patti Martinez** for feeding 116 of us on Wednesday, November 15. Only about 20 of that number were adults and the rest were youth. We look forward to the commencement of Session II on January 17.

Estancia United Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast has had three great meetings to date. At our last meeting, **Phil Levy** (husband of **Sylvia**) delighted our taste buds with Matza Latkes and Apple Sauce. Our group has collected \$100 to send to the Waco Children's Home in December.

Roy Daniel, Cyle Sharp, and Johann Neethling recently participated in a two-hour orientation for ministry at the *Torrance County Detention Facility*. Please keep us in prayer as we seek God's direction for the nature and frequency of ministry to these men.

An expanded gathering of the *Vision 2000/2001 Committee* met for an hour on Saturday, November 18 for a Brainstorming Meeting to share ideas on how to cope with our urgent need for larger, improved facilities for our youth and education ministries. The outline of that meeting and ideas shared are included with this newsletter and we commit them to you for earnest prayer over the next weeks. A couple of prayer meetings will be held at the church specifically for the purpose of seeking the will and direction of God. Early in January a called

Did You Know....?

Dominic Griffo is available for leaf raking, garden cleaning and other odd jobs around the house. Call Dominic at 384-2523



Congregational Meeting will gather to act on that direction. Join us in prayer that we may let the Lord lead us in unity.

A Blessed Christmas Season to you and your family.

God loves you...and I love you too!

Upward and onward....

"Coach" Johann



UMW NEWS

The Estancia UMW is starting it's annual Christmas fund raiser to benefit Missions, the handicapped, and other deserving causes. Items available are: note cards (\$3.00), poinsettias (\$10.00) and votive candles (\$10.00). Displays will be set up at the church and /or the education building for your convenience. **Deadline for ordering poinsettias is December 17th.**



An ecumenical cookbook is also under construction by our UMW. The volume will include recipes from members of all Estancia churches as well as histories of the local churches. Be prepared to contribute your favorite recipes to help the UMW with this project.

Marcia Fitzner, Pres.

November 16, 2000

Dear Friends in Ministry,

Thank you very much for your 100% payment of the **Espanola Valley Group Ministry** apportionment. Let me tell you a little about what we will be doing thanks to your generosity.

Our youth ministry is building under the leadership of one of our strong lay members of the Valley View UMC.

Shared Table in Taos is providing commodities and other personal items that are needed in that community. This is a change from the Soup Kitchen which served hot meals on a regular basis.

Amigos del Valle, our senior citizen program continues to discover new persons who can benefit from our program. We have added a new part-time staff person to help Ramona. Our program has been a vital ministry for so many people in need.

We want you to know your gifts have made a difference. Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you and your ministry.

Sincerely,
Dennis D. Heffner, Exec. Director-Group Ministry



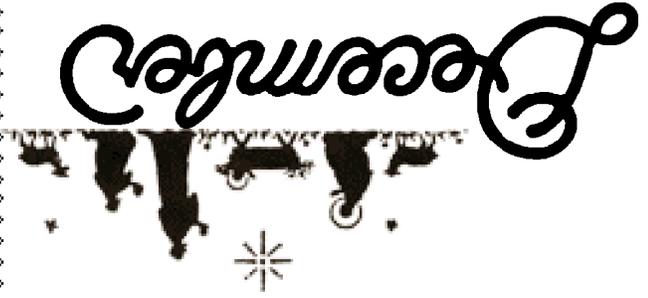
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL NEWS

The Ad Council held its last regular meeting on November 3rd. Among the accomplishments of the EUMC during the year 2000 are the following:

1. Purchase of new kitchen appliances and supplies.
2. A Seminar "Partners in Ministry" was conducted by Pastor Ann Madden of T or C and Zoe Dean Middleton of Albuquerque.
3. Logos continued their program with much success.
4. New computer was purchased and financial and various programs are being set up on the computer.
5. A church packet has been composed for church visitors. Cookies or fresh bread will be delivered to them also.
6. Fire Extinguishers were checked by a company.
7. Copy machine was leased for three years at which time it will become church property.
8. \$4000.00 of an Estate donation was put in an investment fund to be used for emergencies approved by the Ad. Council.
9. Church statistics from 1905 to present are being put on CD-ROM disks for the church computer.
10. Logos received the Bishop's Award again for this year.
11. Pastor Johann Neethling and family arrived June 6th and 7th to serve our church. Pastor Dave Blackwell and family were transferred to Peralta Memorial UMC on June 5th.
12. Parsonage was cleaned, painted, new carpet installed, and repairs made.
13. Several members attended Pastor Dave's ordination.
14. Truck load of supplies was delivered to the Los Alamos fire victims.
15. Introduced Barnabus Blessings.
16. A church web site has been developed.
17. Young people are furnishing art for the Sunday bulletins.
18. Prayer time during the week at the church has been scheduled.
19. Stewardship program "Give to Live" was introduced and put into action.
20. A picture screen was installed in the Sanctuary.
21. Ecumenical luncheon for all church women's groups was held in June.
22. A "2000 list of goals" was made up.
23. Every child's name in our membership was given to an adult to serve as prayer sponsor.
24. "Prayer Walk" at the school grounds was held.
25. Initiated name tags for the congregation.
26. Weekly Bible studies are being conducted by the pastor and his wife.
27. Men's prayer breakfast organized. Waco Children's Home adopted as a mission project.
28. Donated clothing to Bethel Storehouse.
29. Choir reorganized.
30. Sunday School started again.
31. Church membership list canvassed.
32. Thanksgiving dinner with guests of families of inmates in the Torrance County Detention Facility.
33. Watch Night Services planned for December 31st.

This is a brief rundown on the accomplishments of our church life for the year 2000. We have been blessed with increase in membership and attendance the past five years and are badly in need of more space. We are grateful for this blessing and we ask all of you to keep our need for expansion in your prayers.

Ethel L. Floyd, Chrm.



Sent with a prayer to:

*Estancia United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 378
Estancia, NM 87016*

One Snowy Christmas Eve....



*Tw'as the night before Christmas and out on the ranch
The pond was froze over and so was the branch.
The snow was piled up belly-deep to a mule;
The kids were all home on vacation from school,
And happier young folks you never did see,
Just sprawled all around a-watching TV.
Then suddenly some time around eight o'clock
There came a surprise that gave them a shock!
The power went off, the TV went dead!
When Grandpa came in from out in the shed
With an armload of wood, the house was all dark.
"Just what I expected," they heard him remark.
"Them REA wires must be down from the snow,
Seems sorter like times on the ranch long ago."
"I'll hunt up some candles," said Mom. "With their light
And the fireplace, I reckon we'll make out all right."
The teenagers all seemed enveloped in gloom,
Then Grandpa came back from a trip to his room,
Uncased his old fiddle and started to play
That old Christmas song about bells on a sleigh.
Mom started to sing, and the first thing they knew
Both Pop and the kids were all singing it, too!
They sang Christmas carols, they sang "Holy Night,"
Their eyes all a-shine in the ruddy firelight.
They played some charades Mom recalled from her youth,
And Pop read a passage from God's Book of Truth.
They stayed up till midnight, and would you believe
Those youngsters agreed 'twas a fine Christmas Eve.
Grandpa rose early sometime before dawn,
And when the kids wakened, the current was on.
"The REA sure got the line fixed up quick,"
Said Grandpa— and no one suspected his trick.
Last night, for the sake of some old-fashioned fun,
He had pulled the main switch— the old son-of-a-gun!*