



*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, 2001***



## **SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR DECEMBER**

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Lay Assist:** Darnell & Chavez Families

**Acolytes:**

**Ushers:** Bonnie Thomas & \_\_\_\_\_

**Greeters:** Gayle Clark & \_\_\_\_\_

### **YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS**

**Dec 2:** Ashley Welsh

**Dec 9:** Miranda Gomez

**Dec 16:** Paige Deborski

**Dec 23:**

**Dec 30:**

### **KINGS KIDS**

**Dec 2:**

**Dec 9:**

**Dec 16:** Melanie & Paige

**Dec 23:** Marcia Fitzner

**Dec 30:**

### **NURSERY**

**Dec 2:**

**Dec 9:**

**Dec 16:** Barb Johnson

**Dec 23:**

**Dec 30:**

### **FLOWERS:**

**Dec 2:** Barb & Bill Simms

**Dec 9:**

**Dec 16:** Linda Cantu

**Dec 23:** Sylvia Levy

**Dec 30:**

## **TIME OUT**

**WITH "COACH" JOHANN**

Greetings Estancia Saints,

Our United Methodist Hymnal includes this hymn that so succinctly describes our calling as God's Christmas and Easter People:

We've a story to tell to the nations,  
That shall turn their hearts to the right,  
A story of truth and mercy,  
A story of peace and light,  
A story of peace and light.

*Refrain:*

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
And the dawning to noonday bright;  
And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
The kingdom of love and light.

Many have never really heard the story. Many have only heard garbled versions of the story. Many have not known that the story is for them. Many have not yet made it their own story.

Has HIS STORY already become YOUR STORY? Whether it has or not, I trust that you will join us during this Advent and Christmas season as we re-tell the story that continues to transform human hearts and turn their darkness to noonday bright.

May the Prince of Peace bless you and your loved ones with His Peace and Joy.

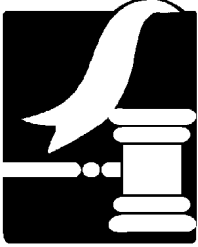
*Upward and onward....*

“Coach” Johann



### **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL REPORT**

The purposes of the Administrative Council are to initiate planning, receive reports, set objectives and goals, authorize action, determine policy, evaluate the church's ministry and receive the state of the church. Our committee has attempted to meet these goals.



Roy Daniel is your newly elected Administrative Council Chairman. He will be leading the committees in these responsibilities during the year 2002. The Ad. Council will initiate new ideas which will further promote the growth of the church in spirit, membership and fellowship. As Christians, we are all called to minister wherever Christ would have us serve. As Chairman of various committees, let's do all we can to assist Roy, i.e. attend the meetings, bring your written reports (one for the Chairman and one for the Secretary) and take part in the meetings. I will always be glad to help any way I can if you ask me. Thanks to all the chairmen for your help the past two years.

Announcement from Ron Pittman: “Our next East Mountain 4th day Emmaus community gathering is December 14th. We are joining the Rainbow Mountain Emmaus community for its annual Christmas gathering. It is a potluck dinner at 6:30 pm, and the location is Albuquerque's First UMC at 4th & Lead SW. Please call the church at 243-5646 with your childcare needs for the gathering.

Many of us are Rainbow Mountain pilgrims and I believe we should continue to support the Rainbow Mountain Emmaus community with our support and presence. What better time to show this support than as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Risen Christ at Christmastime.

I hope as many of you as can will pool your resources and join us at this gathering. Many of us can c



community. Please let me know by replying to this e-mail or calling me at 832-2998 if you would like to carpool as a group, have a van and/or can provide a ride for others, or if you need a ride. I will do my best to get this organized for as many as will join us, so please try to RSVP your plans, and plan on helping us to provide rides for those that need it.....

Our next gathering at Bethel UMC is scheduled for January 11.”  
-Ethyl Floyd, Chairman

### **Ladies Appreciation Dinner** **December 9**

Sunday, December 9, immediately following our morning worship service, the men of the church will serve the ladies a meal they have prepared to express some small measure of appreciation for all that they mean to us. All are welcome; however, so that we have a clear idea of numbers to prepare for, let us know you will be there by either filling out the special attendance sheet at church or calling Pastor Johann at 384-5215 (office) or 384-2710 (home).



### **Community Caroling and** **Progressive Supper – Dec. 16**

Sunday evening, December 16 at 5pm we will gather at First Baptist Church where, following some light snacks, Lowell and Gayle Clark will load us onto their horse carriages and convey us to Estancia UMC for a cup of soup and sandwiches. From there we will travel to the Assembly of God church for desert and then on to Emmanuel Baptist church for hot cider and cookies. Along the way we will be singing carols at the homes of elderly and shut-ins from the churches and the community. Our hope is to deliver small packages of Christmas cookies to each elderly person's home. If you would be willing to fix a small packet of Christmas cookies, please bring them with you or give them to Pastor Johann to deliver.



**UMW REPORT**

In spite of the blistery, cold, wet weather, the UMW held it's Special Luncheon. We had four brave women who ventured out to attend our luncheon. We certainly appreciate their coming to join us. We should not have been surprised because traditionally UMW have been on the cutting edge of issues dealing with women, children and youth and will go thru snow, rain or whatever to fulfill our purpose of being in mission.

It is a UMW tradition to pull together and help each other whenever possible. A big thanks to the membership who took on extra responsibilities to make this such a successful effort.

Good News!! We will have additional cookbooks as soon as they are delivered, just in time for holiday giving. If you want to make arrangements for additional copies, please contact Alma Wimsatt at 384-2826. Once again, thanks for all the support given during the sale of these books. As you know all the profits went to mission work helping women, children, and youth.

You will be hearing from us about Christmas plants or flowers if we are able to find a source of plants at a reasonable price.

Happy Holidays to all of you and thanks for all the direct and in-direct support that you give UMW all

**UMW LUNCHEON**



**Pastor Johann  
& Ann Neethling**

**Bonnie  
Thomas**

**Ethyl  
Floyd**

**Marcella  
Reynolds**



year long.

*-Marcia Fitzner, Pres.*

**FROM OUR BISHOP**

**Some of My Thoughts:**

I have neglected writing this article for the past few weeks, not because I haven't had a thought, but rather, I have been traveling a great deal within the two Conferences. Writing while I am on the road is extremely difficult for me. I try to make use of nearly every minute while I am in an area. I know it may be several weeks or months before I will return to that part of the Conference and I want to maximize my time with people.

Valerie, my wife, took Archery as a P.E. course in college. When she arrived for the first day of class, she discovered she was one of a few female students in the class and also one of the few non-P.E. majors. Most of the guys began to feel sorry for her. They assumed she would set the bottom side of the curve and they would have an easy grade for the semester. What they didn't know was she had been shooting a bow and arrow for a number of years. The first time they arrived at the archery range she deposited three arrows in the target with little effort and most of the guys couldn't even find the target. A major difference was her ability to aim the arrow rather than pointing in the general direction.

I have found that this principle holds for the church as well. Far too often, I see congregations pointing in the general direction they believe they ought to go rather than seeking to first discover what God is already doing, then focusing their efforts and work in that direction. God is the one who initiates the ministry. God is the one who has heard the cry of the people. It is God who is using every effort and works to bring about the salvation of people. It is our responsibility to join in what God has called us to be and do rather than initiating something we believe God ought to be accomplishing in our midst.

One might foolishly ask, Why? What difference does it make? If God joins us or if we join God, don't we arrive at the same destination? I believe it makes a significant difference. One is pointing in the general direction and the other is aiming at the target. God has been at this business of redeeming and setting people free for a long time. God is the one who has heard the cries of the people. God is calling people from a variety of places, with a variety of gifts. We need to earnestly seek to do God's will rather than our own will.

I have conducted a listening session in four districts in the Area. I have learned many of the assets that are present in our churches and communities. I have also heard of the giants that must be faced and the barriers that we must overcome. When I have asked what the participants will personally do when they return home, the most prevalent answer has been, I will pray to know what God wants us to do as a congregation. This could be a simple excuse for doing nothing. No one will ever know whether it was done or not. However, I do not believe that is the case. I have seen significant evidence that the participants are earnestly striving to discover what God is doing and anxious to join in Gods campaign to bring renewal, new life, and growth to their congregations.

Discerning the will and direction of God has never been easy for me. I have also discovered there is not a better use of my time and energy. If I am going to hit the target I need to be aiming, rather than pointing in the general direction. *-Max*

**Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Services at St. Paul's UMC in Albuquerque**

Mr. Stan White, president of the NM Chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Assoc., announced that the annual Memorial Service will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 9500 Constitution NE, on Friday, Dec. 7, at 10:00 am. This will mark the 60th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

This service is open to persons of all faiths desiring to remember the tragedy of Pearl Harbor, the recent attacks on America, and others who have lost their lives on American soil because of terrorist activities.

**LOGOS NEWS**

The Logos youth have done some amazing things during this first session of Logos in 2001. These amazing youth made \$81.35 by making and selling American Spirit Lapel pins. This money was sent to President Bush for the Kids Caring for Kids Campaign to be used to help the children in Afghanistan.

In addition, these awesome young people made 80 angels which were mailed to Chicago for the Angel Project. The angels were made out of Cholla cactus which are native to our area and had a special message on them signed by each youth. These angels will be presented to the families of the 9-11-01 WTC disaster at a special presentation in New York City during the week of Christmas.

People often say that the youth of today only think of



themselves or they are not interested in the world around them -- I am personally very proud of our Logos youth and how they have demonstrated their pride and love for our country and how they pitched in to help victims around the world. Way to go Logos kids! *-Susan and Julie.*

**LOGOS ANGEL OF THE MONTH**

She co-directed Logos for the past two years. She is the Worship Skills Coordinator this year for Logos. Who is this Logos Angel?--Julieanne Welch! Julieanne was one of the original planning members of Logos who attended a three-day Logos Training Session in Albuquerque. She has worked in the capacity of Co-Director for the past two years of Logos. This job entailed selling the Logos program to the church and the church finance committee before we could even get started on Logos. This process required countless meetings with the administrative council and church congregation.

After the church decided that Logos would be a good activity for youth, she helped determine who might serve on the Logos staff, she helped coordinate Logos staff activities, she helped organize the Logos schedule, she helped determine which worship skills curriculum should be used. These are only a few jobs that the Co-Director of Logos performs but Julieanne performed all these and many more jobs with 100% commitment to the Logos program.

This year Julieanne is serving as the Worship Skills Coordinator. She has many exciting things planned for Logos youth this year. She plans on taking groups of young people to area churches to do choral readings, sing songs, etc. during Sunday services. Logos has named Julieanne Welch as our ANGEL OF THE MONTH. If you get a chance why don't you let Julieanne know how much you appreciate all she has done for the Logos program. Logos certainly appreciates Julieanne. Thanks Julieanne for everything!!!



*Oh Holy Night*



**Christmas at the Parsonage December 15. 2 - 4 pm**

Johann & Anne invite you to a Christmas Open House at the parsonage on Saturday afternoon, December 15 from 2pm till 4pm. Feel free to come and go as is convenient to you. We look forward to having you share with us in a time of fellowship, refreshments, and Christmas joy.

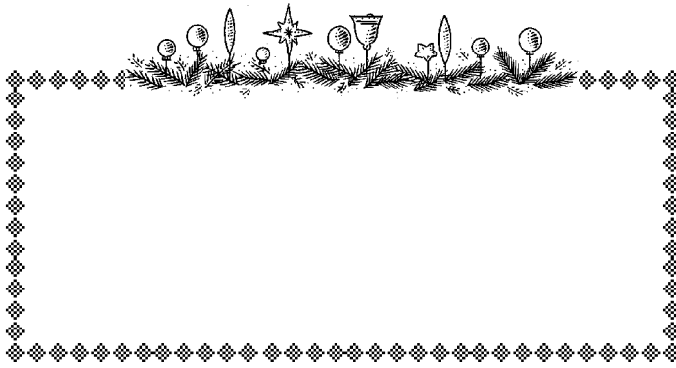
**How far is it to Christmas?**



How far is it to Christmas day?  
The journey's just as long  
As taking time to listen  
To a joyful angel song.  
It's just as far as one can go  
In doing a loving deed  
That helps someone feel better  
Or that meets their special need.  
For Christmas is a journey  
That the heart makes every year.  
It starts right with your family  
And those you hold so dear.  
It travels on to strangers  
, Round the world to everyone  
With the message that God loves us  
And that's why he's sent his Son!

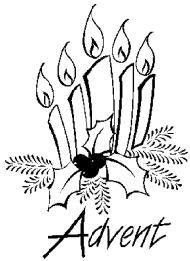
—Peggy Ferrell

# DECEMBER



*Sent with a prayer to:*

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



## EUMC December 2001

*"Each One Win One in 2001"*

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

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If you want to know more about any of our activities, or have some others that need to be listed, please contact the church office at 384-5215

|  |   |   |   |           |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|---|--|
| <b>2</b> <b>ADVENT 1</b><br>9:00 SS<br>10:00 Worship/H.C.<br>11:30 Fin. Com<br><br>3:00 *Communion to Homebound                | <b>3</b><br>3:00 Jacobs Ladder<br><br>7:00 Women's Reunion Group<br><br>7:30 A.A.                       | <b>4</b> <b>National Day of Reconciliation</b><br>10am Pastor's Prayer<br><br>3:00pm Jacobs Ladder<br>6:30pm Prayer in sanctuary  | <b>5</b><br>Pastor at CPE Training in Durango | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br>7pm Christmas cantata 1st Baptist Church |
| <b>9</b> <b>ADVENT 2</b><br>9:00 SS<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:30 Womens Appreciation Dinner<br>2:00 Christmas cantata 1st Baptist | <b>10</b><br>10:00 Care & Outreach<br>3:00 Jacobs Ladder<br><br>7:00 Women's Reunion Group<br>7:30 A.A. | <b>11</b><br>10am Pastor's Prayer<br><br>3:00pm Jacobs Ladder<br>6:30pm Prayer<br>7pm Trustees  | <b>12</b><br>3:00pm Jacobs Ladder             | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>16</b> <b>ADVENT 3</b><br>9:00 SS<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:15 PPRC<br>5:00 Community Caroling & Progressive Supper            | <b>17</b><br>3:00 Jacobs Ladder<br><br>7:00 Women's Reunion Group<br>7:30 A.A.                          | <b>18</b><br>10am Pastor's Prayer<br>3:00pm Jacobs Ladder<br><br>6:30pm Prayer in Sanctuary   | <b>19</b><br>3:00pm Jacobs Ladder             | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b><br>7pm Christmas Cantata Emmanuel Baptist | <b>22</b>  |
| <b>23</b> <b>ADVENT 4</b><br>9:00 SS<br>10:00 Worship  | <b>24</b><br>5 pm Christmas Eve Service   | <b>25</b><br>CHRISTMAS DAY  | <b>26</b>                                     | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>  |
| <b>30</b><br>9:00 SS<br>10:00 Worship  | <b>31</b><br>11:30 pm Watchnight Service (Details TBA)  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abbreviations:</b></p> A.A. – Alcoholics Anonymous      ESL - English Second Language<br>S.S. – Sunday School                      Conf. – Confirmation Class |   |           |   |  |

If you have an email address and would like to share it with us, send it to: [siyabonga@aol.com](mailto:siyabonga@aol.com)  
**Barnabus Blessings** are available in the church foyer to give or send to someone today.