

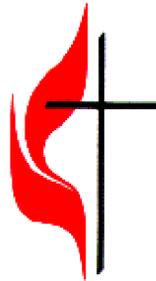
100th Anniversary - July 31, 2005

NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



December

2004

Pastor: Rev. Gary Eggart

600 Williams, P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
 email: garye@zianet.com

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Administrative Council	Mel Stephenson
Recording Secretary	Pam Lambert
Lay Leader	Tracy Hemke
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Carolyn Moore
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Mark Lambert
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Morrow Hall
Chairperson: Education Committee	Angela Creamer
Youth Representative	Kelsey Sours
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Marcia Fitzner
Financial Secretary	Sylvia Levy
Church Treasurer	Jim Wyman
President UMW	Ethel Floyd
President UMY	Ashley Welch
President UMM	Nick Griffo

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield
 District Supervisor: Ed Barry Hall
 Please visit us on the web
<http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/estancia>

Prayer Concerns

- Judge Steve Jones
- Brian Wilson
- Mother of Margarita Hibbs
- Christy Kurtz and Tom Treen
- Samantha Caplan
- Jordan Pareo
- Georgia Hillary
- The After School Ministry
- The United Methodist Men's group and their ministries
- All who do not have a relationship with Jesus
- General Conference representatives and resolutions
- This congregation and its leaders & finances
- The men and women of the armed forces
- National leaders and the leaders of the world
- Teachers, administrators and students
- Our town government and the youth center

Members and friends to pray for:

Dwight, Abbe, Tye, and Calleye Lynn Martin; Joe and Kathy Martinez; Roy, Linda, Shannon, and Shawn McConkey; Jim and Tish McMichael; Corrine McNatt.

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

FROM PASTOR GARY**The Christening**

The story is told of a christening that was held many years ago by a very wealthy European family. Many guests were invited to the home for the occasion and came in the very latest fashionable garb. Their wraps and coats were carried to a bedroom and laid upon the beds. After the usual bit of conversation and commotion the time came for the event itself. Someone asked, "Where is the baby?" The nurse was sent upstairs to look and returned in alarmed distress. The baby was nowhere to be found! After several minutes searching someone remembered that the child was last seen lying on one of the beds. After a frantic search the little child was finally found smothering under the coats of the guests. The chief reason why they had come had been forgotten, neglected, and almost lost! This Christmas many will forget, neglect even lose the Christ child! He is smothering under the tinsel, wrapping paper, ribbon, business and commercialism of the season. Not so much has changed since the time of Jesus' birth. As Luke tells us, "...there was no room in the Inn."

Don't forget the occasion we celebrate is about a baby born long ago to save us from our sin. Be sure there is room in the "Inn" of your heart.

Come join the fun on
Sunday, Dec. 12, 2004
4:00-6:00 PM

Please Bring Finger Foods!

So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn.... For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:6-7,11

Holiday Food Drive

From now through New Years we will be conducting a Food Drive, so please start buying non-perishable food items. A rule of thumb: donate food items that you like to eat!

We are running low on Food Pantry supplies. Place items in box at back of church. Specific items needed are: Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauces and Pastas, Soups, Canned Meats (Spam, Tuna, Chicken, etc.), Canned Vegetables (Carrots, Peas, Green Beans, Corn, etc.), Instant Potatoes and Boxes of Rice, Canned or Dried Milk, Canned Fruits, Baby Food, Canned or Boxed; Pedialite, Formula Mixes, Breakfast Items and Nutritional Snacks for kids, Koolaid or other drink mixes.

MOUNTAINAIR ACTIVITIES

Please make plans to attend the **Christmas Cantata called "Morning Star"**. The cantata will be presented by the **Mountainair Community Chorus** at the Mountainair Baptist Church, on Sunday, Dec. 12th at 6 PM. All are welcome.



The Mountainair Community Chorus was formed almost three years ago and membership primarily consists of church members from throughout Mountainair. The cantata this year is "Morning Star" by Joseph and Pamela Martin. Their forward to the cantata includes the following:

"To fully understand the Christian observance of Advent, we must look back to ancient cultures. The coming of winter meant darkness, hardship, even death. As the days grew shorter and the nights longer, people feared that light would eventually disappear altogether, leaving them to face the bitter cold in utter darkness. As knowledge of the seasons' cycles grew, people waited for that time when the pattern of darkness would reverse. Solstice was celebrated as the turning point. The winter solstice of December was the longest night, after which the return of light would occur. With it would come warmer days, the rebirth of crops and livestock, and a somewhat "easier" existence.

As Christianity spread, Advent became our period of waiting for the Light, a time when we remember our spiritual darkness. Christmas Eve became the turning point, the longest night, after which Christ would bring his Light into the world and with it, the renewal of life.

In astronomy, the morning star is the brightest star, seen in the eastern sky just before the break of dawn. At that moment, the surrounding night is darkest and the morning star appears brightest against its ebony sky.

So it is for us. At the moment when our lives are darkest, in the grip of our spiritual night, the Morning Star heralds the coming of dawn, a new day of rebirth. "Against this 'dark night of the soul,' as St John of the Cross called it, "the Morning Star seems brightest. At the end of our long night, the Morning Star appears."

A joint EUMC - MUMC Christmas Eve service will be held at the Mountainair UMC at 7:00 PM, Dec 24th. Mountainair United Methodist Church is on the corner of Sun St. and Sunset St. (Blue Roof)



Board of Trustees Report

We have been trying to get the new roof on the Fellowship Hall. On our last work day, we trimmed trees away from the roof. Half of the roof is in place, but bad weather has delayed completion. The board authorized the purchase of a new TV and a new computer printer for the office.

The board is planning to replace the cracked windows in the church. A bid of \$40 per window has been submitted to the board. Ray Darnell has been tracing the window drawings so they may be repainted when the time comes. This will be a big job. Please pray that we can get all of this accomplished before our 100th anniversary.

Several small jobs in the parsonage are being undertaken. One of the larger items is replacing some of the old original windows.

PPRC MEETING

Very Important Meeting on December 20, 2004 7:00 PM

Members of the PPRC committee are urged to attend this meeting. It concerns the appointment and review of ministry of Pastor Gary to EUMC for the upcoming year. In order to fill out the required forms, at least two-thirds (2/3) of the committee members must be present.

Below are listed the members of PPRC - please mark this date on your calendar. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND - please let me know (384-6039 Barbara). Thanks!!

Barbara Simms
Jan Winn
Melanie Chavez
Sam Wilson

Marcella Reynolds
Nick Griffio
Carolyn Moore - Lay delegate
Tracy Hemke - Lay leader

Dec. 10-11th Evangelism and Spiritual Gift Training

John Barrett (conference evangelist) will be here to help us discover our spiritual gifts and how we can use them to be effective in serving God and reaching others for Christ. Friday night 7-8:00 p.m. and Sat. 10-3:00 pm with a free lunch included.



10:15 - Sunday Morning Rehearsal time with Mrs. Fastnacht

11:00 - Sunday Morning Children's Choir -- Showtime!



Fellowship, Sunday Morning After Church



Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will meet on Dec. 14th to evaluate the past year's finances to see where we might cut back and consolidate. It's always good to see where we have been so that we can proceed in a more efficient manner. We will include a final 2004 financial report in the next newsletter.

We look forward to a good new year with renewed anticipation of continuing existing ministries and looking forward to new and exciting projects. Thanks to your generous gifts, we will be able to accomplish much. We are truly blessed to have such generous folks in our church enabling us to do the Lord's work.

Once again, thanks for your gifts, your prayers and your service.

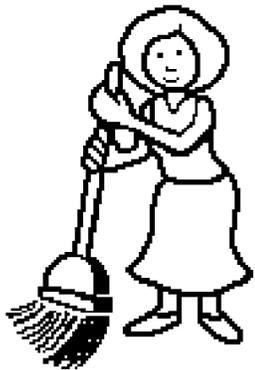
We will be celebrating these blessings with a special event in January. We will keep you informed so that you can make plans to join us.

God's Love

Marcia Fitzner, Chair Finance



Monthly Cleaning Calendar



June '04	Della & Mel Stephenson
July	Carolyn Moore
August	Marcia & Don Fitzner
Sept	Barbara & Bill Simms
Oct	Amanda & Gary Eggart
Nov.	Jan & Francis Winn
Dec.	Tracy Hemke
Jan. '05	Lilly & Jim Wyman
Feb.	Julie & Nick Griffo
March	Della & Mel Stephenson
April	Susan & Sam Wilson
May	Barbara & Bill Simms



THANKS!!



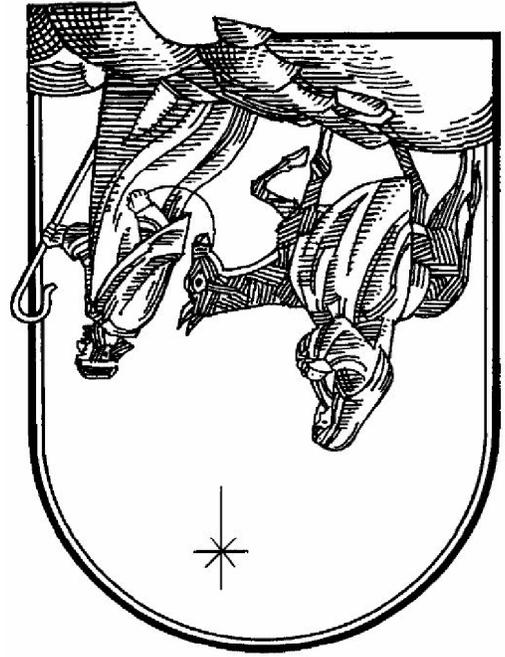
Tear Off

December 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Advent 1 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship	29 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	30 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 7:00pm Mens Emmaus	1 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:30 Wed Night Blessing	2 3-5:00 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	3 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	4 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 9:AM UMW COOKIE WALK
5 Advent 2 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship Communion 5 PM Youth Group 6 PM Growth Gp Winns	6 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	7 Pastor Gary in Mountainair	8 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:30 Wed Night Blessing	9 3-5:00 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	10 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	11 7-7:45 Morning Meditation
12 Advent 3 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship 4 PM Christmas Party 6 PM Christmas Cantata Mountainair	13 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	14 Pastor Gary in Mountainair NOON UMW Christmas Potluck - Ethel's	15 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:30 Wed Night Blessing	16 3-5:00 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	17 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	18 7:AM Men's Breakfast
19 Advent 4 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship Communion 5 PM Youth Group 6 PM Growth Gp Winns	20 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:00pm PPRC 7:30pm AA	21 Pastor Gary in Mountainair	22 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:30 Wed Night Blessing	23 3-5:00 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	24 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:PM Christmas Eve Service - Mountainair	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship Communion 5 PM Youth Group 6 PM Growth Gp Winns	27 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	28 Pastor Gary in Mountainair	29 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:30 Wed Night Blessing	30 7:30pm AA	31 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	Emmaus Community Gathering 7:00 PM Second Friday Every Other Month Next Meeting - January 14, 2005



Sent with a prayer to:



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

Your Giving Muscles

WE SHOULD give for the same reason that we should exercise our bodies. Our muscles are made so that they are improved when forced to work. If you “save” your muscles by never making them do anything, you actually are hurting them and yourself. You haven’t “spent” any energy, but, strangely, the result is you have less strength and energy than if you had. Eventually you become like a jellyfish plopped helplessly on the beach.

Something like this is true of your “giving” muscles as well. God has made us to be givers. It isn’t something we have to do in order to please him so much as it’s something we need to do to keep ourselves working properly. We are healthy and whole when we are both giving and receiving.

Giving is really more an attitude toward life than it is a specific act at one time or another. Giving people offer friendship easily; they are openhanded not only with their money but with emotions. They are quick to encourage and console. They take genuine delight in the good fortune of others. They think of strangers only as people whom they haven’t happened yet to meet.

Givers have a certain openness about them. They are not aggressively competitive. They do not speak a lot about their “rights.” They generally laugh a lot and have very little self-pity. They do not run constant cost-benefit analyses to see if an opportunity for generosity is to their advantage. They are not attached like lampreys to the things in their lives.

As it happens, giving is to your benefit. It doesn’t make you a saint or martyr to give. In giving you are simply reflecting God’s image -- He who gave everything. Miserliness in all forms - monetary and emotional - diminishes us. The more we keep the less we have, and the less we are.

This is one of life’s interesting paradoxes. **OUR MISSION**
To honor God through our worship, ministry and discipleship based on God’s Word; supporting one another with Christian Fellowship and reaching out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.