



# NEWSLETTER

OF THE

**Estancia United Methodist Church**

*600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico*

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/estancia/Home.html>



## DECEMBER, 2010

Pastor: Rev. Charles Spooner  
 600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016  
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710  
 email: [spoonernote@gmail.com](mailto:spoonernote@gmail.com)

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Marcia Fitzner
Recording Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Worship Team Leader	Sylvia Levy
Education Team Leader	Butch McGee
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Mel Stephenson
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Marcia Fitzner
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Jon Shively
McMurry Rep	Charles Spooner
Sacramento Camp Rep	Charles Spooner

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield

District Superintendent: Rev. Thomas Nagle

To see this newsletter in color, visit our website at:

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/estancia>



**Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**  
**Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM**

**Amidst the giving of gifts**, the excitement of children and the cooking of traditional dinners, it is easy to miss "the reason for the season", the birth of God's son, Jesus Christ. Ways to bring Jesus back into our celebrations of Christmas, include church services and Christmas prayers. This can be said by the family together, or silently in a moment aside from the rush.

**A Christmas Prayer** by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.



## Stained Glass Project

There was progress in November, even with a reduced crew, and some of the more significant accomplishments included: 1) Della and Jan Cool attended a Fusing Class in Albuquerque and plan to incorporate some fusing in future stained glass windows; 2) We installed and finished the trim on 16 of the previously installed 25 windows. The remaining nine will be done in the near future. A big thanks to Bill, Mel, Don, Jon, and Phil for a job well done; 3) Finished fabrication and installed the north-east window in the sanctuary; 4) Gayle, Marcia, and Butch completed more ornaments for the Christmas Tree in our sanctuary; 5) Jan Cool and Mel started the assembly process on the “Jesus and Children” window for the lower north-west window.

Della’s money making plan described in last month’s newsletter has been successful. The plan allows the congregation and others to give a specific type of ornament with their name on it to hang on the sanctuary tree. If someone giving a donation wants their own personal ornament, they may commission one of the glass crafters to make an ornament for them. For instance, Gayle Clark has been commissioned to make seven “Donkeys” and a “Draft Horse”.

Della and the crew have decided to curtail activities for the remainder of the year and give the Glass Shop a thorough cleaning. A few of the crafters are choosing to work on special projects over this period.

*-Mel Stephenson*



**Framing, Staining and Varnishing Completed**



**Sacraments Window Completed and Installed**

**Clean-up Day at the Glass Shop - 9:AM Thursday, Dec. 9**

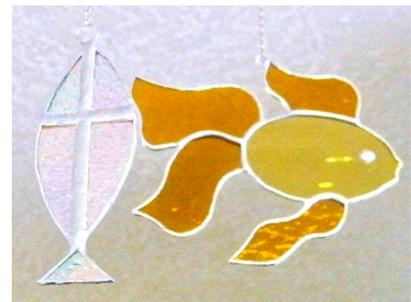
Those of us who are not talented glass cutters, but still feel a need to contribute to the window project can meet at the glass shop at 9:00 am to help in the cleaning process.



**Christmas Tree decorated with Glass Shop Ornaments**



**Projects and Ornaments**



**Mountainair UMC News**

On Sunday, December 12, 2010, at 4:00pm, the Mountainair Community Chorus will present the Christmas cantata, **“Night of the Father’s Love” (The Awe and Mystery of God with Us)**.

This cantata was written by Pepper Choplin. In his writing of this work, the composer focused on the words “worship, mystery, and beauty” to create a fresh telling of the Christmas story.



The cantata will be presented at the Mountainair Baptist Church. There is no admission fee. The Chorus is directed by Patty Mahoney, 384-4157, to whom any questions may be directed. In addition to being supported by the Baptist and Methodist churches, the Chorus is sponsored by the Mountainair Arts Council and the Mountainair Christian Alliance. Additional members of the Mountainair and Estancia Methodist Churches are Marcia Fitzner, Lowell Clark, Ross Carder, Jan Cool, Ruth Ivey, Anna Hopping, and Kent Potter.

**The Methodist Men**

The Methodist Men met on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7AM. Bill Simms prepared an excellent breakfast casserole for the men to enjoy. As part of the devotional time the men sang Bringing In the Sheaves and Blessed Assurance. The singing was followed by prayers for the Plant Family.

The Mountainair Methodist Church may need some help from our group to install a passive solar collector to provide alternate heat in the kitchen-bathroom area to prevent the water pipes from freezing. The church window progress was reviewed by Mel. They are ready to install more windows on the north side of the church. The moldings around the large windows on the south side were installed and the scaffolding removed. The Methodist Men will help with the Kebar River Band concert on December 14 at 7PM. Phil Levy and Donn Gallahue have agreed to serve as greeters and ushers. It was announced that the caroling - horse drawn wagon event is December 21<sup>st</sup>. The group decided to cancel the next scheduled meeting of the Men’s Breakfast meeting for December; however all the Methodist men are invited to the Immanuel Baptist Men’s breakfast this Saturday, the 4th at 7:30 AM.

*-Jon Shively*

**Christmas is here already**

and it seems to me time is just flying by. Christmas is a special time to look inside your soul and really reflect on what Christmas is about. With all the stores already putting up decorations even before Halloween, it seems to blurr everything together. As we reflect together on making Christmas a more spiritual time, let us look back and be very grateful for our little, but mighty church. People are often very impressed when I talk about all we do and all that we are anticipating here. Other churches of our size and membership are just waiting to die, but not us.

All kinds of things are going on here and it’s sometimes hard to keep up with everything. The trustees are always buzzing around doing things and making all kinds of things happen. This summer the church looked wonderful with all the new plants, new cabinets, etc. and the list goes on and on.

Morrow is working with the children on singing skills and the Sunday School always seems to be abuzz about projects that are happening. Vacation church school was a big success. How about all those kids that show up on Sundays, what a blessing to know that our church will continue and be blessed by these children growing up in such a wonderful atmosphere.

Packages continue to be sent to our people in the service; baskets are given out to those in need and the food pantry helps folks in need the year round.

The glass project continues to install new windows and will be participating in the Estancia Craft Show this Dec. 11th. Women of the church will be wrapping gifts for the children at the craft fair (free service) as a community project. The glass shop has donated small and medium size pieces to the local 4-H in order to help with their fund raising.

What a wonderful time to be a member of this church!! As we go into a new year, we will go forth knowing that we have done well, and open to new opportunities that God may provide.

Next month I will fill you in on the happenings of the National Council of Churches meeting that I attended recently.

I thank you all for the richness that you have added to my life and that of my family.

-Marcia

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**Estancia Arts & Crafts Fair December 11th 10:00 AM Estancia HS Gym**

Come visit us at the Estancia United Methodist "FREE" gift wrap table. We wrap any and all gifts purchased at the fair. Donations of paper, ribbon and bows are certainly appreciated prior to the event.

**See you there!**



# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



**December 12.....Joyous Singers Special**  
(Morning church service)

**December 12.....Mountainair Cantata 4:00 PM**

**December 14.....Kebbar River Band Concert 7:00 PM**  
(Christmas Gospel Music)

**December 19.....Children’s Program**  
(Morning church service)

**December 21.....Team & Wagon Caroling**  
6:00 - 8:00 PM Bring cookies and hot chocolate to share

**December 24.....Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM**  
(Children’s Music)



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## ***Church Poinsettias***

Every year at this time, Alma Wimsatt coordinates the purchase and placement of the lovely poinsettias in our church.

Members are encouraged to participate in this wonderful tradition. After the service on Sunday, Dec, 26th, participants may take home their purchased plant.



ALL ARE INVITED

**COUNTRY GOSPEL MUSIC**

BY

**THE KEBAR RIVER BAND**

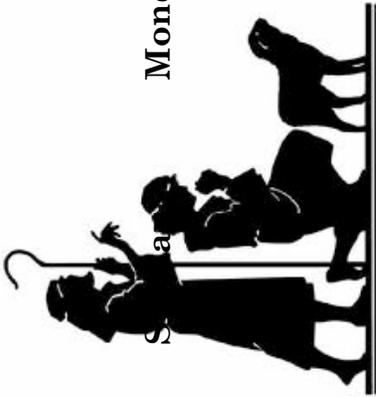
AT

**ESTANCIA METHODIST CHURCH**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**7:00 PM**

# December 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	6 No Trustee Meeting	7	1 10:30:am Quilters	2	3	4 7:am Men's Breakfast @ Immanuel Church
12 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	13 No Trustee Meeting	14 7:pm KEBAR RIVER BAND CONCERT	8 10:30:am Quilters	9	10	11 10:am CRAFT FAIR EUMC Gift Wrapping
19 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	20	21 6:pm Christmas Caroling	15 10:30:am Quilters	16	17	18
26 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship -Mtair	27	28	22 10:30:am Quilters	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:00 PM	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
			29 10:30:am Quilters	30	31	



*Sent with a prayer to:*

# DECEMBER



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

## **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Hymnal # 196)**

Although prolific hymn writer Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788) penned eighteen Christmas songs, he was never content with simply painting a picture of the manger scene. He needed to go deeper. In this hymn, he begins by alluding to scriptural prophecies of Christ. Christ is not only the "desire of every nation"; he is the "joy of every loving heart". Such personal application was a hallmark of the Wesleys' ministries. The Anglican church of their day had great scholarship; its theology was orthodox. Christians sang hymns straight from the Scriptures. But the Wesleys asked, "Does this mean anything to you? Is the biblical story about long-ago events or about what is going on in your life?" They urged people to meet Christ personally and to include Him in every part of their lives - even their hymn singing.

