

**Dave Blackwell, Pastor**

Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016  
Church Office 384-5215  
Parsonage 384-2710

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



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

### ESTANCIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Newsletter, December 1997

#### **Worship Assistants for December:**

Lay Assistant: Justin Darnell.  
Ushers: Bill and Barbara Simms.  
Greeters: Kerry and Sydney Alfonso.  
Acolytes: Jacque Creamer and Alice Daniel.

#### **Youth Scripture Readers:**

December 7: Kelly Darnell  
December 14: Dustin Newsom  
December 21: Leah Jo Hughes  
December 28: Annie Garner



#### **Advent Readers:**

Nov. 30: Mike/Lisa Hughes family.  
Dec. 7: Jeff/Kathy Gorum family.  
Dec. 14: Letty Wood, Corinne McNatt, LaVerne Earnest,  
Ethel Floyd, and Tish McMichael.  
Dec. 21: Ray/Elaine Darnell family.  
Dec. 24: Roy/Lacy Daniel family.

Many thanks to Gail Moore for her arrangement of the Advent Wreath.

#### **For Your Advent Calendar:**

Please be in prayer and hopefully in attendance at the following special events:

Dec. 7: Hanging of the Greens, decorate the tree and the church.

Dec. 13: Christmas Lights Parade at 6 pm, & bonfire/sing-along at the school from 7-9 pm. Need singers, warm drinks, and barrel for fire.

Dec. 16: UMW luncheon/meeting at Charlie and Sue Hughes' home, noon.

Dec. 17: Children's pageant, "What Child Is This?", 7 pm at the church.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight service at **5:00PM.**

Welcome to membership at Estancia UMC.

Professing members:

Mike and Lisa Hughes.

Baptized members:

Michael, Leah Jo, & Chris Hughes.

Professing members:

Mark and Pam Lambert

#### **Adults:** Please know that you are

invited and take time to attend one of the two Sunday School classes now being offered. One is in the Education Building. The other is in the parsonage. Please do not feel out-of-step if you have not attended one yet. The classes go at a pace and are of such a curriculum that you will gain from having attended them regardless of when you started. Also, this is a way to set a good example for your children to make Bible study a priority.

#### **Pantry News:**

Our pantry is full of food now thanks to the hard work of the school children and teachers. However, if you have extra socks, gloves, hats, and the like, please donate them, too. Children's and adult's sizes are needed. Thank you.

#### **His Favorite Parable**

Jimmy's Sunday school teacher asked him if he ever studied the Bible.

"Yes, Ma'am," he replied.

"Then, of course, you have read the parables?"

"Yes, Ma'am," he replied.

"Good," said the teacher. "And will you tell me which parable you like the best?"

"I like the one where everybody loafs and fishes."

—Beulah Collins in *For the Benefit of Clergy*

#### **Pastor Dave's Schedule:**

Mon., Wed. in Estancia

Tues. a.m. in Mountainair; p.m. in Estancia

Thurs. a.m. in Albuquerque; p.m. in Mountainair

Fridays, OFF

Saturdays, in the valley and/or ABQ

Sundays, in Mountainair once a month in p.m. - otherwise in Estancia



#### **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL NEWS**

**Finance Committee:** In 1998 the top five apportionments will be

divided equally among the seven administrative council committees. Each committee will be responsible for raising \$465.00 for the 1998 apportionments. Any and ALL help appreciated!

**Worship Committee:** On December 24 at 5:00 p.m. we will have our Christmas Eve service. There will be participation from the congregation. The worship committee will continue to ask our members to help with the worship service as lay assistants, greeters, ushers, acolytes and yourth scripture readers. We will try to make these assignments on a quarterly basis.

**Pastor Parish Relations Committee:** Funds from the November bake sale will placed in the general fund as all apportionments have been met for this year.

**Education Committee:** Cokesbury books have been ordered for the coming church school year. Lots of excitment, talent and children have been on hand to practice for the upcoming Christmas pageant. The pageant will be held on December 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

**Pastor:** All churches in our community are being asked to join in the 5th Annual Torrance County Christmas Lights Parade & Craft Fair on December 13. Carol singing and serving hot drinks were two activities suggested to us. Linda McConkey volunteered to look into this activity and see what our church could do to participate.

**Other Business:** Carolyn and Ken Moore will donate a Christmas tree for the church sanctuary. On December 7 we will put the tree up and hang greens - don't miss it!!



**What to give?**

After complaining that I never knew what to give people for Christmas, my pastor sent me this list:  
To your enemy, forgiveness.  
To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart.  
To a customer, service.  
To all men, charity.  
To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect.

Oren Arnold in



**Angel Tree Gift Contributors for Children of Prisoners:**  
Marcella Reynolds; Lowell & Gayle Clark; Renee Richards; John & Angela Creamer; Marilyn Seddon; Sam & Susan Wilson; Barbara & Bill Simms; and Peggy & Dave Blackwell. Special thanks to Juanita Phillips for coordinating this effort for the Estancia Valley.

**GOING TO CHURCH**



Theodore Roosevelt listed 10 reasons to go to church. Here is one of them:

Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator and dedicate oneself to good living in a grove of trees or by a running brook or in one's own house just as well as in church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact the average man does not thus worship or thus dedicate himself. If he stays away from the church, he does not spend his time in good works or in lofty meditation. He looks over the color supplement of the newspaper.

—William Bennett in *The Book of Virtues*