



# NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

*600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico*

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



## FEBRUARY, 2013

Pastor: Rev. Bonnie Hardesty  
 600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016  
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710  
 Pastor Bonnie: 505-271-0486  
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Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Mel Stephenson
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	Melanie Chavez
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Nick Griffo
Food Pantry	Butch McGee
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Jon Shively
McMurry Rep	Marcia Fitzner
Sacramento Camp Rep	Bonnie Hardesty

Bishop: Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe  
 District Superintendent: Rev. Jeff Lusk  
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<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



**Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**

***From Pastor Bonnie...***

St. Paul tells us, in his letter to the church at Corinth that, "I will show you a still more excellent way." (I Cor. 12:31b) He then goes on to share his famous treatise on *LOVE*.

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."*

These verses (I Cor. 13:4-8a) are the most commonly-shared scripture verses in modern weddings – often used even by those who do not know their origin nor profess a faith in Christ. Having been created in His image, it seems we humans DO know something of God's love after all !

Speaking of love, since February 14 is St. Valentine's Day, I thought I'd offer a brief history on the origins of that observance:

**Saint Valentine** (in Latin, **Valentinus**) is a widely recognized third century Roman saint whose life is commemorated on February 14. Little is reliably known, however, of St. Valentine except his name and the fact that he was *executed* on February 14. More than one person can be identified with the same name, 'St. Valentine,' but one popular story describes Saint Valentine as the former Bishop of Terni, a city in central Italy, c. 260 A.D. While under house arrest by Judge Asterius, the Bishop naturally discussed his faith and the validity of belief in Jesus. Asterius put him to the test and brought the Bishop to his adopted blind daughter. If he could restore the

girl's sight, Asterius would do anything he asked. The Bishop laid his hands on the child's eyes and her vision was restored. Immediately humbled, the judge asked what he should do. Following the Bishop's instructions, all of the idols in and around the judge's house were broken. He fasted for three days, was then baptized into the faith along with all of his family members and forty others; and then he freed all the Christian inmates under his authority.

The Bishop, however, was later arrested by other authorities and sent to the prefect of Rome, to the emperor Claudius himself. Claudius could not be persuaded to accept Christ and the Bishop was condemned to death. He was reportedly beaten with clubs and when he didn't die from the beatings he was taken outside the city and executed at the Flaminian gate on February 14, 269 A.D. Doesn't sound too romantic does it?

Many of the current legends that characterize Saint Valentine were invented in the fourteenth century in England, notably by author Geoffrey Chaucer and his circle, when the Catholic feast day of February 14 first became associated with romantic love.



The Saint Valentine whose life is celebrated on February 14 remains in the Catholic Church's official list of saints; and St. Valentine's Day is also recognized in other Christian denominations. So although there is no specific mention of St. Valentine in scripture, encouragement to *love one another* is everywhere! Everything the Spirit does through us as the body of Christ is grounded and rooted in love. God desires to instill within each of us a love that fills us to overflowing, spills out into the community, and blesses all of creation.

*Happy Valentine's Day!*

Blessings,

*Pastor Bonnie*

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***"We may never be martyrs but we can die to self, to sin, to the world, to our plans and ambitions. That is the significance of baptism; we died with Christ and rose to new life."*** Vance Haver

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### **ABOUT BISHOP BLEEDSOE...**

Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe and his wife Leslie have been married 27 years. Leslie lost her eyesight 10 years ago after being misdiagnosed with headaches. A staph infection in the cavernous sinus of the brain caused swelling that cut off blood supply to the optic nerves. "Although Leslie does not have eye sight, God has given her 'insight,'" said her husband. Leslie serves as a motivational speaker and helps others with vision impairment discover their God-given purpose in life.

In light of our anticipated Lenten Study on “*Bearing Fruit*”, I thought I’d share some thoughts posted by NM Conf. UMC Rev. Jon Moore (from his Quad Training plenary session 1/17):

- Adaptation is the process that organizations follow as they seek to survive and thrive.
- The assumption is that adaptation occurs through experimentation and relies on the presence of diversity.
- Most of the time we are adaptive leaders by mistake.
- Be thankful for those times when you don’t know what you are doing. Those may be the times God uses most.
- Too many of us are trying to settle the water down, rather than stir the waters.
- As the church, are we here to keep people happy or are we here to serve a mission?
- Another is that there is no such thing as a dysfunctional organization. Every organization is perfectly aligned to achieve the results it currently gets.
- Leadership is not the same as authority.
- What if we thought of leadership as a verb and not as a noun!
- Adaptive leadership and authority is like oil and water. Don’t always mix well.
- What does a church of *members* look like versus a church of *disciples*?
- What does it mean to reclaim being a *movement* rather than caught up in an institutional system?
- What is the role of clergy in a movement?



### One of Pastor Bonnie’s Amazing Children’s Sermons

Each Sunday morning, before the “adult” sermon, Pastor Bonnie has children’s time. All the children are asked to come up to the front and gather round. She then talks to them about some aspect of the morning message - in terms they can understand. Looking at the above picture, what do you think she is teaching. Yes, that is a hula hoop that is being passed around the circle while everyone holds hands! It was amazing - Everyone was delighted!

## Pastor Bonnie's Calendar, January, 2013

# Love One Another as Christ Loves You !

February 2013							Show more   Show less
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
27	28	29  36°/22°	30  43°/25°	31  50°/29°	Feb 1  56°/30°	2  56°/34°	
7:30am Preach	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	6:30am Emmaus Reuni	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	Groundhog Day	
4:30pm Acts 2	8am Read Lectionary	8am Select Lectionary	9:30am Water Aerobic	8am Sermon Prep	8am Sermon Organiza	7am Check e-mail	
9:30pm E-mail	9:30am Water Aerobic	6:30pm WRG	9:30pm E-mail	12pm Draft Bulletins	9:30am Water Aerobic	1pm Sermon Practice	
10:30pm Daily Prayers	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers	2pm Bible Guppies	12pm Print Bulletins	1:30pm Bible Study	
	10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers		9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	
				10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers	
			Show less				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
7:30am Preach	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	6:30am Emmaus Reuni	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	
4:30pm Acts 2	8am Read Lectionary	8am Select Lectionary	9:30am Water Aerobic	8am Sermon Prep	8am Sermon Organiza	11am Kairos	
9:30pm E-mail	9:30am Water Aerobic	10:30am Lunch w/Joh	9:30pm E-mail	12pm Draft Bulletins	9:30am Water Aerobic	1pm Sermon Practice	
10:30pm Daily Prayers	4pm Los Alamos Emm	6:30pm WRG	10:30pm Daily Prayers	2pm Bible Guppies	12pm Print Bulletins	1:30pm Bible Study	
	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail		9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	
	10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers		10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
7:30am Preach	7am Check e-mail	Lincoln's Birthday	6:30am Emmaus Reun	Valentine's Day	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	
4:30pm Acts 2	8am Read Lectionary	7am Check e-mail	9:30am Water Aerobic	7am Check e-mail	8am Sermon Organiza	8am Estancia Men's	
9:30pm E-mail	9:30am Water Aerobic	8am Select Lectionary	4pm Ash Wednesday	8am Sermon Prep	9:30am Water Aerobic	1pm Sermon Practice	
10:30pm Daily Prayers	1pm Prepare Ash We	4pm Fat Tuesday Dinn	9:30pm E-mail	12pm Draft Bulletins	12pm Print Bulletins	1:30pm Bible Study	
	9:30pm E-mail	6:30pm WRG	10:30pm Daily Prayers	2pm Bible Guppies	6pm Emmaus Commu	9:30pm E-mail	
	10:30pm Daily Prayers	9:30pm E-mail		5:30pm Trustees	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers	
		10:30pm Daily Prayers		9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers		
			Show less				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
7:30am Preach	Presidents Day	7am Check e-mail	6:30am Emmaus Reuni	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	
4:30pm Acts 2	7am Check e-mail	8am Select Lectionary	9:30am Water Aerobic	8am Sermon Prep	8am Sermon Organiza	1pm Sermon Practice	
9:30pm E-mail	8am Read Lectionary	6:30pm WRG	5:30pm Preach	12pm Draft Bulletins	9:30am Water Aerobic	1:30pm Bible Study	
10:30pm Daily Prayers	9:30am Water Aerobic	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	2pm Bible Guppies	12pm Print Bulletins	9:30pm E-mail	
	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers	9:30pm E-mail	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers	
	10:30pm Daily Prayers			10:30pm Daily Prayers	10:30pm Daily Prayers		
24	25	26	27	28			
7:30am Preach	7am Check e-mail	7am Check e-mail	6:30am Emmaus Reuni	7am Check e-mail			
4:30pm Acts 2	8am Read Lectionary	8am Select Lectionary	9:30am Water Aerobic	8am Sermon Prep			
9:30pm E-mail	9:30am Water Aerobic	6:30pm WRG	9:30pm E-mail	12pm Draft Bulletins			
10:30pm Daily Prayers	2pm Dr. O'Sullivan	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers	2pm Bible Guppies			
	9:30pm E-mail	10:30pm Daily Prayers		9:30pm E-mail			
	10:30pm Daily Prayers			10:30pm Daily Prayers			

**From Jon Shively (UMM)**....Joyous Singers will be convening each Sunday at 8 am weather permitting for rehearsals. Next month we should complete the UMC Mountainair restroom modification and we should have some pictures to present.

-Jon

### Administrative Council News

The first meeting of the Administrative Council was held on January 24, 2013 and was a very productive meeting. Some of the items acted on were the approval of the 2013 Church Budget, approval to give the UMC **Human Relations Fund** 50% of the collection taken on January 20, 2013, discussed plans for getting financial audits, and discussed things we could do, in the short term, to inspire the congregation to achieve our Church Mission. Even though we did not fully discuss all the plans and goals for this year, we did adopt some near term activities to reach our overall goals.

One near time activity was to use the book, "**Bearing Fruit**", as a guide during Lent by the whole congregation. This activity will use members of the congregation to lead the service on Sunday mornings, instead of Pastor Bonnie. After reading this little book, I think you will find it thought provoking and a challenge for our church. Pastor Bonnie also stated she wanted to involve the congregation more in all Sunday services. In our next Administrative Council meeting in April, each church committee chair will identify at least one goal that will support the church's mission.

As reported by the Church Financial Comptroller and Secretary/Treasurer, the church's finances are in relative good shape with a balance of about \$9,000.00. We want to thank the congregation for their generosity. As reported before, there are many items and services, provided by members, to support the church, which is not in the budget or identified in anyway. For these individuals, we are very thankful for the supplies and services.

The Administrative Council is committed to keep the congregation informed of all activities and the financial status on a regular basis.

As was mentioned above, last Sunday the congregation contributed to a special offering for Human Relations Sunday. **Human Relations Sunday** is one of six church-wide special giving Sundays. Human Relations Day is traditionally celebrated on the Sunday before the birthday observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. This special offering supports community ministries that teach and advocate for justice, especially among people struggling to survive in the margins of society. Gifts on Human Relations Day support neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

-Mel Stephenson

## LET'S BEGIN THE LENTEN SEASON TOGETHER!

**Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper**  
On Tuesday February 12  
6:00 PM • Education Building



# FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair			10:30:am Quilters	3:30:pm Bible Guppies		
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair		6:00:pm Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper	10:30:am Quilters 6:00:pm Ash Wednesday Service	3:30:pm Bible Guppies 6:30:pm TRUSTEES		7:00AM Men's Breakfast
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair			10:30:am Quilters	3:30:pm Bible Guppies		
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>		
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair			10:30:am Quilters	3:30:pm Bible Guppies		

*You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him"*



*Sent with a prayer to:*

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

# Bible Guppies Love Treats



Every Thursday at 3:30 PM

Leave them at the Ed Bldg any time during the week

**Did you know that... When you carry the Bible, Satan has a headache. When you open it, he collapses. When he sees you reading it, he faints. Let's read the Bible every day so he keeps on fainting. Maybe one day he'll have a stroke and never wake up.**