



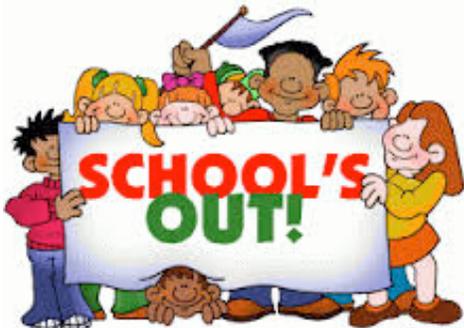
# NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

*600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico*

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



## JUNE, 2013

Pastor: Rev. Bonnie Hardesty  
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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 Griffio
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 Lust  
 To see this newsletter in color, visit our website at:  
<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



**Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**

## FROM PASTOR BONNIE

### What's this thing called the "Annual Conference"?

The term, "Annual Conference" describes both a geographical area and an event. The geographic area in which Estancia & Mountainair UMCs are situated is known as the New Mexico Annual Conference. The entire State of New Mexico and a large chunk of NW Texas are included. The event to which the term applies is an annual gathering of clergy and laity for the purpose of conducting the business of the United Methodist Church within those geographic boundaries. So, why do we need these annual meetings?

**History:** Well, it all started with what's become known as the "Christmas Conference." Prior to the American Revolution American Methodism consisted primarily of itinerant preachers who were commissioned by John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist societies in England. Wesley had been sending preacher/missionaries to America since the 1760s; but with the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, most of these returned to England. One notable exception was Francis Asbury, who began to be looked upon as the leader of the American Methodists.

John Wesley expected Methodist itinerant preachers to work within the rubric of the Anglican Church. Being appointed by Wesley, but lacking official ordination within the Anglican Church, they were not allowed to



administer the sacraments. It's tough to run a church with no one qualified to serve the sacraments, which was the situation in which American Methodists found themselves when war broke out! Following the war, there was a move to locally ordain the preachers to bridge the sacramental gap, but Asbury counseled patience until Wesley gave direction.

Back in England, John Wesley appointed Thomas Coke (who was already an ordained Anglican priest) to go to America and serve as superintendent of the American church. He also gave Rev. Coke instructions to ordain Francis Asbury as co-superintendent. Asbury, catching the spirit of democracy in the new country, refrained from accepting the ordination until approved by the American itinerant preachers. Messengers were sent, calling them to **Baltimore on December 24 (the Christmas Conference!)** Eighty three preachers were entitled to membership; sixty of them were able to arrive for the conference.

With unanimous approval of the preachers attending the Christmas Conference, Asbury was ordained and appointed as co-superintendent. He was ordained deacon on Christmas Day; elder on the next day; and superintendent the next! Asbury's ordination sermon, which was later published, caused some stir in England because he emphasized the need to ordain only godly men, and pointed to England for an example of ordination of the immoral and unconverted.

The Christmas Conference accomplished the following church business:

- abridged the 39 Articles of Religion of the Anglican Church into 24, added one additional article about the civic duties as US citizens, and adopted them as its governing principals in a book called the Discipline – which is to this day, the official 'law' of the United Methodist Church!
- received and adopted for use a modified prayer book sent by Wesley.
- John Dickins, a pastor in New York, proposed the name of the new fledgling church: the Methodist Episcopal Church... a name which stood until 1968, when it became the United Methodist Church.
- they ordained 13 preachers to orders, setting a precedent for the American church that ordinations were to be approved by the conference.

### **So... What business will be conducted at our Annual Conference this year?**

Approximately 500 clergy and laity will gather Wednesday, May 29 through Saturday, June 1, to worship, celebrate church accomplishments, gather donations for tornado relief, take up four financial collections benefiting ministries in the Clovis District, hear proposed resolutions, ordain new pastors, establish the annual conference and district budgets, thank retiring ministers and laity for their past service, and celebrate the lives of clergy and spouses who've passed on to glory since our last gathering... among other things!

The Conference Board of Trustees, Board of Ordained Ministry, Council on Finance and Administration, Conference Board of Global Ministries, Campus Ministries, Board of Pensions, and others will meet prior to the official start to the conference. Their reports and recommendations will be brought to the floor of the conference for discussion, vote and potential adoption.

Our conference will be blessed with the leadership of guest preacher, Bishop Larry Goodpaster, who will preach in our worship sessions, teach in business sessions, and encourage all our endeavors.

One of the highlights of every Annual Conference is the ordination of new ministers. This year, we anticipate the Commissioning of Kelly Jackson Brooks as Provisional Deacon, and the Ordination of Joe MacDonald and George Miller as Elders in Full Connection.

Your delegates to Annual Conference this year are **Pastor Bonnie, Marcia Fitzner, and Wanda Giovengo**. **Marcia** and **Wanda** will be sharing their reports and observations with you soon after the conclusion of this year's Annual Conference. If you have any questions, please seek out one of your delegates. We'd LOVE to share our experiences with you!

**WOW - HAVE YOU SEEN THE GARDEN !!!!!!!**

The EUMC community garden has been planted and is coming along nicely. Many thanks to those who helped especially Lila Carder and Vicky Coburn, chief planters. Lee Widner did all the roto-tilling. Folks brought bags of soil amender, potting soil and a nice pile of manure. And, the Guppie garden was planted on Thursday, May 16, with help from Lila Carder, Pastor Bonnie, Julie Griffo and Julie Morales, plus guppies. Each guppie has 3 to 4 containers with plants in each. The onions are doing very well and there are blooming flowers as well as potatoes, tomatoes, beans, zukes, brussel sprouts, plus "mystery plants". The "salad garden" around the apple tree is lovely - we'll soon have fresh salad for supper. Alma Wimsatt is watering daily. Please come see what is happening and "weed pullers" are always welcome.

The Bible Guppies will meet this summer beginning on June 6 (Thurs.) from 9:00am to 11:00am. We would love to have some helpers come on particular Thurs. - check with Pastor Bonnie or Julie Griffo if you can help out. The guppies will do Bible study and work in the Guppie Garden. This is an opportunity to work with our youth - don't miss out!!

**We're studying the Fruit of the Spirit as we tend our Guppy Garden!**

Could you please help just ONCE this summer by

- **reading scripture**
- **providing snacks**
- **supervising gardening**
- **or crafting?**

Your contribution to growing our Guppies in Christian Faith would be **GREATLY** appreciated !!! Please contact Julie Griffo or Pastor Bonnie to schedule a date to work with the Guppies this summer.



Onions



Peppers



Tomatoes





### **Methodist Men**

The Men's Breakfast Club met this month at 7am on the 11<sup>th</sup>. There were eight men in attendance. The pending work on the Education Building and the pastor's home were discussed. After breakfast the men worked on the air conditioners at The parsonage and the education building. We also painted the eaves on the Education Building. Next month the men will meet on June 15<sup>th</sup> at the Old Mill.

### **Joyous Singers**

The Joyous Singers will begin rehearsals in June at 8:30am. Our first meeting is on Sunday, June 16. At this time we will discuss summer plans and rehearsals.

### **Reminder about the Walk to Emmaus:**

**Women's Walk - July 11-14**

**Men's Walk - July 18-21**

**Both Walks will be held at Montgomery Church of Christ in Albuquerque. The cost (3 days, all inclusive) is \$125 and partial scholarships are available.**

**Please see Pastor Bonnie or Julie or Nick Griffo if you are interested !**

Note: Registration closes 2 weeks before each session.

From the Desk of...

*Pastor Bonnie*

## June 16 is Father's Day - Best wishes to all the Fathers in the Estancia and Mountainair congregations !

There is no doubt as to the importance of Dads. Below are some statistics which demonstrate just how incredibly important a Father's role is for children. Kids need their Fathers in order to grow up to be well-adjusted adults. Children with involved Dads do far better in *every single measurable social development category*, compared to children whose Dads are not involved. **Just as we need our Father in heaven, kids need their earthly Dads as positive role models who set good examples - demonstrating love and right relationship, setting healthy boundaries, providing encouragement and protection.**

Here's the **UPSIDE**: Children with involved Fathers are more confident, better able to deal with frustration, better able to gain independence and establish their own identity, more likely to mature into compassionate adults, more likely to have high self esteem, more sociable, more secure as infants, less likely to show signs of depression, less likely to commit suicide, and more empathetic. Boys have been shown to be less aggressive and adolescent girls are less likely to engage in sex.

And here's the **DOWNSIDE**: **63%** of teen suicides come from fatherless homes. That's **5** times the national average. **90%** of all runaways and homeless children are from fatherless homes. That's **32** times the national average. **80%** of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes - **14** times the national average. (*SOURCE: Justice and Behavior*)

**85%** of children with behavioral problems come from fatherless homes. **20** times the national average. (*SOURCE: Center for Disease Control*)

**71%** of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes. **9** times the national average. (*SOURCE: National Principals Association Report*)

**75%** of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes. **10** times the national average. (*SOURCE: Rainbow's for all God's Children*)

**85%** of all youths in prison come from fatherless homes. **20** times the national average. (*SOURCE: U.S. Dept. of Justice*)

Daughters of single parents without a Father involved are **53%** more likely to marry as teenagers, **711%** more likely to have children as teenagers, **164%** more likely to have a pre-marital birth and **92%** more likely to get divorced themselves.

**91%** of 701 fathers surveyed by the University of Texas at Austin agreed that there is a "father-absence crisis in America." What were the 4 major obstacles for fathers to overcome? 1) Work demands 2) The media 3) Pop Culture 4) Finances.



Researchers at Columbia University found that children living in two-parent households *with a poor relationship with their father* are **68%** more likely to smoke, drink or use drugs compared to all teens in two-parent households. Moreover, teens in single-mother households fared much worse. They had a **30%** higher risk than those in all two-parent households.

“Without two parents, working together as a team, the child has more difficulty learning the combination of empathy, reciprocity, fairness and self-command that people ordinarily take for granted. If the child does not learn this at home, society will have to manage his behavior in some other way. He may have to be rehabilitated, incarcerated, or otherwise restrained. In this case, prisons will substitute for parents.” (SOURCE: Morse, Jennifer Roback. “Parents or Prisons.” Policy Review, 2003)

Children with Fathers who are involved are **40%** less likely to repeat a grade in school. (SOURCE: National Household Education Survey)

Children with Fathers who are involved are **70%** less likely to drop out of school. Children with Fathers who are involved are more likely to get A’s in school. Children with Fathers who are involved are more likely to enjoy school and engage in extracurricular activities. Even in high crime neighborhoods, **90%** of children from stable 2 parent homes where the Father is involved do not become delinquents. (SOURCE: Development and Psychopathology 1993)

Adolescent girls raised in a 2 parent home with involved Fathers are significantly less likely to be sexually active than girls raised without involved Fathers. (SOURCE: Journal of Marriage and Family, 1994)

***No doubt about it... children need their human Fathers as much as we adults need our Father in heaven!***

PS - Not long ago, I was confronted after a chapel service in a nursing home by an elderly woman who angrily informed me that I had referred to God as ‘Father’ **16 times** during the course of that service. I had no idea... and was momentarily stunned that anyone would exercise the time and effort to *count* the references! But the vivid point was made that some persons do not relate positively to God as ‘Father’ because of painful relationships with earthly fathers or father figures. On reflection, I realized that I generally begin my prayers with words such as, “Good and gracious heavenly Father...” In doing so, I may have inadvertently inflicted unnecessary pain; and to those who are hurting, I offer my sincere apologies. I use this terminology because scripture records Jesus referring to God as His Father and teaching his disciples to pray, “Our Father...” It’s my sincere desire that all of us come to know God as One who loves each of us unconditionally; whether we pray with words such as “Our Father” or “Creator God”; or pray in groans and sighs too deep for words, which scripture says the Holy Spirit will interpret to God on our behalf. If you wrestle with the concept of God as “Father,” I’d be happy to talk with you more about opportunities to heal hurtful memories and rest assured in God’s love.

Blessings to All... especially you Christian Fathers (and Grandfathers and Great-Grandfathers!) who emulate Jesus and shepherd your families with love.

-Pastor Bonnie



# June 2013

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

							1
2 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	3 6:30:pm Mountainair community Chorus	4	5 10:30:am Quilters	6 9 - 11 AM Bible Guppies	7	8	
9 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	10 6:30:pm Mountainair community Chorus	11	12 10:30:am Quilters	13 9 - 11 AM Bible Guppies 6:30 PM TRUSTEES	14	15 7:00 AM Mens Breakfast	
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair <b>FATHERS DAY</b>	17 6:30:pm Mountainair community Chorus	18	19 10:30:am Quilters	20 9 - 11 AM Bible Guppies	21	22	
23 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	24 6:30:pm Mountainair community Chorus	25	26 10:30:am Quilters	27 9 - 11 AM Bible Guppies	28	29	
30 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair							



*Sent with a prayer to:*



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

***This is My Father's World*** (144) is a well-known Christian hymn written by Maltbie Davenport Babcock, a minister from New York. The piece was published after his death in 1901 at age 42. The poem was set to music in 1915 by Franklin L. Sheppard, a close friend of Babcock, who apparently did not want to call attention to himself and signed using his initials rearranged as "S.F.L." Most sources state that Sheppard adapted the music from a traditional English melody that he learned from his mother as a child.[1]



Maltbie Davenport Babcock