



100th Anniversary - July 31, 2005

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
Estancia United Methodist Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



JANUARY
2004

Your Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Linda Mizell

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Chairperson of Administrative Council	Mel Stephenson
Recording Secretary	Shellee Stewart
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	TBA
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Roci Galyn
Chairperson: Education Committee	Angela Creamer
Youth Representative	Alice Daniel
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 Superintendent: Dr. Larry Hall

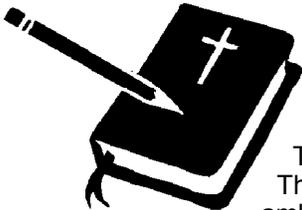
Please visit us on the web:
<http://www.gbmg-umc.org/estancia>

Prayer Concerns

- Linda and Paul Mizell
- Verner Query
- Stephanie Bogle-thanks for being in good health and back at work
- Bess and Marty Young
- Jim and Tish McMichael
- Bill Bass and family
- Carolyn Moore
- Bill Simms and family
- Brenda, MJ. and family
- Zack Anderson
- Jessica Stephens
- Elizabeth Sims
- Ray Lynn Gonzalez
- Carolyn Hill
- 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
- New library and swimming pool
- New project for the NOMADS

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Nursery Provided

FROM PASTOR LINDA



I remember hearing a sermon over 10 years ago that used an illustration that has always stuck with me. There was this small town at the foot of a mountain pass. Now this was a particularly steep and curvy road and someone would go off the road every week. The town had limited resources, but decided that they wanted to do something about the problem so the mayor suggested two possible solutions. The first was to build guardrails to help keep the cars on the road; the other was to buy an ambulance. There was much discussion about which was the best choice. Some people pointed out that the ambulance would be a wonderful addition to the town and would "put them on the map." But others pointed out that the ambulance would be expensive to maintain and would require the training and maintenance of EMTs and a driver. The town finally voted to purchase the ambulance.

In my mind, that is what has happened to our state when our leaders decided to build more prisons rather than invest in guardrails. We live in a culture that uses divorce in the same way. What if we encouraged couples to enter a period of pre-marital counseling and discernment (build guardrails) rather than depending on the divorce ambulance to carry off the wounded? Dr. Phil had a couple on his show this week and the wife didn't know if she loved her husband. He proposed to her in front of family and friends and she felt pressured into saying yes. Now she isn't sure if she's in love with him. She said she loves him as a person. I wanted to be able to say to this young woman that the idea of "being in love" is largely a fantasy perpetuated by novels and Hollywood. Real love is a commitment. The "guardrail" is to understand what real love is. Our youth watched a video called "The Next Time I Fall in Love." In this very well done short course on dating, the host speaks of the difference between "Eros" and "Agape" love. You see the Greeks had a range of words that we can only translate as love. Which probably leads to the confusion many of us have when we hear the word love. Eros is a "for me" kind of love. What do I get out of this relationship? Agape is at the opposite end of the spectrum, and is a "for you" kind of relationship. Agape love is interested in the other person's highest good. If we could help people understand the difference, much of the relationship disasters we see around us everyday would cease to exist. They would be transformed into caring, supportive unions where children could learn healthy relationship skills and family life could be what God intended. I am tired of hearing people make fun of the Clever family and saying that it is an impossible model. I am sick and tired of the dysfunctional TV families on the sitcoms and dramas being painted as "normal." Will we ever stop choosing ambulances over guardrails?



This is Pastor Linda's report on the EUMC accomplishments given at the 2003 Charge Conference:



As we look back over the last year we have seen new members join our fellowship. Many of those who joined are already serving in offices. It is always one of my deepest pleasures and privileges to participate in the rite of baptism. We have had two baptisms this year and look forward to at least two more before the close of the year.

What a joy it was for those who went caroling last year. The **Clark's** brought their team of black and white draft horses complete with jingle bells. It was nice to visit our local homebound with a touch of old fashion Christmas. Stopping by Turk's restaurant we picked up kids and grandparents for a joy ride in the wagon. This family began to attend church just before Easter; so caroling turned into an evangelism tool. Members and friends joined **Angela** and **Pam** in the Weigh Down Workshop in January. Collectively we lost several hundred pounds and also learned to be more obedient in our faith journey. We also celebrated **Souper Bowl** Sunday by bring cans of soup and dollar bills to church to help feed the needy. We also had several missionaries come to speak during worship. (The Ivy's recently returned from their assignments, **Raquel Mull** sharing about the new church start for Native Americans, The director of Waco Children's Home, and **Phil Morris** from McCurdy.)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The UMW continues to be a blessing to the church, conference, and community. While the core group of eight is small they still manage to support UMW missions with their giving and projects. Several members attended UMW sponsored events in the district and the conference. The ecumenical luncheon is a community favorite. The group invites all the ladies from surrounding churches to attend. We have had as many as 10 churches represented in the past. The UMY group had been inactive for a number of years. This past year UMY was reactivated with five members. The focus was to develop leadership by allowing the youth to choose and lead their activities. Other objectives were to help them learn about various aspects of the church and to grow in their faith development. The youth supported missions, led worship, helped with VBS, attended CCYM and summer camp and had great fellowship. The Men's Breakfast continues to support Waco Children's Home, do work projects at the church, and has recently been planning some outreach events and community service projects.

Emmaus continues to be a presence in the church. Members participate regularly in women and men's reunion groups and a monthly gathering in Moriarty. One new pilgrim has completed a walk last fall. Three completed confirmation this past year and joined the church. A Wednesday Night Blessings group was started to help nurture disciples in worship, bible study, and prayer. **Agatha Garrison** has begun a new ministry with the homebound. She coordinates members to take communion to our homebound members.

Twelve people attended the Ignite '03 event. Several gave personal witnesses at the Sunday morning service following the event. Several weeks later about 18 people signed up for the Contagious Christian course and about 10 completed the course and were consecrated in Sunday morning worship service. Wednesday night blessing grew by two because of the efforts of one of the couples that completed Contagious Christian.

Attendance at VBS this year increased over last year. The program was well planned and carried out. The youth had a lock-in immediately following VBS. Several lay members planned and led worship services throughout the year; especially during the pastors absence to attend Duke in July. **Tracy Hemke** has been especially helpful in planning and leading worship and fulfilling the other obligations of a lay leader/speaker. **Nick Griffo** has been working at the growing edge of our ministry in a new area called prayer evangelism. Recently we have begun opening the church on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings for prayer. Five members have come on a regular basis to pray for the church, its leaders, members, and the wider world.

The most noticeable change this year has been on the exterior of the church. Four Couples from the **NOMADS** came to prep and paint the exterior of the church and completed several other projects as well. At the same time **Ray Darnell** and **Barbara Simms** refreshed the paint on the east and south windows. This is a good start in preparing for the 100th anniversary of this church and building coming up in 2005. **Ethel Floyd** has been working for several years in preparation for this event.

This next year we look forward to expanding our mission and ministry. Our prayers are focused on discernment -- seeking God's direction for the future. Recently members have come forward with their vision for the expansion or creation of various ministries. The Men's group plans to deliver baskets of goodies to members who have stopped attending church. Others are involved in small Bible study groups. Plans for the expansion of the food pantry program are in the works. New visions for outreach are being prayed into existence. It is my hope that a "dream team" will be formed in January 2004 for the express purpose of discovering the plan God has for this church in this community at this time. It promises to be a challenging and exciting year as we come to discern God's call and seek to employ our spiritual gift for the sake of **Jesus Christ** and His mission to go, make, teach, and baptize. **We have only just begun!**

The Estancia Valley is on the verge of growth. Thanks to the progressive vision of the mayor, the town council, and the Estancia Valley Economic Development Association new industry is slated to come to the area. The attached articles are indications of this growth along with a new library and swimming pool in the works. Estancia has a prime location directly across the street from the new youth center and the town offices. New opportunities are sure to present themselves in the future.

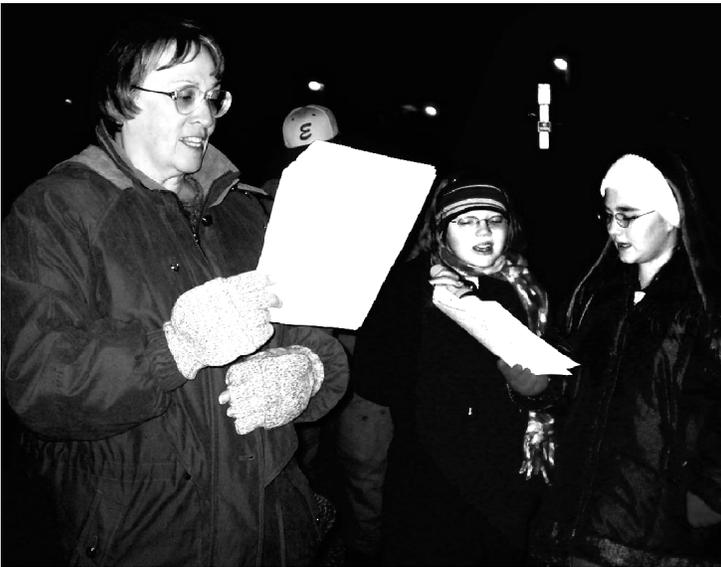
Tidings of Comfort and Joy!

Over 35 EUMC members and friends turned out Sunday evening, December 21, for an evening of caroling in Estancia. **Julie Griffo** and **Pastor Linda** organized a wonderful opportunity to spread joy around the community. Two horse-drawn wagons provided by **Lowell** and **Gayle Clark** were full of Valley-ites of all ages, the youngest being 6-month old **Jenna Fastnacht**. (The oldest representative will not be announced here.) **Lowell**, joined by co-pilot **Mark Lambert**, held the reins and carted the group to the homes of church members, including **Jim & DeeDee Young**, **Morrow Hall**, **Bob & Ina Artman**, **Jim & Cindy Braham**, **John & Beth Roberts**, **Allen & Sharon Avery**, **Frances Tyler** and **Carolyn Hill**. **Jon Shively** accompanied on the guitar. Most of the carolers got off the wagons and stood in front of the homes to sing, while the residents came to the door or porch to listen and wave their greetings. Neighbors got into the act at one house, coming and leaning on the fence to enjoy the singing.

Workers and customers at **Turk's** were treated to carols when the assembly went inside—where it was nice and warm—to sing. Over at the Estancia Valley Café, the owners had closed down to give their employees a Christmas dinner. Everyone was very receptive to the visitors, and **Jacqueline** wanted the group to stay and eat after the caroling was over! There were helpers waiting back at the church, though, so the singers said good-bye and headed toward home base. After a final stop to sing at the Blue Ribbon, everyone gathered at the Education Building for delicious green chili stew, buffalo soup, hot cocoa, and fellowship.

Caroling was a great way to minister to others and enjoy visiting with church family at the same time! Thanks so much to the **Clarks** for donating their wagons and beautiful draft horses, and to all the cooks and helpers! Finally, a special **Thank You** to everyone who went out caroling!!

Submitted by Roci Galyn, Roving Reporter



Carolling Cont'd

**Administrative Council News**

As we start a new year, it is time to review our last year's accomplishments and plan for 2004. Throughout the church there were some significant accomplishments. The most noticeable was the work the Nomads did on the church and educational building under the leadership of John Creamer and Board of Trustees. In addition, the Board of Trustees had a new water heater installed in the parsonage and a new furnace in the church and educational building. The Trustees also bought an artificial Christmas tree that helped create a happy holiday season. Another accomplishment was the addition of a second communion service each month recommended by the Worship Committee under the leadership of Julie Griffo. An item that affected the whole church was the financial concern that plagued the church all year. If you remember, we started last year with an approximate \$17,000 deficit between budgeted items and estimated revenue. This concern was mostly resolved by a lot of hard work by many in the congregation; \$6,000 was provided by the New Mexico Church Conference, approximately \$3,500 for apportionments was made by an auction coordinated by Melanie Chavez, Barbara Simms, and Angela Creamer, revenue increased by approximately \$6,000 over what was estimated due to the giving attitude of the congregation. The remaining \$1,500 was reduced by committees not using all their budget and some lower tier apportionments not being paid. The financial close-out will be January 14, 2004.

Plans for 2004 are under way and will be discussed at the Administrative Council meeting scheduled for January 11. As presented at the Annual Church Conference last November, there is a projected financial budget shortfall of over \$6,000 for the year. Items in the budget that would not be paid were identified with an asterisk (primarily the lower tier apportionments) and would not be paid unless there was specific designated giving for those items. The largest item in the budget is for the pastor's compensation package which is affected by a reduction in assistance from our church conference. In the budget presented and approved at the church conference, it takes just over \$3,700 per month for ministerial support or a total of \$44,500 per year. If you add in over \$11,300 for apportionments and \$11,700 for property care and utilities, there is very little left for the remaining activities of the church, ie., office supplies, Worship, and Care and Outreach.

PPRC MEETING NOTES

Six committee members along with Pastor Linda met after church on Sunday, Dec. 21 to fill out the yearly "Advisory Form". This form is sent to Dr. Larry Hall at the district office.

The Advisory form asks specifically about our church's accomplishments: what we are doing well, what could be strengthened in our ministry, what pastoral skills are essential to our congregation, the strengths of our pastor, growing areas for our pastor, the PPRC's role and what "advisory" counsel we offer for the pastoral appointment for the coming year. It would be good if every member of Estancia United Methodist Church had input regarding the items on this form. Many of you have talked to various members of the committee, and with that in mind, the committee did it's best to answer the questions in a 3 hour meeting. Financial concerns played a major role in our recommendation to request a part-time minister for the year beginning June, '04. This will not be easy for us as a church - lots of "fill-in" will be needed. Also, we need to lift up Linda and Paul as they plan a move to another community.

Please lift up EUMC in your prayers as well as physically participating in the "work" of our church. THANKS!!

Education Building Well-Used



Members of Estancia UMC are well aware of the fellowship time after church each Sunday in our Education Building. You can often see committee meetings going on then, too. Children's Church uses the space along with, of course, the Nursery for little ones during weekly worship. Easter finds the building a center point for the annual Easter egg hunt and snacks, and other occasions provide welcome opportunities for potlucks there. When missionaries, Nomads or other special visitors are here, we set up for food and "get-acquainted" time.

But everyone may not know about ALL the ways this facility serves our community and church family. Each month the men of the church gather on a Saturday morning to share breakfast and offer each other loving support for a daily walk with God. On Wednesday evenings, the Blessing group spends time in prayer and Bible study; a couple of non-members with no other church family have been attending the sessions and

finding welcoming community in this setting. A few weeks ago, the church Auction fundraiser filled the main room and kitchen with buyers from the community, and helped us take a big step closer to meeting our apportionments for the year. **John Creamer**, who turned 12 on December 6, found the location a great place to celebrate. Friends of all ages joined to wish him a *Happy Birthday*, play games, and enjoy refreshments. After Christmas caroling on December 21, everyone returned to the Education Building and warmed up with hot green chili stew, cocoa and cheerful conversation.

God has provided a great facility for this church, and we are making good use of it. If you have other ideas for ways to minister or reach out to our community in the name of Christ using the Education Building, see **Pastor Linda** or **Marcella Reynolds**.

-Submitted by Roci Galyn, Roving Reporter

Sunday School

Having Sunday school during worship has been a great success! 2003 had an average attendance of 5. I would like to thank the SS teachers for their dedication to teaching our children the love of Christ through learning His word. We have a rotating team of teachers. SS teachers teach for a month of Sundays at a time. If you are interested in sharing a special lesson with the children call Angela (505 705 0022) and plan a Sunday to teach Sunday School.



-In His Service, Angela Creamer

Care and Outreach

Isn't it wonderful how God answers our prayers? I have been asking Him for guidance as to how I can best serve Him as part of the Body of Christ in our church. He has answered me by choosing me to be the new chairperson of the Care and Outreach committee. I am very excited about the opportunity to serve Him and our community in new and different ways. But, I need your help! I am sure that many of you have ideas about how to reach out to our missing members and un-churched neighbors with care and love. I would like to hear about your ideas and how you can help.

Let's all work together to make 2004 a year of wonderful growth and change in our discipleship and service to our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Remember, WE are the Body of Christ. And He is counting on us. *-Julie Griffo*

Accomplishments - Looking Back at 2003

As a relatively new member of the EUMC, I see the following accomplishments over the last year (my first service last year was the Commitment Service, so I guess this was my anniversary!):

- Great representation at Ignite! 03 Twelve people attended.
- Establishment of the Wednesday Night Blessing group, a core group of faithful EUMC-ers who attend virtually every church event: the **Stephensons**, the **Griffos**, **Francis Winn**, **Renee Richards** and **Linda** and **Paul Mizell**.
- Completion of *The Contagious Christian* by a larger group of Wednesday night folks, including the **Creamers**, the **Lamberts**, the

Looking Back Cont'd

Wymans--Linda can tell you who else...This has resulted in 2 new attendees on Wednesday night, neighbors of the **Stephensons**; one of them, **Dixie Swenka**, has recently attended our services.

- All the work done on the church by the Nomads, who were offered hospitality and food by our members during their stay.
- Several special visitors who participated in our church services.
- Youth group collecting aluminum cans and buying a goat for the Heifer Project--more to come!
- Members worked Emmaus Walks this year, and 1 member (me) attended her first Walk
- Website updated
- Laity organized and led services while Linda was at school this summer
- PPRC and Finance have worked very hard to determine actual resources available and church needs in order to plan for next year; some dramatic changes are likely!
- Prayer Evangelism organized; morning meditation group formed and meeting 3X a week
- Cleaning schedule and nursery volunteers organized and posted in the Education Building

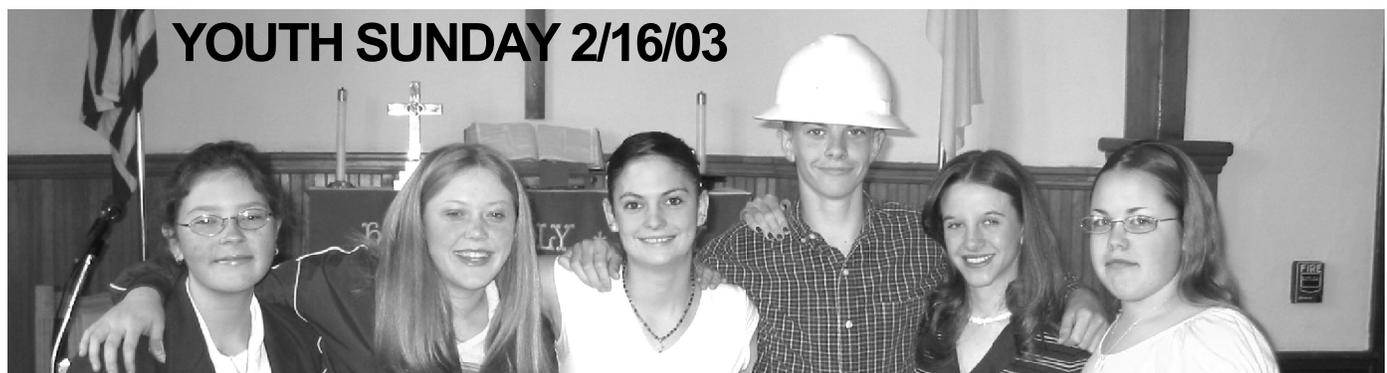
I don't know how the church has measured progress in the past, but I see a great deal of work accomplished in the past 12 months, especially given the scant financial resources and small pool of active leaders. There are bound to be many things I missed, so our accomplishments are even greater than this list! *-Roci*



Roci Galyn

Lilly Wyman

Jim Wyman



Jacque Creamer

Alice Daniel

Ashley Welch

Brian Wilson

Kelsey Sours

Stephanie Smileadge

MEMBER'S MEMORIES

As we draw nearer to our church's Centennial Celebration, we are continuing to feature the memories of our long time members. This month we are including favorite memories from **Carolyn Moore**. **Carolyn Moore** has been a member of our church for the last 30 years and has played a major role in our history. This is her story:

*I, **Carolyn Smith Moore**, was born and raised in Belen, New Mexico - except for 3 1/2 years in Vaughn. My father worked for the Santa Fe Railroad. I graduated from Belen High School in 1948.*



My church life has included four denominations: Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Episcopal. I had a wonderful Sunday School teacher who worked with youth during my teen years.

I went to Nursing School in Amarillo, TX where I graduated in 1951. I then returned to Belen for a short time. I applied for a job in Los Alamos, but I had to wait for a pass before I could interview because Los Alamos was a closed city. No one could come to see you without a pass. I worked there for about six months. After that, the Director of Nursing job at Belen General Hospital became available and I was hired. I was the only RN and my help was a group of practical nurses. I was on call 24 - 7 and sometimes I didn't leave the hospital for two to three days at a time. The hospital had 15 beds on the main floor plus 2 pediatric beds and a nursery for 5 babies. I worked deliveries, operations, emergency room, nursery as well as the floor.

Kenneth and Carolyn Moore

*I married **Kenneth Moore** in 1954. He was on a construction crew and we moved 12 times the first year we were married. In 1955 we ended up in Santa Rosa where*

*we lived for 17 years. We both worked with the Santa Rosa United Methodist Church and our children, **Pat, Raymond, and Terry** were raised in the church.*

***Ken** and I worked with the Boy Scouts, Rainbow, Little League, Babe Ruth League and other school activities. Needless to say, we spent a lot of time watching basketball games.*

I worked as a relief nurse at the Guadalupe General Hospital in Santa Rosa. From 1969 to 1972 I taught the Nurse's Aid Program in the high school. The Sisters who were running the hospital decided to give it up. As a result, I was hired as the Director of Nursing. At that time Presbyterian Medical Services took over to help run the hospital and they furnished all the doctors and nurses. I worked with doctors from China, Germany, England as well as the United States. I also had nurses from China, Cuba, Germany and even one nurse who had worked in Iran for 10 years. When Presbyterian Medical Services decided to leave, we had a doctor from Tucumcari, and another from Ft. Sumner who helped us keep the hospital open. I had three RNs who worked 12 hour shifts four days a week.

*In 1973, **Kenneth** was made manager of the Estancia Mountain Bell Telephone office, so our family (all except **Pat** who was in college) moved to Estancia. We joined the Methodist Church here and have been active in it's programs ever since.*

I have taught Sunday School, been president of UMW, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference, Secretary of the Administrative Council, and Treasurer. This church has supported my family by their prayers and their willingness to help any way they could. I am so glad to be a part of this loving church family.

-Carolyn

Stay Tuned!! Next Month - Who, in our congregation, lived for a year in a railroad boxcar??

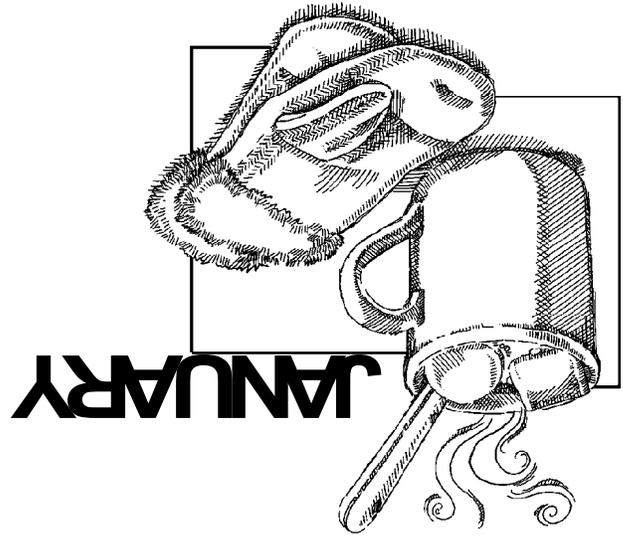
January 2004

Tear Off

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 10 AM Worship Communion <i>Homebound Min.</i> Epiphany 6:30 pm UMY	5 7AM Morning Meditation Back to School	6 5PM Trustees	7 7AM Morning Meditation 6:30PM Wednesday Night blessing	1 7 PM Men's Emmaus	2 7AM Morning Meditation School Break Ends	3 7AM Men's Breakfast 9AM Kairos Team Meeting
11 10 AM Worship 11:30 Ad Council 6:30 pm UMY	12 7AM Morning Meditation	13	14 7AM Morning Meditation 6:30PM Wednesday Night blessing	15 7 PM Men's Emmaus	16 7AM Morning Meditation 4:30PM Finance Committee	17 7AM Men's Breakfast 9AM Kairos Team Meeting
18 10 AM Worship 11:30 Worship Com Human Rel Offering 6:30 pm UMY	19 7AM Morning Meditation	20 NOON UMW	21 7AM Morning Meditation 6:30PM Wednesday Night blessing	22 7 PM Men's Emmaus	23 7AM Morning Meditation	24 9:30AM Women's Emmaus Breakfast
25 10 AM Worship 6:30 pm UMY	26 7AM Morning Meditation	27	28 7AM Morning Meditation 6:30PM Wednesday Night blessing	29 7 PM Men's Emmaus	30 7AM Morning Meditation	31 9AM Kairos Team Meeting



Sent with a prayer to:



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

Criticism

*"Let those who have never sinned throw the first stones."
John 8:7*

All too easily, you can slip into the habit of being critical and judgmental. It often starts innocuously when you begin to notice a few flaws in the people around you. Let's face it. There are people who are worse than you-lots of them-and identifying their faults can be pretty easy. (You might even find it a little entertaining.) But there is a real danger in allowing yourself to be critical and judgmental of others. Soon you might mistakenly believe that you have value as a person while they are worthless.

When you are hypercritical of other people, you tend to exaggerate their faults while excusing or ignoring your own. You lose the ability to be compassionate and forgiving. You become elitist and intolerant. In short, you become a snob.

If you are guilty of being judgmental of others, your situation isn't hopeless. You can be reformed without shock therapy. Changing your attitude is a simple matter of honest self-examination. If you take a good look at yourself, you'll find plenty of opportunity for self-improvement. By working on making yourself a better person, you'll lose that arrogant and superior attitude. Other people will find you more enjoyable-and so will you.

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.