

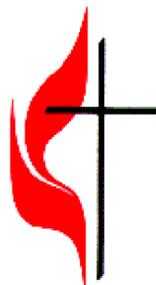


100th Anniversary - July 31, 2005

NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



July - August
2004

Your Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Gary Eggart

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016

Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710

email: garye@zianet.com

Chairperson of Administrative Council

Recording Secretary

Lay Leader

Organist

Lay Member of the Annual Conference

Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference

Chairperson: Board of Trustees

Chairperson: Worship Committee

Chairperson: Education Committee

Youth Representative

Chairperson: Missions

Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism

Chairperson: Care and Outreach

Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations

Chairperson: Finance Committee

Financial Secretary

Church Treasurer

President UMW

President UMY

President UMM

Mel Stephenson

Pam Lambert

Tracy Hemke

Morrow Hall

Carolyn Moore

Marcia Fitzner

Mark Lambert

Morrow Hall

Angela Creamer

Kelsey Sours

Marcia Fitzner

Nick Griffo

Julie Griffo

Barbara Simms

Marcia Fitzner

Sylvia Levy

Jim Wyman

Ethel Floyd

Ashley Welch

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

- The Simms family
- Agatha Garrison and family
- Bill Bass
- Annie Pogue
- Francisco Montoya
- Francis Tyler
- Marilyn Seddon
- Kasey Soloman
- The After School Ministry
- The United Methodist Men's group and their ministries
- 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

Members and friends to pray for this week:

Carolyn, Raymond, Beth and Andrew Moore; Gail More; Bobby Murray; Bill and Donna Neish; Nancy Oberg; Alayne Olmsted.

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

FROM PASTOR GARY

Ride the Right Horse

Two Kentucky farmers who owned racing stables had developed a keen rivalry. One Spring, each of them entered a horse in a local steeplechase. Thinking that a professional rider might help he out do his friend, one of the farmers engaged the services of a crack horse jockey.

The farmers horses were leading the race at the last fence but it proved too tough for them. Both horses fell, unseating their riders. But this calamity did not deter the professional jockey. He quickly remounted and won the race.

Returning triumphantly to the paddock, the jockey found the farmer who had hired him fuming with rage. "What's the matter," asked the jockey. "I won the race, didn't I?"

"Oh, yes," roared the farmer. "You won the race alright, but you still don't know, do you?"

"Know what?" asked the jockey
"You won the race on the wrong horse!"

In this race called "life", we often think that the goal is to win. We fail to



understand that how get to the finish line is really much more important than whether we win or loose. The world offers us many different horses to ride on our race of life. Money and success are touted as great rides. Pride often presents itself as a great way to win. After all, what greater accomplishments can there be than doing it all on your own?

There are many other horses we can try to ride in life, but only one will bring us ultimate victory in this life. The horse called "Grace". If we try to win the race on any other, we will find that we came to the end but missed the prize.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourself, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8 & 9

-Pastor Gary

FROM THE HISTORY COMMITTEE (FYI - Centennial is one year from this weekend!!)

The History Committee met again last week to report on the progress of each committee member's progress. **Bill Simms** has the rough draft put together, however, we will be accepting materials up until the first of year 2005. He also has made up the rough draft for the invitations which will not go out for sometime.

Marcella and Caroline are still searching for addresses of former pastors and members.

Don is working on the PR for our celebration and **Roy** is planning the Sunday activities.

Agatha is busy gathering up pictures and news items for the display table and **Ethel** is seeing that everyone is working.

If everything goes as planned, we are going to have a great celebration.

-Ethel L. Floyd, Historian

Spread the Word!

You are cordially invited to attend a NM Annual Conference Reception honoring newly-elected **Bishop Charles Crutchfield** and wife, **Karen**. The reception will be held at Central United Methodist Church in Albuquerque on Saturday, August 21, 2004, from 3 - 5 pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this opportunity to visit with and congratulate our newest NM Episcopal family. Central UMC is located just north of Central Ave. and University Blvd., at 1615 Copper NE, Albuquerque. 505-243-7834 if more information is needed. (The **Crutchfields** have been assigned to the Arkansas Conference.)

fi After School Ministry

This month we will have another planning session for our After School Ministry, so please stay tuned in for details. In Luke 10:25 and expert in the Law asks Jesus a question about salvation. Jesus responds by asking him what the scriptures say. The expert in the Law replies by quoting part of Deuteronomy 6:4-7 Attention, Israel! **GOD**, our God! **GOD** the one and only! Love **GOD**, your **God**, with your whole heart: love him with all that's in you, love him with all you've got! Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then **get them inside your children**. What is more important than teaching our children about Jesus? What is more important than teaching our neighborhood children about Jesus. This is an important task. Keep it in your prayers and pray for volunteers.

fi Men's Ministry

This fall we will begin a men's ministry. It will be a great time to have break from all your pressures, talk about guy stuff, we may even see what God's word has to say to us. Stay tuned for further details.

MEMBERS MEMORIES... MARCELLA REYNOLDS



This is Her Story:

I have been a member of the Estancia Methodist Church for over 50 years. I grew up in the church, however, I did not become a member until early adulthood. I believe I may have the distinction of being the only member with six generations of membership.

As a "teen" in Estancia, most of our social activities were centered around the church. I was a member of the youth group, at that time, called Epworth League. We attended youth rallies as well as having our own activities. Our pastor also sponsored a "Game Night" once a week at the church for all youth of the community.

The church kitchen was in the southeast corner of the basement. The Women's Society of Christian Service cooked and served dinners once a month as a fund raiser. **Susanna Schmidt** and I were the "waitresses". I recall **Mrs. Maggie Dean** instructing us on the "proper" way to serve and remove plates. It was good training for young girls. Years later, as a young married lady, I became a member of this group and we still cooked and served dinners for fund raisers. Later, when so many of our younger women became "working gals" we formed a Wesleyan Service Guild Unit and met at night. I served as President of the unit for one year.

I taught Sunday School and Bible School for many years. Sunday School was divided into Pre-school, Primary (first, second and third grades); Juniors (fourth, fifth and sixth); Intermediate (seventh and eighth) and High School. I taught Primary. What is now the Educational Building, was then the parsonage. So we all met in the basement with curtains as dividers and did very well. Each year in June, we held Promotion Time during morning worship. Each advancing child was given a promotion certificate. Perfect attendance pins were also given at this time. Before my third graders could be promoted to the Junior class, they were required to name all the books of the Bible in order; recite the 23rd Psalm; name the twelve disciples and know the Lord's Prayer. I am sure they all thought **Mrs. Reynolds** was a hard teacher!!

When I was Sunday School Superintendent, I was putting together a Christmas Program. Three of "my boys" were to sing "We Three Kings of Orient Are" with each doing one verse solo then joining on the chorus. The verses went fine but every day at practice they did their own version of the chorus which went like this: "We Three Kings of Orient Are. Trying To Smoke a Rubber Cigar. It was loaded, It Exploded. La La La La La!" But on program night, as I knew they would, they sang beautifully and the right words!! Another day at practice, one of the boys decided he would find out what would happen if he stuck a hair pin in the electric socket on stage. Well, he found out !! With a loud "BANG" and a puff of smoke - all the circuits were blown. He wasn't hurt, but I am sure it scared him enough to not ever try it again !!

There were four of us "young mothers" who taught Sunday School and between us we had 13 children. Sunday School was before church and after Sunday School we would gather our "Broods" and settle on the back pew with our "little ones" in front

of us so we could hopefully keep things at least mildly under control. There was no nursery, so parents took their children to worship with them. Several pews in front of us an elderly couple always sat. The old gentleman always dozed off during the sermon. One Sunday after the sermon began, the old gentleman, true to habit, dozed off. Some of our boys began playing with rubber bands that we had failed to confiscate prior to the service. Suddenly, one of the rubber bands shot forward and landed like a hoop around the old gentleman's ear. He started swatting at it as though it were a fly tickling his ear and he was trying to shoo it away!! Needless to say, there was no way of stopping the giggles from our kids!! I am not sure whether or not we ever regained control over them that Sunday.

Our youngsters were not old enough to belong to the MYF so we formed a Junior MYF. We went to Youth rallies in Albuquerque, Belen and Santa Fe. To raise money to send everyone to Sacramento Church Camp, we borrowed the Girl Scout's roller skates that had not been used for a long time. We held roller skating every Friday night and Saturday afternoon. The kids did all the work themselves with us supervising.

I have been on most all of the church committees and am presently on the Board of Trustees and Food Pantry. I am a member of the Estancia unit of United Methodist Women and serve as the Treasurer of the unit.

The Estancia Methodist Church holds for me and my family many happy memories: weddings, baptisms, confirmations as well as some sad times of memorial services for loved ones.

I have seen many changes through the years. I've seen our membership go from high to low, then back to high. Pastors have come and gone, each leaving their mark on the congregation. I have seen empty places where the faithful always sat each Sunday and I have seen those empty places filled with new faces. But through all the changes, our church still stands. I thank God for the many blessings I have received through the Estancia Methodist Church.

s/ Marcella Smith Reynolds

FROM BISHOP MAX...

Some of My Thoughts....

Lovett Weems in his book, *Take the Next Step*, recalls an event that occurred while his father was serving on the school board. The school football team experienced a couple of disastrous years following a change in the coaching staff. The new coach was obviously not succeeding in his efforts, so the Board met to consider whether to extend the coach's contract for one additional year. One Board member spoke in favor of extending the contract. The Board member and the coach attended the same church. The Board Member stated, "I want to see the coach continue. He is such a good man." In response, another Board member retorted, "My mother is a very good woman, but she is not a football coach." **Weems** reports that the Board hired a new football coach.

I pleaded at Annual Conference this year for us to become both faithful and effective in our service to **Jesus Christ**. We must be leaders, clergy and laity, with character and integrity. We must also demonstrate competency to make disciples of **Jesus Christ** and embody the Kingdom of God in our communities.

Two years ago, I appointed a pastor to a congregation that had struggled for a number of years. The church building is located a few blocks off the main highway. Nothing about the setting indicates the church ought to be growing, but the congregation refuses to abide by the restrictions set by the location. Every week God adds to their membership those coming into a new relationship with **Jesus Christ**. I probed to discover the various ingredients contributing to this growth. Only one aspect stands out: they passionately establish relationships with those living in their geographic area.

Weems declares that competent actions flow from developing and maintaining authentic relationships. Pastors and lay leadership must spend quality time and energy molding and nurturing relationships in order to be effective. He postulates that most leaders in the church and in society fail in their pursuits because of their failure to appropriately develop and maintain authentic, meaningful relationships.

As we go about our varying responsibilities, striving to be both faithful and effective, I pray we will carefully examine our efforts to establish strong meaningful relationships—with God, each other and the neighbor who is searching for a life filled with meaning and purpose.

Grace and Peace,
Max

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Hero Quest; Powered by FAITH

The Church and surrounding areas were transformed into a bustling city. Thirty eight Children learned new songs, played cool games, ate homemade food, and enjoyed bible study with characters such as Julie Griffo playing Queen Esther, Jason Fastnacht playing a rooftop friend, Pastor Gary playing a Friend of Jesus and Angela Creamer playing the Widow.



Teacher: Cheryl Chavez

Left to Right: Jaimey Fastnacht, Jaxon Fastnacht, Courtney Artman, Elijah Tapia, Luke Fastnacht, Devin Cantu, Justin ?, Nathan Eggart, Jesse Chavez, Lainey Fastnacht, Tyler Stepp, and Andrew Eggart.



Julie Griffo as Queen Esther
with: Lainey, Luke and Jaimey Fastnacht



Stewardship and Finance

With the exception of some designated gifts, which of course were directed to those designated areas, the offering for May and June were as follows:

May \$4,577.00 offerings. Expenses \$4,425.00

June \$4,423.62 offerings. Expenses \$4,679.52

You can see that money-wise we are just barely breaking even, on the good side is that our attendance is up, the yard sale should bring in some funds (so I urge you all to participate!). I know that things will begin to change.

The finance committee will be meeting on Aug. 18 to discuss the budget options for the next year, we will be evaluating our finances, so if any of you have any constructive suggestions, please feel free to call me or catch me at church. My phone number is 384-2495. I will however be out of pocket until the 8th of August due to some teaching commitments in Texas, but I will be back soon enough to take suggestions to the committee.

Our Stewardship training has begun and you will be hearing more about this as time goes by. We are not only looking at money issues, but also we are looking more at the spiritual side of giving. I know this training will eventually benefit all of the church family.

We must hold steady knowing that God is always with us and we will come through our difficulties successfully.

-Marcia Fitzner Finance Chair

Brain Teaser

Only 5% of Stanford graduates solved this riddle! (No pressure here.) Can you answer the following question?

1. The word has seven letters...
2. Preceded God...
3. Greater than God...
4. More evil than the devil...
5. All poor people have it...
6. Wealthy people need it...
7. If you eat it, you will die!

Try hard before looking at the answers on the calendar page.

August 2004

Tear Off

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11 AM Worship Communion Guest Speaker 5PM God Seekers	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 11 AM Worship Guest Speaker 5PM God Seekers	9	10 Pastor Gary Returns from Vacation	11	12	13 6 PM Stewardship Meeting Ed Bldg Emmaus at Bethel	14
15 11 AM Worship 5PM God Seekers	16	17	18 Finance Committee Meeting	19	20 20th-22nd Spiritual Formation Retreat at Sacramento	21 7-AM Men's Breakfast
22 11 AM Worship 5PM God Seekers	23	24	25	26	27 27th-29th UMM Retreat Sacramento	28
29 11 AM Worship 5PM God Seekers	30	31	<p>The Answer to the Brain Teaser is: NOTHING! NOTHING has 7 letters NOTHING preceded God NOTHING is greater than God</p> <p>NOTHING is more evil than the devil All poor people have NOTHING Wealthy people need NOTHING If you eat NOTHING, you will die</p>			



Sent with a prayer to:



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

See the Goodness of the Lord:

I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. *Psalm 27:13*

God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power and love, and of a sound mind *2 Tim 1:7*

Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever. *2 Ch 20:21*

My help comes from the Lord. *Psalm 121:2*

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. *Ro 8:28*

Stir up the gifts of God, which is in thee. *2 Tim 1:6*

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. *Co 3:15*

To set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. *Ro 8:6*

Let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. *Ga 6:10*

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.