



*Estancia United Methodist Church,
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico*

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



Rev. Johann Neethling, Pastor

*P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
Church Office 384-5215
Parsonage 384-2710
email: siyabonga@aol.com*

OUR MISSION: To honor God by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.



JULY, 2000



SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR JULY

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Julianne Welsh

Acolytes: Belyn Sharp and

Ushers: Renee Richards and

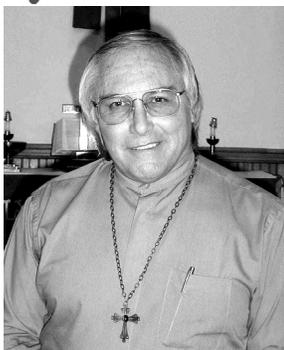
Greeters: Sam and Susan Wilson

Dear Estancia Friends,

All thanks and praise to God for His grace and goodness in allowing us to become partners with you in the Gospel of Jesus and then adding to that great blessing the privilege of living out here in this extraordinarily beautiful part of His creation. To say we are delighted to be here is an understatement!

For the exceptionally warm, friendly, and generous welcome you have all given to us, we say a heartfelt "thank you". For all those who have given sacrificially of their time, energy, and resources to get the parsonage ready for us, or have helped with the loan of truck and additional storage space, as well as those who have stopped by to say "hullo and welcome", or brought a meal or some refreshment - you have made it so easy for us to feel

A Word From Our Pastor



part of the family from day one.

As **Anne** has already verbalized in church, we have always kept an "open home" and would be honored for you to feel free to drop in to say "hi" or have a cup of coffee and a chat, should you be in the area. You do not have to make an appointment to visit us.

Thank you to those who filled out the "Getting To Know You" form handed out in church this past Sunday giving me an idea of the best day and time to visit you and some clear directions to your home. Copies of this form will be available at church for you to pick up for the next few Sundays.

As part of our goal to get to know you all, we would like to commence, as of the first Sunday in July, a lunchtime shared meal in our home with small groups of two to three families at a time and gradually work our way through the congregation. We will send out an invitation two weeks in advance, giving you time to check your schedule and let us know if you will be free to join us.

I am sure we are all familiar with the expression, "The family that prays together stays together". That truth applies equally to the church family. Prayer is the life blood of the church and it is both where we listen to and receive the Father's directives and His Spirit's empowering, and where we make our petitions and intercessions known. Since many of you have widely differing schedules during the week, it will be hard to find a "one time fits all" occasion for prayer. I am

Don't forget Vacation Bible School - July 10 thru 14. Contact Sharla Sharp 384-0391

open to suggestions and times that groups of you would be willing to meet in the sanctuary for prayer and I am happy to start with just one other person.

Once again, I am honored to be able to serve God together with you and look forward to all that the Father has planned for us to do in this next phase of Estancia UMC's life.
Agape and Shalom,

Johann



TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The parsonage was our biggest concern this month. Things that had been put off much too long were finally taken care of.

Paint, carpeting, blinds and a new sofa have done wonders. A few minor things are still to be done, but these will be taken care of soon.



Our appreciation to those who spent many volunteer hours cleaning and painting. It was no easy task.

The rest of the Church buildings also need more attention. We will try to meet these as time and funds allow.

Of major concern at the moment is the need for a Church office. In the past, the office was in the parsonage, but this is no longer possible. Prefab buildings and the property across the street to the north are being considered.

The trustees will make every effort to keep the congregation informed as issues arise and how they are addressed.

Following is a summary of the Trustee's financial standing as May 31, 2000:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Memorial Fund Savings..... | \$8459.81 |
| \$4000 of which cannot be spent without the permission of the Administrative Board for any emergency..... | |
| | -\$4000.00 |
| Available Balance..... | \$4459.81 |
| Trust Account Checking..... | <u>\$1574.85</u> |

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL..... | \$6034.66 |
| <u>Disbursements:</u> | |
| Carpet..... | \$2590.00 |
| Paint..... | 205.90 |
| Blinds..... | 338.00 |
| Sofa..... | 600.00 |
| Miscellaneous..... | <u>27.24</u> |
| TOTAL..... | \$3761.14 |
| BALANCE AS OF 6/18/00..... | <u>-\$3761.14</u> |
| | \$2273.52 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Memorial Fund Special Savings..... | \$4000.00 |
| Memorial fund Savings..... | \$ 698.67 |
| Checking..... | \$1574.85 |

Marcella Reynolds 6/25/00



SPECIAL THANKS to all to helped with the moving chores. Not only getting Pastor Dave and family loaded up, but also helping to get Johann, Anne and family unloaded and settled. Following is only a **partial** list of names of

those who volunteered their time and effort to get these chores done:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Mike and Renee Calhoon | Cyle and Sharla Sharp |
| John, Angela, Jacque, and John Creamer | Mel and Della Stephenson |
| Chris Gomez | Shellee, Josh and Ashlea Stewart |
| Jeff Gorum | Bonnie Thomas |
| Julie Griffio | Roy Thompson |
| Cindy Howe | Sam and Sue Wilson |
| Jennifer Mock | Alma Wimsatt |
| Carolyn Moore | |

FROM OUR AD COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

The Administrative Council is a committee composed of chairman of every committee and the Treasurer all of whom were elected by the church membership at Charge Conference. The primary task of the Council is planning and evaluating the needs of the congregation's ministry. We share ideas and come to agreements which we feel will be advantageous to the advancement of our church. We share our faith and help one another to take new steps along the Christian journey.



As chairman of the Council, I attended the weekend seminar "Partners in Ministry." At this session, it was

suggested that the Council set goals for future growth of the Church i.e. more space for classes, office space, improvement of the nursery, needed equipment etc. These projects to be discussed at the Council and implemented by the appropriate committees

It was also suggested that we post a committee meeting schedule so that there would be no conflicts of dates. This has been accomplished and each chairman furnished a copy of the schedule.

Following the election of the 2001 chairmen, I plan to schedule an orientation meeting whereby each chairman will be provided job descriptions and training in the ministry of their committee. Also each chairman will be given an opportunity to share how they feel about their role and hopefully everyone will feel more secure in their responsibilities.

Everyone is invited to audit any Council Meeting they wish to attend. We try to make each meeting an occasion for celebrating, questioning, thanksgiving, community building, direction setting and self-assessment. We pray that God will guide us as we continue to work together.

Ethel L. Floyd

Chrm. Administrative Council

Someone with a Broad View of the United Methodist Church

Marcia Fitzner has represented the New Mexico Conference at the national level for the last eight years. She is currently an Alternate to the Jurisdictional Conference which is the church body that elects bishops, a Director of the Women's Division of the UMW, serving on the Finance committee of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) and one of five Directors of the United Methodist Commission on Relief (UMCOR) in charge of monies for relief.



Early in May, **Marcia** attended the General Conference of the United Methodist Church where emotions and tempers were at a peak. Highlights included discussions on denomination restructuring, the Church and homosexuality and changing certain Church constitutional amendments.

The homosexuality question has troubled the church for 30 years and discussions at this conference drew numerous demonstrators and protesters. After the final vote, which supported the current policy, police had to be called and 30 persons were arrested. It is

believed to be the first time people have been removed from the floor of General Conference by police.

The General Conference delegates have turned back every effort to change or moderate the church's position on homosexual practice. The United Methodist Church's policies continue as follows:

- Homosexuals are persons of sacred worth.
- Homosexuals are entitled to "basic human rights and civil liberties."
- "Although we do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching, we affirm that God's grace is available to all. We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons." (The Book of Discipline 1996, Par. 65)
- Pastors may not conduct same-sex unions or allow them to take place in United Methodist churches.
- "Self-avowed practicing homosexuals" may not be ordained or appointed.

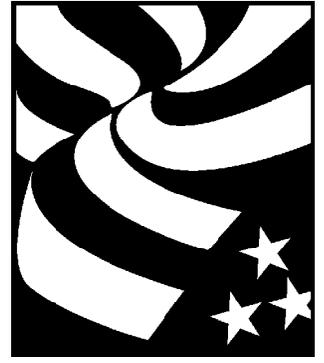
Speaking at a news conference, **Bishop Robert Morgan**, Louisville, KY., said, "We do not believe this will divide the church - our commitment is to stay together." **Bishop Kenneth Carder**, Nashville, Tenn., agreed that "we will continue to seek ways of remaining together."



United Methodist Women Host Ecumenical Luncheon

On June 27th women from the various Estancia area churches were invited to a luncheon hosted by the United Methodist Women in the Education Building. This was the 19th annual luncheon begun in 1981 by our very own Ethel Floyd. Beautiful salads were made by the women in our church and about 49 people were in attendance. Our new pastor was introduced and a short skit on "Women in The Bible" was produced by Marilyn Seddon. "Actors" included Marcia Fitzner, Renee Richards, Alma Wimsatt, Angela Creamer, Shelly Walton, Ethel Floyd, Marilyn Seddon and Marge Artman. A good time was had by all!!!

JULY



Sent with a prayer to:

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FINANCE COMMITTEE



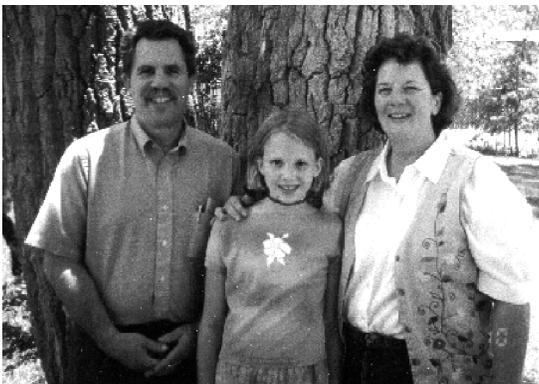
The functions of the finance committee in accordance with the Book of Discipline of the UMC are to compile annually a complete budget for the local church based on requests from each committee in the local church. The budget is submitted to the church council for review and adoption. The committee on finance is charged with the responsibility for developing and implementing plans that will raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the church council. The finance committee shall administer the funds received according to instructions from the church council.

We are currently meeting the budget adopted by the church council, however the pledges to support the budget only covered approximately 60% of the total budget. Thanks to some large gifts, we are meeting our commitments.

To increase our per-capita giving we need to use sound foundational principals, such as; the need of the giver to give for their spiritual benefit, not the need of the church to receive; what percentage of your income is God calling you to give, not what does the church need to balance its budget; think about tithing and percentage giving as a spiritual commitment for which God's grace empowers us, not as a legalism; complete the annual stewardship campaign before you present the church budget and avoid inventing a stewardship program. Select a proven program and do it without shortcuts.

Next month we will discuss some stewardship programs. In the meantime think about the foundational principles stated above. ***Mel Stephenson***

**Farewell Picture of Pastor Dave,
Peggy & Errinmarie**



**Our New Pastor Johann
and his wife, Anne**

