



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



JULY, 2007

Pastor: Rev. Gary Eggart

600 Williams, P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
 email: garye@zianet.com

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Administrative Council	Marcia Fitzner
Recording Secretary	Carolyn Moore
Lay Leader	Francis Winn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Nick Griffo
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Education Committee	Vicky Dile
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Carolyn Moore
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Melanie Chavez
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Mel Stephenson
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Sylvia Levy
President UMW	Alma Wimsatt
President UMY	TBA
President UMM	Nick Griffo

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield
 District Superintendent: Rev. Jim Hawk

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

Prayer Concerns

- David Sharp-to accept Christ
- David-to accept Christ as Savior
- John and Jen to accept Christ
- Shane Brue--colon cancer stage 3
- Bruce Gralham--cancer
- Elenor Sanchez
- Missy Short-lung cancer
- Joe
- Irene Armstrong
- Ruth Brindle
- Donald Berry
- Ruth-Mel's sister
- Peter Sanchez
- Shirley Solomon
- Mary-stroke (Pam's Sister)
- Modesto Garcia-prostate cancer
- Larry Garcia--stroke

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM

From Pastor Gary

Twenty dollars for anyone who can name all twelve disciples? That was the offer by an evangelist when I was ten years old. Can you name all twelve disciples? I answered the evangelist with Matthew, Mark, Luke, John... I did real well until I said Mark and Luke. They were good followers. You could even say they were good disciples but were not part of the original twelve.

What is a disciple? A disciple is one, who subscribes to the teachings of Jesus Christ according to Webster, but what makes a good disciple and have you ever thought of what disciples are made of? Now we know little boys are made of snips and snails and puppy dog tails. Little girls are made of sugar and spice and everything nice. So what are disciples made of? Jesus told us to go and make disciples, but how do we make a disciple if we aren't sure what they are made of? The book of Acts gives a clue in chapter 2:42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

We probably won't do too well at making disciples until we focus on "being a disciple." A disciple is one who prays daily, worships weekly, reads the bible daily, serves in ministry, encourages spiritual growth, and gives. We know the great commission is to

make disciples, but before we can do a whole lot of making, I think we need to focus on “being a disciple.” We need to know what disciples are made of. They are made by praying daily, reading the bible daily, serving, giving of their money (Acts 2:45), and encouraging others in their faith.

Even if you can't name the original twelve disciples, you can be a good disciple yourself by focusing on your spiritual life by praying daily, worshiping weekly, reading the bible daily, serving at church, giving of your money and encouraging others in their faith. By doing these six things you will “**be**” a disciple.

-Pastor Gary

Annual Conference

This year, for some reason, Annual Conference seemed to be more of a spiritual experience. More prayers and spirituality seemed to set the tone for the meeting. There was the usual fuss over the budget, even though the budget was somewhat reduced. Maybe this happened because the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) has been working on asking our committee to be more responsible and have a greater responsibility to the conference. As part of this committee, I know that some have rebelled because we have questioned their use of monies. Not that it was misused, but it certainly was not clear how it was being spent.

Election of delegates to General Conference always takes a great deal of time. This year the clergy elected the Rev. Jeff Lust and Daniel Ive Soto as first delegates. Read your NM Reporter to keep up to date on these folks.

The big celebration was to celebrate 30 years of the Four Corners Ministry. In case you are not aware, this is the ministry with the Navajo Native Americans starting in March of 1977. They led us in a wonderful evening of worship ending with an anointing service. So much wonderful work has gone on in the four corners area that Albuquerque author, Stan Sager, has written a book on that ministry, “Four Corners, Where the Holy Spirit Touches Navajo Hearts: The Story of the Four Corners Native American Ministry of The United Methodist Church.” I have a copy should you wish to borrow it sometime.

Bishop Robert Schnase from Missouri was the guest speaker for the conference. He also highlighted his book that was given to us to read, “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations.” I hope that our Administrative Board will have a chance to review it and put some of his suggestions into practice.

Enough for now... Attached is a message from Bishop Max about our donation to the African seminary student. Many other things happened, including a visit from Thomas Harwood on June 7th in Glorieta. I will share more about this in the coming months. By the way, most of you know by now that Pastor Gary was reappointed to this church and Mountainair for another year. We look forward to working with him in this new year!

It was a great pleasure getting to know Patty Mahoney from Mountainair; and I'm looking forward to working with the Mountainair church so that, together, we can spread God's word in this valley.

-Marcia Fitzner

Some of My Thoughts....June 19, 2007

Some experiences defy normal verbalism. This happened to me at the New Mexico Annual Conference two weeks ago when the various presenters revealed the amount of money donated for the Congo projects and other offerings contributed during the worship services. All I could say was, "Wow." Such an expression appears totally inadequate, and it is, but what else expresses the effectual response to such generosity?

Here are some of the figures provided by NM Conference Treasurer, Cathy Anderson:

Nothing But Nets \$7,625.16

Louisiana Church Recovery 4,147.35

Four Corners Native American Ministry 7,076.57

Congo Scholarships 2,923.09

Total Offerings \$21,772.18

Contributions to the 2007 Annual Conference Mission Project for **Scholarships for Seminary Students in the Congo: \$26,917.75**

Three congregations were recognized for the highest per capita giving to the Conference Mission Project. They were:

El Paso District

Fort Davis UMC \$10.07

Albuquerque District

Estancia UMC \$15.53

Clovis District

House UMC \$33.33

What a marvelous, generous response to assisting seminary students and their families to attend Katanga University, Mulungwishi, Congo.

These figures total \$48,689.93 given during the NM Annual Conference for all of the above causes. This is the largest amount contributed during an Annual Conference session since my arrival in New Mexico. I can only return to my original insufficient exclamation: "WOW!" Thanks be to God for such generosity.

Grace & Peace, Max

NOTE: The trustees have asked that if you make a donation to our church's building fund, that you specify "New building fund" on your payment.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!

Take the Plunge!



Vacation Bible School is coming up at the end of this month. The dates are July 23rd through the 27th. The time will be 9:00 to 11:30 each morning. Our theme this year is called **“Take the Plunge.”** It is a theme that centers around water. There are five main key words that the kids will be learning about. They are : **Obey, Worship, Courage, Believe, and Help.** Our special friend, JP the penguin, will be visiting us during our VBS week. Come by and see what we are up to. If you would like to help in anyway with VBS this year please contact **Leslie Fastnacht** or **Cheryl Chavez.** We would gladly appreciate any help anyone can offer.

Please Make a Note:

Joint meeting and potluck on Monday July 9 at 6:00 PM

Committee members of Trustees, Finance, PPRC and Administrative Council

After the potluck, Trustees, Finance and PPRC will each conduct short separate meetings and then join the Administrative Council for a joint meeting.

Our Social Creed

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of racial, ethnic, and religious minorities.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

(It is recommended that this statement of Social Principles be continually available to United Methodist Christians and that it be emphasized regularly in every congregation. It is further recommended that "Our Social Creed" be frequently used in Sunday worship.)

From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2000. Copyright 2000 by The United Methodist Publishing House.

July 2007

Tear Off

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	2	3 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	4 10am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study with Nick & Julie	5	6	7
8 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	9 7:00pm Joint Meeting: Finance, Ad Coun., PPRC & Trustees	10 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	11 10am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study with Nick & Julie	12	13	14
15 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	16	17 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	18 10am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study with Nick & Julie	19	20	21
22 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	23 VACATION	24 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	25 10am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study with Nick & Julie	26 BIBLE	27 SCHOOL	28
29 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	30	31 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	<p>Please see Marcella Reynolds to schedule meetings or activities in the Education Building, 384-2358.</p>			



UMC

Sent with a prayer to:

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

You Might be in a Country Church If...

- The doors are never locked.
- The Call to Worship is “Y’all come on in!”.
- People grumble about Noah letting coyotes on the Ark.
- The Preacher says, “I’d like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering,” and five guys stand up.
- A member requests to be buried in his four-wheel drive truck because, “I ain’t ever been in a hole it couldn’t get me out of.”
- In the annual stewardship drive there is at least one pledge of “two calves.”
- When it rains, everybody’s smiling.
- Prayers regarding the weather are a standard part of every worship service.
- The church directory doesn’t have last names.
- Four generations of one family sits together in worship every Sunday.
- The only time people lock their cars in the parking lot is during the summer, and then only so their neighbors can’t leave them a bag of squash.
- There is no such thing as a “secret” sin.
- Finding and returning lost sheep is not just a parable.
- You miss worship one Sunday morning and by 2 o’clock that afternoon you have had a dozen calls inquiring about your health.
- The final words of the benediction are, “Y’all come back now, ya hear!”

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.