



## **NEWSLETTER**

**OF THE**

**Estancia United Methodist Church 600 Williams, Estancia, NM  
and  
Mountainair United Methodist Church 211 S. Sunset Ave., Mountainair, NM**

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



# **JULY, 2019**

## Estancia United Methodist Church

[www.EstanciaMethodist.org](http://www.EstanciaMethodist.org)

600 W. Williams, P.O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016

Certified Lay Minister Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

Email [smithkw@gmail.com](mailto:smithkw@gmail.com)

Worship Chair	Susan Samuels
Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustee Chair	Bill Simms
Finance Chair	Vicki Duran
Kitchen Crew	Alma Wimsatt
Lay Leader Ann. Conf. Delegate, Recording Sec.	Elaine Darnell
McMurry College Representative	Raymond Moore
Membership Nurture	Barbara Simms
Membership Rolls	Marque Sturges
Music	Morrow Hall
Outreach & Food Vouchers	Butch McGee
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
Men's Group Chair	Lee Widner
United Methodist Youth Fellowship	Alexandra Chavez

## Mountainair United Methodist Church

211 S. Sunset, Mountainair, NM 87036

Certified Lay Minister Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

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Church Council Chair, Lay Leader,	
Worship Chair & Recording Secretary	Patty Mahoney
Finance Chair	David Dixon
Trustees Chair & Treasurer	Kent Potter
Annual Conference Delegate & Outreach	Wanda Giovengo
McMurry College Representative	Anna Hopping
Native American Ministries	Rebecca Lueras
Social Concerns Chairpersons	David & Maribeth Dixon
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Bertha Warner

## From Your CLM

In the United States we start July off with a bang! Sorry, I couldn't resist. Independence Day is one of the holidays whose official observance is not required by law to be on a Monday, possibly because celebrating the 4th of July on the 1st of July or the 8th of July would be just a little too strange. Of course, gradually changing the name to Independence Day solves that problem. But the subject of this article is the danger of freedom. In general the purpose of a law is to restrict freedom. This makes perfect sense; in the absence of any laws we can do anything that we are physically able to do. Laws exist to enforce concepts such as the idea that my right to swing my hand at my neighbor's nose. But laws exist as words on paper and have no ability to physically restrain us. So, if I want to punch you in the nose no law is going to stop me. However there can be consequences: you might punch me back, and/or I could end up in jail.

This is similar to the freedom we enjoy under the New Covenant. Jesus Christ paid for all the sins of mankind. God has given us laws (commandments) by which we are to live our lives. We are to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, love our neighbors as ourselves, and make disciples of all nations. But many believe these are just words on paper. They deny that they have the force of any law, they deny that these commands represent the will of God, they deny the existence of a sovereign living god. And just as no law on paper can prevent me from walking through a crowd swinging my fist into people's faces, God will not force me to obey, or even believe in Him in this life. Of course it's no surprise that the next subject here will be consequences. Jesus spoke more about Hell ("fiery furnace," "eternal punishment," pick your favorite term) more frequently than He spoke about Heaven. And in 2 Peter 3:9 we are warned or

reassured that God is not slow to keep His promises, but is patient with us, not wanting that anyone should perish (note- another Hell reference).

Upon exiting the constitutional convention in 1787 Benjamin Franklin is said to have told a lady that the form of government was "a republic, if you can keep it." Similarly, as we reflect upon the free will we have as children of God and the consequences we are told will result if we misuse that free will then we might consider the question, "What is the promise of God through Jesus Christ?" The answer is, "Eternal salvation, if you choose to accept it."

God bless you,

Keith

# WELCOME!



We are blessed to have the Sarno family join our church. Lindsay and Jacob with their three children are now part of our church family - WELCOME !



*Hendrick and Hertie became members  
of The Estancia United Methodist Church  
on June 2, 2019.*

*Welcome to "our church." We are so  
glad to have you.*

Rev. Terry Ann and Pastor Keith welcome the Neethling family into the church on Sunday morning. We are extremely blessed!

## **WE'LL MISS YOU, BUTCH!**

Dear Church Family,

Nick and I were so sad to hear about Butch's death. He was truly one of a kind and a great example of what a disciple should be! He faithfully brought his grandchildren to church, led Kings Kids, and helped with VBS. He had such a huge heart for God's people and always seemed willing to serve. Whether he was creating beautiful stained glass, pulling a trailer full of carolers, or mowing a neighbor's field, he did it all as for the Lord.

We can celebrate that Butch is now with his precious Savior, but we know it's hard for those he left behind. His death will leave a big hole in the church, the community, and in the hearts of all of us who love him. You are all in our thoughts and prayers,

Nick and Julie Griffo      We love you!





Even though you can't see the Holy Spirit, you can feel Him. It's like when you blow up a balloon, you can see that it's blown up on the outside but can't see what's on the inside, you can only feel what's on the inside.



Oysters ooze a liquid to cover the sand and dirt from their shell, and after all the sand and dirt is covered, there's a pearl. This is the same thing that happens to us when we have pain in our life. God oozes His love so He can come in and make us feel better.

## **THOUGHTS ON FREEDOM** by Todd Henry

Today is the US holiday celebrating the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the subsequent victory and separation from the British Empire. The essence of the holiday is the celebration of freedom in all its forms, though similar to how many other holidays come unmoored from their origins, it has somewhat morphed into “a day off, grilling out, and fireworks”.

I think about freedom a lot, because it's central to expression. The ability to leverage one's voice in pursuit of an outcome, whether in the political arena, the business world, or elsewhere, is an essential, unalienable right sealed by the founding fathers of the US, and is central to a thriving culture. However, when taken for granted, freedom grows sour. It can begin to feel cheap. It becomes “my right to have my way trumps yours” rather than taking its rightful place as the guide rails for meaningful exchange and mutual respect.

### **Freedom is costly.**

Not to sound dramatic, but every ounce of freedom you experience cost someone dearly. In the realm of governments and politics, this is obvious. We recognize the lives laid down to ensure the passing of freedom to subsequent generations. How many families suffered from absence, lack of peace, and loss of personal fortune to ensure that others after them would have the guarantees of liberty? This is also true in the business world. Do you have a job that allows you to create value and care for the people you love? Someone else took a risk from which you are now benefiting. The associated cost may never be known. Additionally, consider all of the people who had to risk and fail to create the conditions under which you are now able to work.

### **Freedom is a responsibility.**

Viktor Frankl wrote that the Statue of Liberty on the east coast should be accompanied by the Statue of Responsibility on the west coast, because liberty and responsibility are two sides of the same coin. Freedom spent solely in the pursuit of your own lifestyle, marking wins on your personal scorecard, or making your life a little more comfortable is wasted. This is not to imply that you and I should not enjoy the benefits of our freedom, but only that if we choose to accept the benefits we must also accept the accompanying responsibilities.

US founding father John Adams once wrote in a letter to his wife “...it is my duty to study, more than all other sciences; the arts of legislation and administration and negotiation ought to take the place of, indeed exclude, in a manner, all other arts. I must study politics and war, that our sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy. Our sons ought to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history and naval architecture, navigation, commerce and agriculture in order to give their children a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry and porcelain.” As you act today, are you considering the implications on the generations to come?

### **Freedom is an anomaly.**

It's easy to forget that the kind of political and personal freedoms we experience today are not normal. Compare your level of mobility, financial discretion, and occupational freedom to all of humanity that has come before you. You and I sit at the peak of the peak of the peak of all that have come before. Even the ability to choose an occupation was unheard of until the last few hundred years of history. Will future generations judge us as the peak of freedom, after which everything went down hill, or will we choose to spend our freedom in the service of others?

All of the above is as much a finger in my own chest as anything. (In fact, this began as a journal entry, never intended to be shared.)

**Use your freedom wisely, cherish it deeply, never take it for granted**

## **Donuts for Jesus**

I sit back and ponder this question, "Did Jesus ever eat a doughnut?" I doubt it, but he may have eaten some other sweet breads. I am sure this brought a smile to His face. I also think that it would bring a bit of satisfaction that He enjoyed something you provided. That is how it was for all those who took doughnuts to two Estancia businesses on June 25th. The deliveries were made by Addie and her grandchildren, Nate and Miley; Vicki D. And Rev. Terry Ann Moore. They visited the Soil Conservation office and Gustin Hardware. At both locations the people were touched by the gesture, especially when we presented them with both doughnuts and thank you cards signed by members of the congregation. Everyone enjoyed the morning, and it is anticipated that we will continue doing this until all Estancia businesses have been visited. You are invited to come along; there is a brief meeting in the education building Tuesday morning at 10:00am before the deliveries are made. Everyone who participates will receive an official Estancia United Methodist Church tee shirt so they will know us when they see us coming!

*Reverend TA*

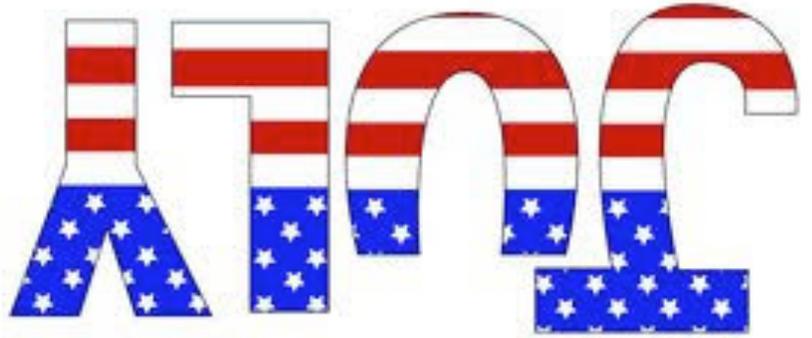


**Thanks to those stepping in to fill Butch's shoes!**



# 2019 JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	4 	5	6
7 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	8	9	10 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	11 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM	12	13 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
14 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	15 ECHO Food Distribution 9:00 to 1:00	16	17 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	18 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM	19	20
21 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM Estancia POOL And Cookout 2:00 to 4:00	22	23	24 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM	25 Grieving Mothers 6:00 PM	26	27
28 Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	29	30	31 Women's Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 PM			



*Sent with a prayer to:*

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

## **PROMISES TO HELP YOU CHOOSE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE**

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.  
that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15:15

*You shall go out with joy and be led out with peace;  
The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing  
before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*

Isaiah 55:12

*And we know that all things work together for good to those who  
love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose.*

Romans 8:28

-Contributed by Alma Wimsatt