



Dave Blackwell, Pastor

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
Church Office 384-5215
Parsonage 384-2710



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

Newsletter - June, 1998



JUNE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Lay Assistant: Jeff Gorum
Ushers: Susan & Sam Wilson
Greeters: Pam & Mark Lambert
Acolytes: Jessica Gorum & Brian Wilson

YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JUNE:

June 7: Chris Hughes
June 14: Ashley Welsh
June 21: Dominic Griffo
June 28: Erinmarie Blackwell

JUNE MEETING:

UMW Ecumenical Luncheon, June 23rd at noon in the Education Building. Women of all denominations are invited to attend and share fellowship with us. Special music will be provided.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL NEWS

Finance Committee: Lisa Hughes and Renee Richards have been appointed to assist Marcella Reynolds with the offering after church each Sunday. The fund-raiser for this year will be a "Bakeless Bake Sale". A large container will be passed around from church member to church member and each member or family will contribute an amount of money that would have been used to bake items for a "real" bake sale. Please help to keep the "jar" moving!

Church Treasurer: There is an increase in health insurance for Pastor Dave and his family. Mountainair pays 1/4th of this amount and Estancia United Methodist Church pays 3/4ths. There is enough flexibility in our budget to take care of this increase.

Lay Leader: We have two confirms for the pulpit during July while Pastor Dave is at seminary school. Bonnie Hardestay will be here on July 19th and Julieanne Welsh on July 26th.

PPRC: A bake sale fund-raiser will be held on June 26th at Norwest Bank in Estancia.

Education: The Young Followers had an ice cream

social on April 18 and made ice cream sundaes after school.

Trustees:



Work still remains to be done on our church and grounds as well as construction of a new storage facility. Concrete bumpers will be placed in the new parking area and trees need to be trimmed.

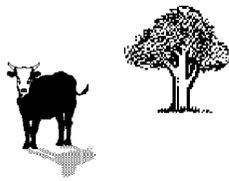
Care & Outreach: Five loaves of bread and community brochures were delivered to newcomers in our community. A total of 23 cards were sent in April and May. A dunk tank at the County Fair will be coordinated by Renee Richards as a money-making project toward our share of the apportionments. Another fund-raiser will be the sale of Window Stikees with Bonnie Thomas in charge of this project. Ian Artman and Marge Van Lare have resigned from the Care and Outreach Committee.

Worship: Annual Community Picnic on June 7th at the County Fairgrounds begins at 11:30 or thereabouts! Adults, \$5 - children, \$3 Musical entertainment, horseshoes, games, wagon rides, etc. Don't miss out on the food and fun !

Pastor Dave: The Promise Keepers chapter in Moriarty is hosting a family picnic on June 27th at the park in Moriarty, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



FROM THE PASTOR'S PASTURE



With summer almost officially upon us, there are several areas I am asking you to be diligent about:

1. Prayer. It is too easy to let up when schedules change and the so called "lazy days of summer" and vacations beckon us to different climes or "climbs". Be fervent and thankful in prayer. Give praise, and give a lot of it to Him.

2. Attendance in church. Summer schedules tend to lack in special programs, but God wants you to take time to worship Him. Don't forget Him, and don't forget your souls. If you are vacationing someplace, take time to stop in a church. You will be blessed, and you may be the vehicle of blessings to the rest of us with something you saw that we may be able to do in this church.

There are four Sundays that I will not be with you as I am called to attend school once again in Kansas City. Please do not let my temporary absence be a stumbling block to your attendance. Those who have attended the worship services organized by the laity, say that the services have been very good--with excellent messages. Remember, we are all ministers, and we all can reflect Christ back to our church family with the variety of gifts and graces God has given us. Come worship and be blessed by what you see and hear from the ones who sit with you the other Sundays. I wish I could be here to gain what you will gain!

3. Stewardship, in this case, financial stewardship. Church income tends to lag in the summer as well. But, just as you still have house payments, car payments, utilities, etc., the church needs all of us to remember that God's house has bills to pay, as well. If you can't make it to church one Sunday, keep that money and give it with your next Sunday payment. As you are faithful in your giving, and give cheerfully, God will see to it that you will not lack, but have extra.

One of the reasons we have so many fund raisers in the summer and fall is because of a shortfall in our income. The other reason is that our budget has grown a little each year due to additional programming, increased salary and insurance, and increasing apportionments. All of those are signs of a growing church. Logically, we would think that more people bring about more money, but proportionately that hasn't been the case. Just as you can't feed a teenager the same amount of food that he or she ate as an infant, a growing church needs more resources in order for it to continue to grow as Christ has called for His church to grow. Yes, asking for a little more healthy giving on the part of everybody in a not-so-

healthy income environment is risky business. But can we afford to not give more unto God's glory considering the blessings we all have? Not giving generously from that which God gave us will be something we will have to account for to Him. Remember, He takes care of His servants. In the cheerful but generous giving, He will add to your blessings.

4. Pray some more.

God's blessings be with you, His faithful servants for Christ.

Pastor Dave

Why Are Fire Trucks Red?

Fire trucks have four wheels and eight firefighters, and four plus eight equals twelve. There are twelve inches in a foot A foot is a ruler. Queen Elizabeth is a ruler, and the Queen Elizabeth is one of the largest ships on the seven seas. Seas have fish. Fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. The Russians are red. Fire trucks are always rushin'. Therefore, fire trucks are usually red!

If you think this is wild, you ought to hear some people trying to explain why they are not attending Sunday school and church on Sunday morning!



REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The weather and the methodists cooperated beautifully during the four day meeting. There were no thunderclouds on any of the horizons, yet we could feel God's love "reign" down upon one of the most spiritual annual conferences to occur in many a year.

The push for the New Mexico Conference is to make disciples--to reach out in love in the name of Jesus Christ to bring God's children into permanent and worshipful relationship with Him.

An excerpt, as seen below, from our District Superintendent, Terry Anderson, mentions our church frequently. But we still

have a lot of faith-work to do towards committing ourselves spiritually and corporately for the kingdom of God.

The Bishop made Pastor Dave's re-appointment to stay at Estancia and Mountainair for another year official. We give thanks for the Bishop and the District Superintendents trying to hold "moves" to a minimum. It is Pastor Dave's prayer that we all continue to strive towards commitment in unity for the light of Christ to be seen through us and for His Church to grow in spirit and in body.

Also, John Barrett, our evangelist from On-the-Rock-Ministries, sends his regards to all of us. And, he is still talking about our children and their choir.

From the District Superintendent:

There have been many accomplishments in the District: churches with membership growth in '97 were: Belen, First-Farmington, Estancia, Mountainair, St. Andrew's, Peralta, Mountainside, St. John's-ABQ, White Rock, Valley View, Bernalillo, Zia, El Rito, Velarde, Window Rock, Carlisle Plaza, Shiprock, St. Paul's-ABQ; we burned a mortgage (Peralta); we reduced debt (First-ABQ, Central, Bloomfield, Bethel, Aztec, Covenant, et. al.); we expanded, repaired, or refurbished physical facilities (Aztec, Rio Rancho, Christ, Los Alamos, Belen, Mountainside, Harwood, St. Paul's-ABQ, Velarde); we are bulging at the seams (Mesa View, St. Stephen's, Taos, Valley View); we improved parking (St. Andrew's, Santa Cruz, Estancia); pastors or staff kissed a pig (New Covenant, First-Farmington, St. John's-ABQ); purchased a new parsonage (First-Farmington); initiated new Hispanic ministries (Belen, St. Andrew's); showed growth in membership, worship attendance, Sunday School attendance, and paid 100% of apportionments (Zia, Peralta, St. Andrew's, Bernalillo); initiated or expanded child care programs (Paradise Hills, St. John's-ABQ, Estancia, Central, Gallup); added a new worship service (Central, Peralta, Mesa View); held revivals (Grants, 4 Corners-Black Mountain, Harwood, Window Rock, Estancia-Mountainair, Ojo Amarillo, et. al.); were active ecumenists (University Heights, St. Andrew's, Paradise Hills, Asbury, St. John's-Santa Fe, Zia, et. al.), and exhibited patience (Alcalde, Hernandez, El Rito, Velarde) and with patience, great hospitality (St. Paul's-Socorro).



The Common Search Read Psalm 100

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Summer's Here!!

—Isaiah 55:1 (NIV)

SOME years ago on an extended trip that crossed several continents, I observed two women at worship in two different churches. The first was in a village church in West Africa. I watched a woman as she swayed and clapped her hands to gospel songs sung in her own dialect to the accompaniment of beating drums and clinking gourds. Her face radiated the joy of her faith.

A week later I saw another woman at worship in Westminster Abbey in London. As the great organ filled the church with music, I saw her prayer book. Her lips moved silently as she read the prayers.

Many things were different about the two women— race, nationality, culture, and much more that I could not see, I'm sure. The two settings and styles of worship were worlds apart. Each, though, was drawn to be with others in a common seeking of God. In worship with others, their hunger and thirst for God were satisfied. I feel sure that each one in her own way found peace, joy, strength, and grace. So can we.

PRAYER: *Lord of heaven and earth, satisfy our deepest needs, we pray, whether we shout our praise or silently seek your love, wisdom, strength, or consolation. We are together in our need for you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Our common need for God is greater than all our differences.

Joe W. Fort (Texas)

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Methodist Mission Home Name Change

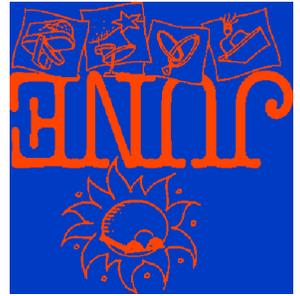
San Antonio—Methodist Mission Home Board of Trustees unanimously voted February 27 to change the name of the organization to "Methodist Family and Rehabilitation Services." MMH is headquartered in San Antonio with offices in Arlington, Houston, Lubbock, and Santa Fe, NM.

Larry Watson, President, noted "During the 103-year history of this organization, the name has changed when necessary to better reflect the array of services offered. We believe we are at a crossroads and need a new name that encompasses our services and multi-location offices. At the same time the new name gives us the opportunity to grow. Methodist Family and Rehabilitation Services helps us maintain our connection to the United Methodist Church, yet gives us a name that better defines who we are."

Board Chair Jerry Chapman listed some of the rationale that went into the decision:



Sent with a prayer to:



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

- There is constant confusion with the similarity in names between Methodist Mission Home and Methodist Children's Home (located in Waco).

- Three studies in the past seven years, including a comprehensive public relations audit, has suggest the board consider a new name.

Methodist Mission Home no longer describes current services nor the multi-service, multi-site structure.

- The name "Methodist Mission Home" prevents the organization from developing a clear, unified identity.

The change will not legally become effective until June 26, 1998. A 12-18 month transition period will accompany the change in which the former and new

name will both be used. The familiar intertwined hearts logo will continue to be used.

Methodist Mission Home was founded in San Antonio as the "Rescue Home" in 1895. Today the organization administers two main programs. Family Services offers a full-array of adoption and post-adoption services. Rehabilitation Services offers vocational evaluation, job training, and independent living skills to adults with disabilities. That program specializes in working with people who are deaf or hard of hearing.