



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

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



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.



MARCH, 2002

SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR MARCH

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Julie Griffo
Acolytes: Rose Daniel
Ushers: Julieanne Welsh & Lacy Daniel
Greeters: Mary & Tracy Hemke

YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Mar 3: Mikayla Calhoon
Mar 10:
Mar 17: Justin Darnella
Mar 24:
Mar 31: *Needed*

KINGS KIDS

Mar 3: Renea & Mikayla Calhoon
Mar 10:
Mar 17: *Needed*
Mar 24:
Mar 31: Kathy Gilbert

NURSERY

Mar 3:
Mar 10:
Mar 17: *Needed*
Mar 24:
Mar 31:

TIME OUT

WITH "COACH" JOHANN

Greetings Estancia Saints,

The devastating events of September 11, 2001, the frequency and escalation of incidents of gross brutality taking place in Israel, the barbarous execution of Wall Street Journal reporter **Danny Pearl**, the pornographic abuse and murder of 7-year old **Danielle van Dam**, the utterly unthinkable act of a mother drowning her five young children, the ghastly crematory discovery in Georgia of 300 and more discarded corpses, a dramatic increase in acts of bestiality being openly displayed on the Internet, the callous disregard for employees in the Enron debacle have left many of us feeling numb, fearful, and wondering if there are any further levels of depravity to which our world can sink. It is altogether probable that the attempt to escape the horrors of this world, compounded with many other factors such as the high divorce rate, absentee parents, and the lack of loving discipline in the home has helped produce this sad report:

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

FOX NEWS

WASHINGTON — Nearly a third of high school students say they binge drink at least once a month, according to a report that says underage drinkers now account for 25 percent of the alcohol consumed in this country.

"Underage drinking has reached epidemic proportions in America," said **Joseph Califano Jr.**, president of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, which issued the report Tuesday.

Now that's all part of the BAD NEWS. But we are the people who know and have come to personally experience the remedy of the GOOD NEWS! And it is exactly into this very darkness that The Light has come and the Word reminds us that *"The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has never put it out."* Later this month we will again be celebrating Easter and proclaiming afresh the ultimate triumph of light over darkness, of hope over despair, of forgiveness over resentment and revenge, of good over evil, of love over hate, and of life over death. Let's **BE THE MESSAGE TOGETHER!**

The best is yet before us!

Upward and onward...

"Coach" Johann



Families in Christ

Families in Christ is an idea from the **Pastor Parish Relations and Care and Outreach** committees to bring us closer together and have some fun at the same time. Members and regulars alike will have their name in a basket. During two Sunday worship services the basket will be passed around and each family will draw another families name. For example; when the basket is passed around to the **Creamer** family pew (or bleacher as **Mark** would say) they will pick a card. Lets say we draw the **Gomez Family (Oscar, Margaret, Christopher, Miranda, Catherine, Nicholas, Lil Georgie)**. We will commit to praying for them; We may even give them a call and tell them we drew

their name. If we hear that one of them is sick, we may call and see if there is anything we can do.

We may even be brave enough to invite them over after church for Sunday dinner! One morning our phone may ring and its **Gayle Clark**; she and **Lowell** drew our name. We feel God's hand here. We

have been feeling sad that the kids don't have grandparents to socialize with. **Gayle** has invited the kids out to pet the horses. As you can see the chain goes on. Six months after we draw names we will have a pot luck and share stories about our families. If for any reason you wish not to participate please let **Johann** or **Angela Creamer** know so your name can be removed from the drawing.



FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND CONSIDERATION:

• **SUMMER MINISTRY AMONG HISPANIC COMMUNITY** – Along the same lines as we did last summer, when we had **Maye** and **Topi** from Mexico, do some ground-breaking ministry in our area, we have another opportunity to build on that work during this next summer. **Rev. Dr. Marsha Moore** from Mountainair has received a Conference grant for just over \$3,000 for a period of about 6 weeks. This is very little when one considers that it has to help pay for transportation for 2 students from Mexico to our area and back, a vehicle and transportation while here, accommodation, food, and any materials needed. If you are able to contribute in some way to help meet these needs, please contact **Pastor Johann** (384-5215) or **Pastor Marsha** (299-2694).

• **JACOB'S LADDER** – The Jacob's Ladder Reading Program has sadly had to be placed on hold for now due to insufficient and infrequent volunteer support. We are grateful to those adults who did assist as and when they could. However the full load eventually was too much for just two regular people.

• **EASTER PAGEANT**

A community-wide Easter Pageant will be held at 7pm on Good Friday, March 29 and at 7pm on Saturday, March 30th in the Estancia Middle School Gym. Please support this event and help advertise by word of mouth.

• **CARE CARDS FROM THE CHURCH**

We now have printed some cards that you may take and mail to people as an expression of love and care from our church. These cards are in the entrance to the sanctuary.

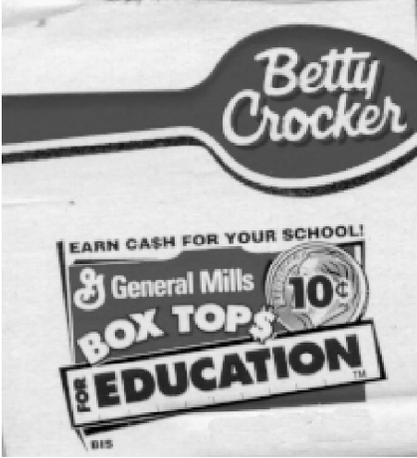
• **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Any young person who is ready to be confirmed, please contact Pastor Johann without delay.



UMW NEWS

The UMW will have Easter lillies for sale and ready for you to take home on Easter Sunday. They will serve to decorate the sanctuary on that day and to honor someone or decorate your home on that special day. They will sell for \$8.00. More detailed information will be announced as the time draws nearer.



The United Methodist women are asking each of us to save the box top coupons from General Mills products. Each coupon is redeemable for 10¢ by a school (McCurdy Mission) for needed items. These coupons are on Betty Crocker products, cereals,

cake mixes, Bisquick, fruit snacks, Lloyds, and Yoplait.

Also don't forget to save your Campbell's Soup labels. **Agatha** has a jar at the back of the church that she needs filled right away. When we all work together, a little becomes a lot!!

The hostess for the March 26th UMW meeting will be **Bonnie Thomas** and the Easter program will be given by **Marcia Fitzner**.

FROM YOUR CHOIR

The choir has been meeting every Sunday morning at 8:30 (before church) and most of the time, we have fair attendance. We still are in need of more voices, especially in the men's section. We are planning to have special music for Palm Sunday and Easter.

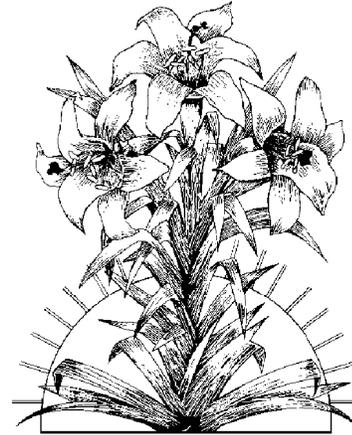


You don't have to be a professional singer to sing with us, we just try to "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."
-Ethel Floyd, Choir Director

EASTER LASTS FOREVER!

I ran across a tract the other day entitled, "Easter Lasts Forever." Easter lasts forever! Isn't that what we believe? This life is not always pleasant. In fact it can deal us some harsh blows - death, loss of job, divorce, war, rejection, financial difficulties, and the list goes on and on until it seems like Good Friday everyday. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" But the believer in Christ looks forward. Yes, it may be Friday, but Sunday is coming! This is our eternal hope. The world may seem to be falling apart, but Jesus still reigns. His resurrection proves that he has conquered sin, death and the devil. It guarantees that those who have died in faith will be raised and will live forever with Jesus and all believers in heaven. When that is considered, all of our problems of this world pale in comparison to the glory to come. Yes, Easter lasts forever!

-John Merrill St. John Lutheran Church. -Fraser MI



CONSIDER THE LILIES

"Why are you anxious ...?" asked our Lord. Then he said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these" (Matthew 6:28-29). His point was that just as God sees to it that the lilies of the field always come forth in their wholeness and beauty, so God can be counted on to provide for us. People of faith come to understand that marvelous reality.

In the words that follow, a poet reminds us of the reliability of God as seen in the familiar flowers that now are bursting forth in their glorious beauty:

**God does not send strange flowers every year,
When the Spring wind blows o'er the pleasant places,
The same dear things lift up the same fair faces,
The violet is here.**
—Adeline Whitney

LOGOS ANGEL OF THE MONTH

Logos would like to salute an individual who has been involved with Logos for the past two years. She has taught several Bible classes and she is

expecting a brand new student this month!! The

Logos Angel of the Month for March is **Melanie Chavez.**

Melanie is the Logos Bible Study Coordinator this year. She teaches a bible study class and is a table parent.



Melanie did her fair share of recruiting Bible Study teachers and assistants this year by involving individuals from within the community to teach many of our Logos kids.

Melanie teaches a "high energy" group and many times this group will get into some pretty deep discussions about life issues. I can't think of anyone more suited to this bible study group than **Melanie.**

Logos wants to salute **Melanie** this month especially since she and **Danny** are expecting a new bundle of joy. A special thank you goes out to **Danny** too - "**Mel**" could not do this without his help. If you happen to bump into **Melanie** and **Danny**, please mention that you appreciate all they do for Logos. **Thanks Melanie and Danny** -- we appreciate you and hope your new little student brings you much happiness.



The Legend of the Dogwood

According to legend, the dogwood tree once grew straight and tall. But then it was used to make the cross on which Jesus was crucified. As a memorial of this event, the tree never again grew large enough to be used for this purpose.

In the spring, when the dogwood blooms, the four-petal arrangement of its flowers reminds us of the cross. Each white petal has an indentation on its outer edge—a symbol of the nail marks in our Savior's hands. Then, in the fall, the leaves of the dogwood turn a fiery red to commemorate the blood of Jesus with which our salvation was secured.

SACRAMENTO METHODIST ASSEMBLY

SUMMER STAFF - It is that time of year when we begin our search for summer staff help. Summers would not be possible here at S.M.A. without the help of eight to ten energetic young Christian adults who devote their summer to serving here. They help in Housekeeping, Ground Maintenance, Dining Hall, Snack & Gift Shop, and wherever else they are called in the course of a given day. They work alongside volunteer work crews and interact with our campers. They work together, play together and worship together. A typical day starts at 7:30AM with devotions. It's hard work, to be sure, but always a rewarding and growing experience.

Each Summer Staffer receives a stipend plus their housing and meals for a term of eleven (11) weeks, beginning in May when school lets out.

If you are interested, or know a young person who might be, please call our Director of Operations, **Harold Ideus.** Reach him at our office (800-667-3414) M - F from 8:30 to 4:30 PM or by email (sma@ovtnetworks.net)

UPCOMING EVENTS AT S.M.A.

[Limited space - unlimited opportunities!]

You still have time to register for these events. But, please, do it as soon as possible. Space may be limited, but the possibilities for your enjoyment are not! Be sure to check with the contact person for registration deadlines, so that you avoid those pesky late fees!

March 1 - 3, 2002
ROC Mid-Hi Weekend
Contact:
Jan Archey
505-522-6940
weslev@nmsu.Edu

March 8 - 10, 2002
UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat
Contact:
Mickie Stimpson
505-546-8783

March 29 - 31, 2002
Easter Weekend
Closed

April 26 - 28, 2002
Lay Speakers' School
Contact
Cathy Hoggard
915-550-6496



An Empty Tomb Instead

They came to the quiet garden
In the early morning gloom,
And there in the shadowed darkness
They found an empty tomb.

They brought their scented spices
To anoint the hallowed dead,
But found, to their amazement,
The living Lord instead.

Their hearts were heavy-laden—
Bowed down with deep despair—
But when they lifted tear-dimmed eyes,
Lo, Jesus was standing there.

They thought all hope had ended
With Calvary's dying breath,
But they found a powerful Savior,
Triumphant over death!

On that wonderful Easter morning,
In a garden sweet with dew,
He came from the grave—a world to save—
To live and reign anew.

So oft in the midst of sorrows
When hope seems cold and dead.
With lifted eyes, we too may see
An empty tomb instead!

—Author unknown

THE 7UPS

1. Wake Up.....Decide to have a good day. "Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" *Psalms 118:24*

2. Dress Up!!..... The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart" *I Samuel 16:7*

3. Shut Up!!.....Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. "He who guards his lips guards his soul." *Proverbs 13:3*. "Gossip betrays confidence. Avoid men who talk too much" *Proverbs 20:19* "Listen to advice, accept instruction and in the end, you will be wise" *Proverbs 19:20*

4. Stand Up!!....For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..." *Galatians 6:9-10*

5. Look Up!!.....To the Lord. "I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me". *Philippians 4:13*

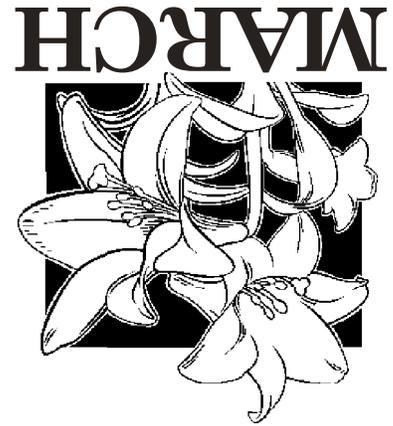
6. Reach Up!!..... For something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path". *Proverbs 3:5-6*

7. Lift Up!!..... Your Prayers. "Do not worry about anything; instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING"
Philippians 4:6



A POSITIVE THOUGHT

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If He had a wallet, your photo would be in it. He sends you flowers every spring, and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He could live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart. What about the Christmas gift He sent you in Bethlehem; not to mention that Friday at Calvary. Face it, He's crazy about you.



Sent with a prayer to:

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

EUMC March 2002

"Disciple a Few in 2002!"

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

					1	2
3 8:30 Choir 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship/H.C. 11:30 Ad Council 3:00 Communion to Homebound	4 6-8: ESL 7:00 Women's Reunion Group 7:30 A.A	5 10am: Pastor's Prayer 6:30pm Prayer in Sanctuary	6 5:pm LOGOS "Wild Tie"	7 Pastor at CPE Training in Durango	8 Pastor at CPE Training in Durango	9 9:00am Weight Watchers
10 8:30 Choir 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship 11:30 PPRC	11 10am: Care & Outreach 6-8: ESL 7:00 Women's Reunion Group 7:30 A.A	12 10am: Pastor's Prayer 6:30pm Prayer 7:pm Trustees	13 5:pm LOGOS "Circus"	14 6-8: ESL	15	16 7:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00am Weight Watchers
17 8:30 Choir 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship 11:30 Worship Committee	18 6-8: ESL 7:00 Women's Reunion Group 7:30 A.A	19 10am: Pastor's Prayer 6:30pm Prayer in Sanctuary	20 5:pm LOGOS "Rainbow"	21 6-8: ESL	22	23 9:00am Weight Watchers
24 8:30 Choir 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship PALM SUNDAY	25 6-8: ESL 7:00 Women's Reunion Group 7:30 A.A	26 10am: Pastor's Prayer 12 noon: UMW 6:30pm Prayer in Sanctuary	27 5:pm LOGOS "EASTER"	28 6-8: ESL	29 7pm: Easter Pageant @ Middle School Gym GOOD FRIDAY	30 7pm: Easter Pageant @ Middle School Gym

31
8:30 Choir
9:00 SS
10:00 Worship
EASTER SUNDAY

Abbreviations:
A.A. - Alcoholics Anonymous
S.S. - Sunday School
ESL - English Second Language
Conf. - Confirmation Class

Barnabus Blessings are available in the church foyer to give or send to someone today.

If you have an email address and would like to share it with us, send it to: estanciaumc@hotmail.com

If you want to know more about any of our activities, or have some others that need to be listed, please contact the church office at 384-5215