



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

Sunday Worship 10:00
AM
Nursery Provided



Rev. Linda Mizell, Pastor
P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
Church Office 384-5215
Parsonage 384-2710
email: revlinda2@juno.com

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.



MARCH, 2003

SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR MARCH

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Roci Galyn
Ushers: Jan & Francis Wynn
Greeters: Carolyn Moore & Melanie Chavez

Children's Church

Elementary: Julieanne Welch
Preschool: Melanie Chavez



This morning I was reading Psalm 119. This Psalm focuses on God's commands (precepts, laws), and what it means to God and to God's followers to keep what God commands.

**FROM
PASTOR
LINDA**



There was a time when I saw God's commandments as restrictive and oppressive, but, praise be to God, I now see them in a different light. God has given us laws and commandments because he knows how he "wired" us from creation. He knows what will hurt us deep in our hearts and spirits, and what will cause pain to others. He has given us his perfect law to help us make wise decisions in our lives. Jesus said that all the laws could be reduced to two – Love God with all your heart and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself – these two commandments summarize all the rest.

We all want to live in harmony, but it seems that we don't know how. Why is this true? I have heard Dr. Phil talk about there being no reality only perception. Now while I get his drift – that we all have our own perception of a situation and many

arguments are over two different perceptions of a particular situation – there is an underlying reality. The reality is love. This is the central theme of the Methodist movement, and a central theme of the Bible. The question is will we chose love over opinion? Will we chose “being right” over doing the loving thing? We know how to archive harmony deep in the core of our being, but we allow emotions and false gods to steal our peace.

God’s plan is perfect. We Methodist talk about God’s grace being expressed in three ways: Prevenient, Justifying and Sanctifying. When we come to accept God’s justifying grace we are called to go on to perfection. This is what Paul is talking about when he writes in Philippians, “Therefore beloved...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” (2:12). It is also what John is teaching in his first letter, “No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us” (4:12). God’s sanctifying grace helps us to grow in love for ourselves, others, and God. Imagine a word full of sanctified believers. Would that not be a world living in harmony?



KEEP PRAYING!

I am so excited to see the Lord moving in our midst. There are many wonderful things happening in our church. The Weigh Down Workshop is making a difference in many lives, helping the participants to put God first in all they do, and as a side benefit, losing weight. The men have started an Emmaus reunion group on Thursday night. We have several people who have not been on a “Walk” that are looking forward to attending The Walk to Emmaus in the next year. The Wednesday Night Blessing is a time of praise, prayer, study, and fellowship. I am especially excited about the prayer time at the end of the evening. We anticipate many answered prayers over the months to come. Confirmation is under way and there are three students preparing for membership in the church. We had an uplifting worship service done by our UMY kids, and they are planning all sorts of things for the future. We have a great choir and a chime choir has also formed. We have seen new people step forward to do King’s Kids and serve as Lay Reader. Five new members have joined the church since I arrived. But the most important feedback I have

FROM BISHOP MAX

Some of My Thoughts...(From Bishop Max)

There was a news script running across the bottom of the television screen when I arrived at home one evening this week. It was a warning of a high risk of terrorism. Later new reports advised us to prepare for a terrorist attack.

I am still trying to process my feelings. I feel as if the terrorists have succeeded. People are “running scared”. Some have cancelled trips. There was a run on some stores to buy gallons of water and extra food, just in case. Duct tape and plastic sheets vanished from the shelves of many stores.

Are the terrorist groups attempting to control our lives? Is it their desire to disrupt our lives and prevent us from living and going about our normal routine? Are they trying to create an atmosphere of fear? Unfortunately, it appears they may succeeding.

By the same token, I feel perhaps I ought to take normal precautions. It is rather dumb to know something is likely to happen and not be prepared. There is no need to live foolishly. If I can expect something will probably happen, then I had better be ready.

How can I live in the midst of such mixed emotions? I have made some decisions, right or wrong. I am going on with my life. The early Christians believed Jesus would return very soon and usher in the Kingdom of God on earth, as it is in Heaven. However, they continued to live, witness, and share their faith as if the return of Christ were years away. I believe this is instructive for us in our present situation.

Taking normal precautions only seems prudent. A little extra food and water in the house can always be of benefit. I am not as enthusiastic about buying plastic sheets and duct tape. I am still trying to decide whether to buy those items. Jesus calls upon us to be on watch and to be ready. He does not call us to stop living.

And so, next, I am going to try to finish the sermon I am preparing for this Sunday. I have some Good News I cannot wait to share. Jesus Christ has won the victory. “If we live, we live to the Lord and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s” (Romans 8:35-37).

May the presence of the Lord be with us now and forever. Amen.



shop D. Max Whitfield

A Note on the Ministry and the Work of the General Evangelist in the United Methodist Church

Consider what might happen in your church if you call an approved General Evangelist to work along side you. As John Wesley said we have "but one thing-to-do- spend and be spent in the saving of souls." An evangelist works beside the local pastor and under that pastor's authority to help in many ways.

One is to help strengthen what still remains. Another is to seek new ways to reach the lost and churchless. Still another way is to see new fire burn when the ash pile is stirred up. Yet another way is to awaken the church to new missional outreach.

Some church leaders tell me that we, as evangelists, are really "outdated". I disagree with that in a most profound way. The very thing that connects many of us in the Wesleyan heritage is what we call the Wesley Quadrilateral. It consists of four areas used to prove the truth of something. Those four things are: (1) tradition, (2) experience, (3) reason, and (4) Scripture.

A church can be 1000 years old or two weeks old. Tradition is already in it. Some churches are in the tradition of some sort of annual meeting - while others are not. One church has revival, another has preaching series, yet another has lectures. It is all a part of the tradition of who we are in the Wesleyan heritage. It is a tradition of renewal events in the yearly life of the church.

Add to tradition experience. Many local fellowships have these events and their experience is good. In some cases, the experience can only be held a certain week of the year. The renewal event has to begin on such and such a Sunday. However, by and large, the event is a good experience.

When reason is added to the first two, we see that some people in the church might truly be stirred up to love and good works. Therefore, it will be good for us. Further, no one is really harmed by these events (I know some people get their nose out of joint - but watch those people throughout the year and you will see their nose stays out of joint on a regular basis), while many are encouraged by them. It is reasonable to use what will strengthen the

local church body.

Lastly, Scripture validates the office of the evangelist. (Ephesians 4:11) We are told to do the work of the evangelist. We are commissioned by our Lord. Why would God give an office that is not to be used in the local church? To employ the evangelist is to use a Scriptural office much the same way you employ the office of pastor in the work of the church.

The evangelist will help you build the work where you are. Only about 40 of us are full time in the United Methodist Church. Call us and put us to work. We have nothing else to do.

Send me a note for the latest list of these people and I will get it to you. Call one today.

-John Barrett - General Evangelist (915) 561-5461



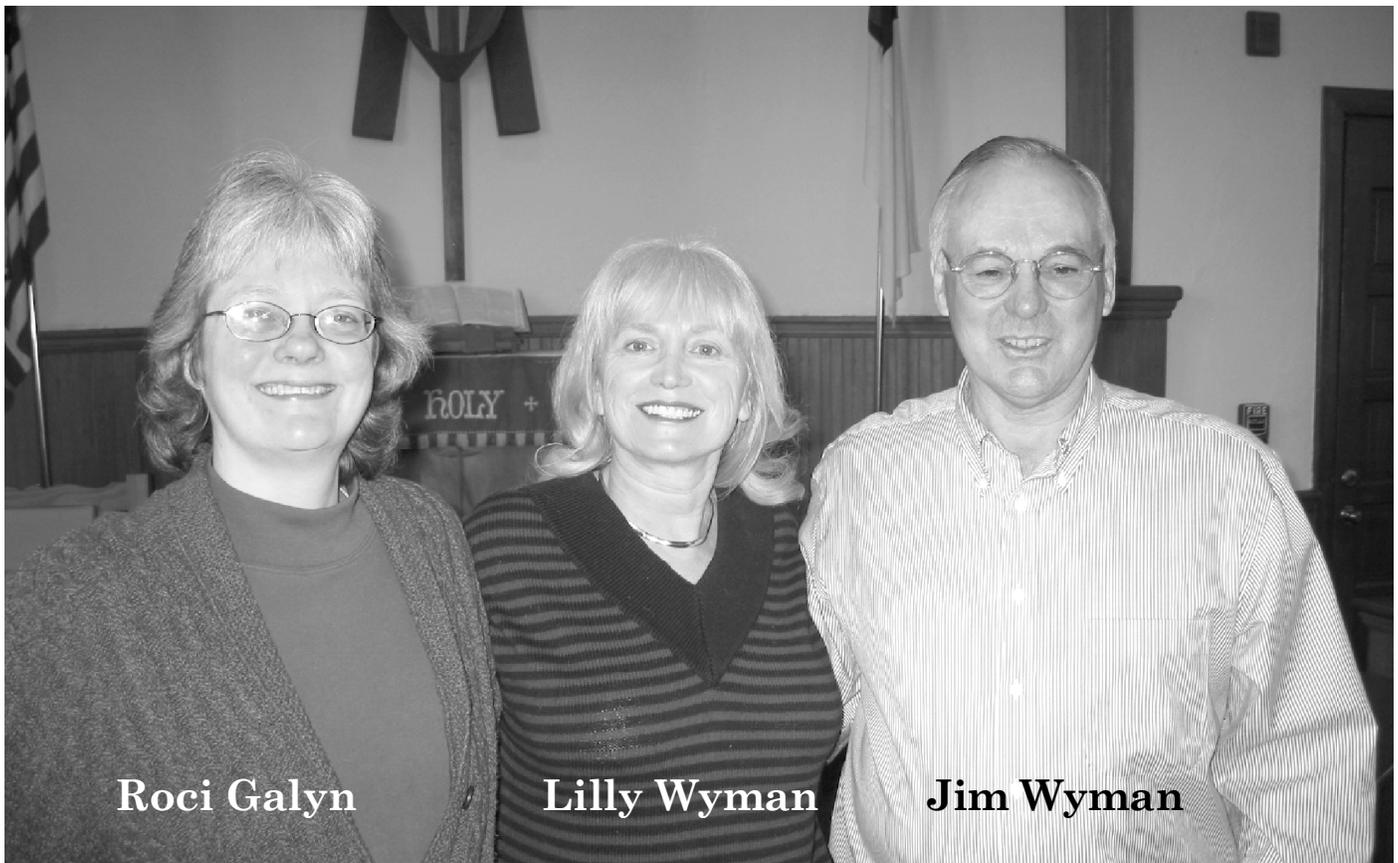
FAITH COMES BY HEARING

"Faith Comes By Hearing" Challenge is officially over, but continue if you have not finished your listing or reading of the New Testament. The ladies won the contest by the score of 22 to 14. The men have made plans for the Ladies' Victory Dinner after church on Sunday March 16. The Grape Vine will remain up for several weeks to allow everyone time to add their grapes to the family cluster. The Question Box will remain in back of the Church for any questions about the New Testament. The questions will be answered at the dinner.

THANKS FOR THE HEAT!

Thanks to the hard working Trustees who spent their days going to the hardware store, scratching their heads and crawling around in the ceiling of the education building to replace the broken furnace. **John Creamer, Mel Stephenson, Mark Lambert, Don Fitzner** and others deserve much credit and words of praise from all of us for their hard work. Please remember to thank them the next time you cross paths!





Roci Galyn

Lilly Wyman

Jim Wyman

Three New Members at Estancia United Methodist Church

On February 16 we welcomed three new members to our church. Lily and Jim Wyman and Roci Galyn all transferred their membership to EUMC. **WELCOME!!**



**Jacque
Creamer**

**Alice
Daniel**

**Ashley
Welch**

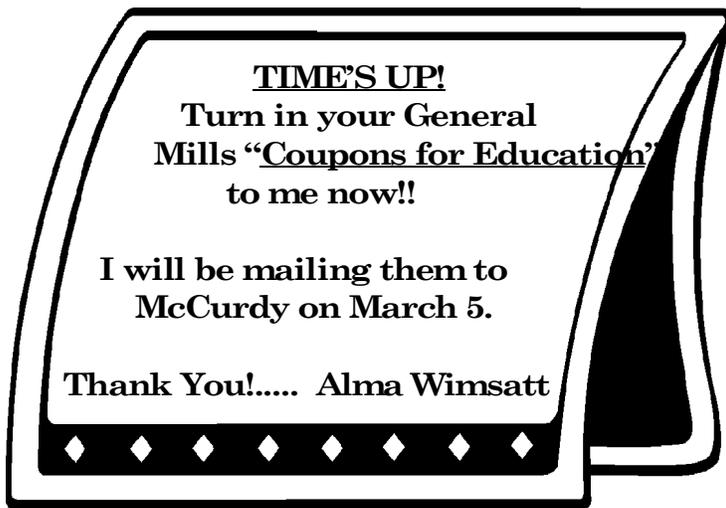
**Brian
Wilson**

**Kelsey
Sours**

**Stephanie
Smileadge**

Youth Sunday, February 16, 2003

Places were switched on February 16, Youth Sunday. Acolytes were adults and King's Kids given by one of our young adults to a number of "young at heart" folks, were just two instances of switching during the service. Paige Deborski played a selection on the piano and Ashley Welch gave the message that morning. Several young people put on a thoughtful skit, "The Church"! Thanks to our wonderful young folks!!



LECTIONARY FOR MARCH 2003

March 2

Transfiguration Sunday

(Last Sunday After the Epiphany)

Readings for Transfiguration are used on the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6 (UMH 783); 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

March 5

Ash Wednesday (A, B, and C)

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Ps. 51:1-17 (UMH 785); 2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10; Mt. 6:1-6, 16-21

March 9

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10 (UMH 756)
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

March 16

Second Sunday in Lent

Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16; Ps. 22:23-31 (UMH 752)
Rom. 4:13-25; Mk. 8:31-38

March 23

Third Sunday in Lent

Ex. 20:1-17; Ps. 19 (UMH 750)
1 Cor. 1:18-25; Jn. 2:13-22

March 30

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Num. 21:4-9; Ps. 107:1-3, 17-22 (UMH 830)
Eph. 2:1-10; Jn. 3:14-21

CHIME CHOIR

Just a note of thanks to all the participating in the Hand Chime blessing it has been to my life. special in your own unique way. God for each of you. Thanks to assisting with her knowledge of beautiful singing voice, thanks her knowledge in musical notes for me, and thanks to each of you you are making and for your wonderful sense of humor. We laugh a lot and chime a lot and just generally enjoy each other and the fellowship that occurs. If you would like to join us after church on Sundays, just stay in the sanctuary and know that there is a chime with your name on it waiting for you to play it! Also know that it is VERY SIMPLE AND EASY to learn, so do not let your lack of knowledge about hand chimes stop you. Blessings to you all,



-Julianne

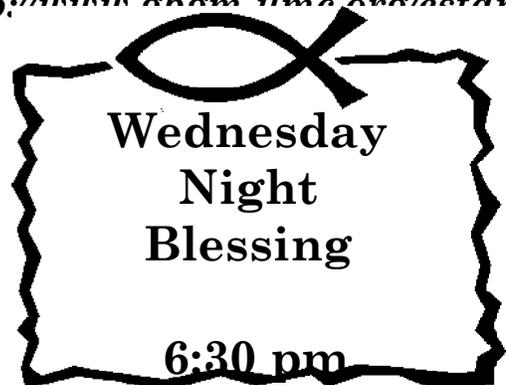
NEW EUMC WEBSITE

If you haven't looked at the EUMC website lately, you need to check it out again. Our new member, Roci Galyn, has been working hard revising and updating the site.

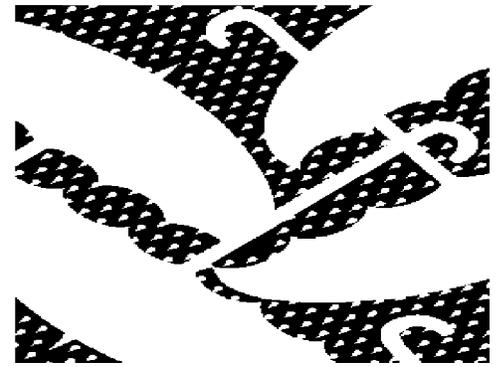
In addition to a summary of the church programs and the wonderful welcome message by Pastor Linda, is an impressive history of both our church and our UMW. Also notice the colorful photographs of our church windows throughout the site.

To access the EUMC website, enter the address below in your browser:

<http://www.chim-umc.org/estancia>



MARCH



Sent with a prayer to:

Estanda United Methodist Church
 P. O. Box 378
 Estanda, NM 87016

March 2003

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:am Worship Holy Communion 6:00 UMY	3	4 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown 7:pm: Trustees Pastor prayer at City Council	5 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday Night Blessing 7:35 Ash Wed Service Prayertime after Service	6 7:pm: Mens Emmaus Reunion Group	7	8
9 10:am Worship First Sun of Lent 6:00 UMY	10	11 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown	12 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing	13 7:pm: Mens Emmaus Reunion Group	14	15 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast
16 10:am Worship Second Sun of Lent 11:30 Lunch for Ladies by Methodist Men 6:00 UMY	17	18 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group 6:30 pm: Weighdown	19 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing	20 7:pm: Mens Emmaus Reunion Group	21	22
23 10:am Worship Third Sun of Lent 11:30 Worship Com. 6:00 UMY	24 Spring Break	25 10:am: Pastor's Prayer group Noon: UMW 6:30 pm: Weighdown Spring Break	26 6:30-8:15pm - Wednesday Night Blessing Spring Break	27 7:pm: Mens Emmaus Reunion Group Spring Break	28 Spring Break	29
30 10:am Worship Fourth Sun of Lent One Great Hour of Sharing TBA: UMY Community Hymns	31	Note: Confirmation schedule to be announced				