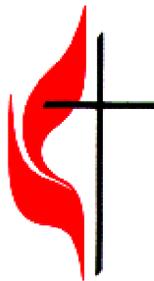




100th Anniversary - July 31, 2005

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



March
2005

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	Ethel Floyd
Recording Secretary	Barbara Simms
Lay Leader	TBA
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Carolyn Moore
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Mark Lambert
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Education Committee	Susan Wilson
Youth Representative	Kelsey Sours
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Alma Wimsatt
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: History	Ethel Floyd
Financial Secretary	Marcella Reynolds
Church Treasurer	Sylvia Levy
President UMW	Ethel Floyd
President UMY	TBA
President UMM	Nick Griffo

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield
 District Superintendent: Dr. Larry Hall
Please visit us on the web:
<http://www.gbgbm-umc.org/estancia>

Prayer Concerns

- Maron West
- Kate Ellis
- Bill Baker
- Bart Hanig
- Jim and Carol Benton
- The victims and survivors of the Dec. 26 Tsunami in Southeast Asia
- The After School Ministry
- The United Methodist Men's group and their ministries
- All who do not have a relationship with Jesus
- This congregation and its leaders & finances
- The men and women of the armed forces
- National leaders and the leaders of the world
- Teachers, administrators and students
- Our town government and the youth center

Members and friends to pray for this week:

Agatha Garrison; Cathy Gilbert; Oscar, Margaret, Christopher, Miranda, Catherine, Nicholas and Georgie Gomez; Nick, Julie, and Dominic Griffo and Dustin Newsom.

Pray each Thursday at noon for the United Methodist Church to experience a revival like in the days of John Wesley! Pray for this church to be flooded with the Spirit of Christ!

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

From Pastor Gary

Most of you are familiar with the story of the Sunday School teacher who asks the class "what is God's name"? One little boy raises his hand and says, "Andy". The teacher inquires and the little boy says, "Andy walks with Me. Andy talks with me." It's a cute story that tells the reality of Easter.



If you remember back to the first few chapters of Genesis, God was walking in the garden. I think from the beginning, God always wanted to walk with his creation. He went walking with Adam and Eve and he wants to walk along side of us.

On the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35) Jesus came up along side of two disciples, one of whom was named Cleopas. Jesus came along side of them and walked with them.

One of the great things about going on a walk is the conversation. Amanda and I have made a lot of decisions and discussed many things on walks. Going on a walk with your spouse or a friend is a great way to improve a relationship and become closer.

A walk with God is the same. It improves your relationship. The more you go "walking with God" the closer you will become. As Jesus walked with these two disciples he taught them and opened the scriptures to them. They discovered that their hearts were burning within them as they walked and talked with Jesus.

On Easter we celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead-that He Lives. Jesus died for us and paid the penalty for our sins. The reality of Easter is that Jesus lives, he walks with us and he talks with us and He lives within our hearts.

I hope Jesus lives in you. I hope you go walking with Jesus and that your heart burns within you like it did with those two disciples who walked with Jesus.

UMW REPORT

How can the United Methodist Women's organization interest the women in our church????? At present, we have 14 members.

UMW meets 10 times during the year. Our summer activities consist of our Ecumenical Luncheon and a luncheon meeting out of town. Last year we met with the Mountainair women for a pot luck luncheon in their dining room. This year, we plan to have an ice cream social in June as a fund raising project. This will be held on the church lawn, weather permitting.

Our main purpose is to support missions, locally, nationally and inter-nationally.

We would welcome any lady to our organization, whether she is a member of a church or not.

-Ethel L. Floyd, Pres.

HISTORY COMMITTEE REPORT

If you were a member of the Estancia United Methodist Church prior to 1980 and have not sent us a resume of your experiences while attending our church, please do so at once. We do not want to miss anyone. Here is a list of things you might consider in writing your resume. Any other thoughts you might have would be fine. We do not restrict the number of words. So far, we have 32 resumes.

Family Background
 Where born
 Your parent's names
 When the family arrived in Estancia
 When you first visited the church
 When you became a member
 Earliest memories of Church participation
 Description of worship experiences
 Memories of major events in the life of the church
 Reminiscences of people in the church
 Description of the community in different eras
 Opinion on matters that have had a major impact on the church.
 Feelings and thoughts about the church today.



Give this information to Ethel Floyd, Chairman of the History Committee or mail to her at Box 271, Estancia, NM 87016. Or you can e-mail: efpiano@worldnet.att.net.

We will soon be going to the printers. It will be too late after that time.

-Ethel L. Floyd, Church Historian

News from the Worship Committee:

The Worship Committee had its first meeting of the year on February 13th, with committee members Julie Griffo, Morrow Hall, Elaine Darnell, and Pastor Gary in attendance. Our first order of business was to discuss services for Holy Week. We will be holding a joint Maundy Thursday service with Mountainair at the Estancia UMC. There will not be a separate Good Friday service.

Our committee needs input from the congregation about what you would like to see during our worship services. Please keep in mind that the purpose of having worship services is to worship God through praise, prayer, and hearing His Word. How can we best do that? Let us know of any comments, questions, or concerns that you might have. We will prayerfully consider your opinions and requests. One change that we have decided to make is that we will go back to celebrating Holy Communion only on the first Sunday of each month. We will also be having our "Joys and Concerns" time right before the Pastoral Prayer instead of during the announcements.

We also need your participation. Please sign up to help out during our services by being a greeter, usher, scripture reader, or worship assistant. We would also appreciate you sharing your gifts with us - sing a song, read a poem, do a skit, give a testimonial - whatever you feel God is leading you to do. He gave you your talent, and He wants you to share it with your church family. Remember, we are the Body of Christ, and it is up to all of us to serve and worship Him.

In His Service,
-Julie Griffo, Chair

A Time of Prayer and Fasting -- March 22 6:00pm in the Sanctuary

Please join us for a time of prayer and fasting beginning at 6:00pm on March 22. It is a great opportunity to humble ourselves and seek God. If you have never fasted before, you may want to start with fasting one meal (Tuesday evening) and coming to the prayer service that night. Fasting will end at 5:00pm on Wednesday evening when we gather for the evening meal. This will be a time of focusing on God. John Wesley said this, "First, let it be done unto the Lord with our eye singly fixed on Him. Let our intention herein be this, and this alone, to glorify our Father which is in heaven..." As we humble ourselves before God we will seek God's direction for our church--the work he wants us to accomplish, and that people would come to know Christ through the ministry of our Church.

Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast



This year on March 27 Easter morning sunrise service will be held at Estancia United Methodist Church at 7:00am. Breakfast will follow in the education building at 8:00am hosted by the United Methodist Men. If you would like to donate your time and/or food items, please contact Nick Griffo (384-2523). Monetary donations will also be accepted to help with food costs, and any money not used for this event will be given to the Waco Children's Home.

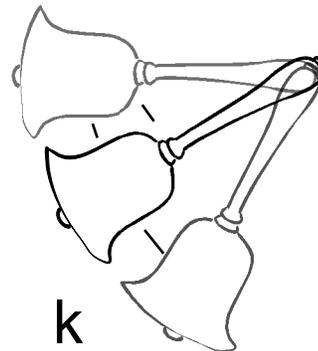
Adult Sunday School Class on Sunday Morning!!

Beginning March 13 at 10:00am Mel Stephenson will teach an adult Sunday School class for anyone interested. Bring your friends, neighbors and anyone else that would enjoy a good Bible discussion on the Lord's Day.

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**ALERT, ALERT, THE CHILDREN'S
CHOIR WILL PRACTICE IN THE
CHURCH BASEMENT BEGINNING
MARCH 13. Don't stay home kids, we
NEED YOU!!!!!!**



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Please Note!

Worship Committee meeting on March 6th after church and **Ad Council meeting** on March 13th after church.

HISTORY NOTES

As you are all aware, our church's 100th anniversary celebration is only about 5 months away and the history book that the History Committee has been preparing for the last year is just weeks from being finalized and going to the printers. One of the more interesting sections of the book is the recollections of past members from the church's first 75 years. We have been featuring excerpts from this section during the past few months and we will continue doing so from time to time until the celebration.



The excerpt below was written by Phil Galbreath whose father, Rev. Clyde O. Galbreath, was our pastor during the years 1940 to 1949.

“Dad made a lot of improvements, such as the concrete front steps to the church. The street in front of the church and parsonage was always a lake when it rained. It was fun to play in, but Dad took his 4 ft x 4 ft trailer on a Model T frame and hauled enough sand and gravel to fill in the road. I remember a bridge over the drainage ditches at the corner in front of the church, where I rode my bike off and landed on my head. Dad had a grand plan to build a recreation center for the community with a house for a recreation director to live in, a tennis court, and a building to house a swimming pool and other recreation space. Much of the material for the house came from tearing down an old house. My dad was in the process of tearing down this old house when the roof rafters collapsed and knocked him off the wall, cutting a long gash across his left cheek and jaw. The tennis courts were finished and the house was nearing completion when the family left in June of 1949. I remember a crew working on the tennis courts when the concrete was poured. I do not remember anyone helping Dad with the house building, but from this perspective I have to believe he had help.”

“Sadly, I don't remember much about specific people. I remember a lot of folks being around and having a hand in taking care of me. One of the few I do remember by name is Fred Ayers. He was a lawyer, and I remember him typing on his office typewriter with one finger from each hand, passing out bulletins at church, and then sitting on the chair at the back of the church and appearing to be asleep while leaning the chair against the door frame. I also remember Mr. Ayers at a committee meeting at the parsonage the night Dad had his face cut. Mr. Ayers appeared to be asleep and was snoring. Someone addressed a question to him. He seemed to gather himself together and answered as if he had not been sleeping - or so the memory of an 8 or 9-year-old recalls.”

Mountainair UMC



Mountainair Community Chorus

The Mountainair Community Chorus is gearing up for a concert next summer and we would love to have any Estancia singers, who wish to join us, participate. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the Mountainair Methodist Church at 7:00 pm. Practice will be each Tuesday at 7 PM. There are no auditions and you don't have to read music! We do charge a music fee of about \$10 each. Patty Mahoney is the director, and Mary Jones and Noelle Sharp from the Mountainair congregation sing, so you won't be totally bereft of familiar faces. If you love to sing and laugh (we do a lot of laughing!!!), come check us out. If you can't come to the first rehearsal, come to the second. If you wish more information, call Patty at 384-4157.



EASTER!

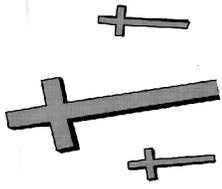
As with almost all "Christian" holidays, Easter has been secularized and commercialized. The dichotomous nature of Easter and its symbols, however, is not necessarily a modern fabrication.

Since its conception as a holy celebration in the second century, Easter has had its non-religious side. In fact, Easter was originally a pagan festival.

The ancient Saxons celebrated the return of spring with an uproarious festival commemorating their goddess of offspring and of springtime, *Eastre*. When the second-century Christian missionaries encountered the tribes of the north with their pagan celebrations, they attempted to convert them to Christianity. They did so, however, in a clandestine manner.

It would have been suicide for the very early Christian converts to celebrate their holy days with observances that did not coincide with celebrations that already existed. To save lives, the missionaries cleverly decided to spread their religious message slowly throughout the populations by allowing them to continue to celebrate pagan feasts, but to do so in a Christian manner.

As it happened, the pagan festival of *Eastre* occurred at the same time of year as the Christian observance of the Resurrection of Christ. It made sense, therefore, to alter the festival itself, to make it a Christian celebration as converts were slowly won over. The early name, *Eastre*, was eventually changed to its modern spelling, Easter.



March 2005

Tear Off

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group	7 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	1 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 7:00pm Mens Ministry	2 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:00 Disciple Bible Study	3 3-5:15 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	4 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	5 7-7:45 Morning Meditation
13 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group	14 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	8 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 7:00pm Mens Ministry	9 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:00 Disciple Bible Study	10 3-5:15 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	11 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	12 7-7:45 Morning Meditation
20 PALM SUNDAY 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group	21 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	15 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 7:00pm Mens Ministry	16 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:00 Disciple Bible Study	17 3-5:15 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	18 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	19 7:AM Men's Breakfast
27 EASTER SUNDAY 10 AM Choir Prac 11 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group	28 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 7:30pm AA	22 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 7:00pm Mens Ministry	23 7-7:45 Morning Meditation 6:00 Disciple Bible Study	24 3-5:15 After School Ministry 7:30pm AA	25 7-7:45 Morning Meditation	26 7-7:45 Morning Meditation
Please see Marcella Reynolds to schedule meetings or activities in the Education Building, 384-2358.						

"Dear Father, Bless the person reading this in whatever it is that you know they need." "Amen!!"



Sent with a prayer to:

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



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CHURCH WINDOWS??

Even though many of us knew that some of the windows in the sanctuary were to be replaced, it was still a shock this past Sunday morning when we arrived at church. Instead of the lovely painted windows we are use to seeing, eight large panes had been replaced with clear glass. The glass was so clean it looked like there was no window! Over time these windows had become cracked and were a hazard. Pictures and drawings have been made so the new windows can be painted as before. The large job of maintaining and repainting the windows has been kept up by Ray Darnell and his family for over 20 years. Each window cost \$50 to replace. If you would like to help with the cost of replacement, any amount will be gladly accepted.

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.