



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

*Church School 9:00 AM
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 by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.



SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR NOVEMBER

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist: Melanie Chavez
Ushers: Julieanne & Ashley Welch
Acolytes: Rose Daniel & Tracy Avery
Greeters: Sylvia Levy & Marilyn Seddon

YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Nov 3: Paige Deborski
Nov 10:
Nov 17:
Nov 24:

KINGS KIDS

Nov 3: Nick Griffo
Nov 10: Susan Wilson
Nov 17:
Nov 24: Leslie Fastnacht

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Nov 3: Paige Deborski
Nov 10:
Nov 17:
Nov 24:



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*The annual stewardship campaign is just around the corner. While I was in the Clovis District, **Sanford Coons**, the new director of the Methodist Foundation presented the pastors with a folder filled with wonderful stewardship materials. I would like to begin to share them with you.*



Pastor's Report

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, had some very distinct ideas on income and giving. It is true that **Wesley** said, in his sermon "The Use of Money" (1760) that one should "earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can." But we have developed a very different outlook on those words than what he originally meant.

In the mid 1780's **Wesley** began to show a growing concern for the future of the people called "Methodist." In August of 1786 he wrote the often quoted words, "I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid, lest they

should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power." By the standards of church growth the movement was strong, yet Wesley felt that there were ominous signs of the movements demise.

The most evident threat, in **Wesley's** eyes, was the growing wealth of the Methodists. Discipleship naturally makes us more diligent and frugal, and as people become more diligent and frugal, wealth increases. His observation was, "Wherever riches have increased (exceeding few are the exceptions), the essence of religion, the mind that was in **Christ**, has decreased in the same proportion.as riches increase, so will pride, anger, and love of the world in all its branches."

Along with wealth, the failure to give, were the most serious threats to the people called Methodist and Christianity in general. **Wesley** pointed out that the Methodists had all but ignored the third point of his sermon on "The Use of Money." Many observed the first two but ignored the third. He believed that he could hardly find 500 of the 50,000 Methodist that adhered to the third rule -- give all you can. He went so far as to say that the one who followed the first two rules without adhering to the third were "twofold more the children of hell than ever they were before."

Wesley taught by example. As a student at Oxford he lived on 28 pounds. He earned 30 pounds. As his earnings increased over the years he continued to live on 28 pounds. When he was earning 120 pounds he gave away 92 pounds. He wrote his sister that he would give away his money as soon as he got it so it would not "find its way into [his] heart." He told people that when he died that if people found him in possession of more than 10 pounds they should call him a robber.

An important secret to revival in the Methodist Church has much to do with the distribution of our wealth. Wesley's rules for the use of money were integral to his basic theological, ethical and missional understanding.

First of all, "Earn all you can." This is not a rationale for aggressive acquisitiveness, which seems to be such a part of today's culture (for example Enron). **Wesley's** idea of earning all you can is within the bounds of God's healing and creative work in the world. He was against destructive ways of earning

money by hurting oneself, others, or the world around us. His understanding of labor was that it is part of our giving, not a means of personal gain.

Having gained all we can by honest means we are to "save all we can." Once again **Wesley's** emphasis was a challenge to the contemporary practice of accumulating and hoarding rather than an endorsement of the practice. He compared those who built large savings accounts as being equal to "throwing your money in the sea." "Save all you can" was Wesley's call to a simplified lifestyle. It was a warning against extravagance and self-gratification. **Wesley's** list of extravagance indicts most of us. Expensive furniture, clothing, entertainment, unnecessary foods and books, and even elegant gardens were all luxuries not necessities. He could never reconcile the acquiring of luxuries while the needs of the poor for necessities went unfulfilled. We would do well in North America to recognize that the opulence we enjoy is extracted from the poor of the world.

Wesley's third rule of stewardship gave meaning to the first two. We are to gain all we can and save all we can so that we can give all we can. Giving for Wesley was rooted in the very nature and activity of God. Giving as an expression of grace and love is the emptying of oneself on behalf of others. Love for God, inevitably involves giving oneself to God and neighbor. One cannot love and fail to give. **Wesley's** rules for giving were shaped by his understanding of God as One who is especially present with the poor. Therefore, **Wesley's** concern for the poor was all encompassing. He preached to them, nurtured them in class meetings, developed free health clinics, schools for the children of the poor, a sewing cooperative, and a lending agency, etc.

Affluence all too often tends to separate us from the poor and in the process separates us from God. Giving to alleviate the suffering of the poor is a joyful passion and a glad participation in Christ's ministry. In God's economy, Christian stewardship is a gift-full living so that all of God's children have a place at the

POT LUCK



Care and Outreach along with PPRC will be hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner Potluck Sunday Nov. 24 after church. Turkey, dressing and gravy will be provided.

-Angela

The Lord's Prayer



You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say "I"; you cannot pray the Lord's prayer and even once say "my"; you cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and not include another; you cannot ask for daily bread and not include your brother; for others are included in each and every plea; from the very beginning it never once says "me."

-Author Unknown

Read Matthew 6:5-15; Mark 11:25-26; Luke 11:2-4. Isn't it interesting how the other gospel writers remembered the prayer Jesus taught the disciples (us) when they ask him how they should pray. When we pray this prayer each Sunday we are praying with Christians through out the world and throughout the ages. And we are praying in one accord.

What is this Outfit Called UMW?

United Methodist women organized to support missions at home and across the world

How is this accomplished?

With your support, of course. You will notice our table in the Education Building with items for sale: Napkins for special occasions, candles, cookbooks, ornaments, and note cards. Also at Christmas and Easter you are asked to buy poinsettias and lilies to decorate the church and take home after the special services. All profits are for the support of missions. So dig deep!! And may God bless you.

-Alma Wimsatt

FROM UMCOR

Donalsonville, Georgia Floods

Donalsonville Flood Recovery Update

The people of Donalsonville are ready to receive work teams to assist in the rebuilding effort following the September flood. Work teams arrived this week from South Georgia churches and congregations from other Annual Conferences. We are blessed to be part of a wonderful connection.

Your help is needed to fully launch the rebuilding process. The rebuilding phase will last for several months. Several groups are already organizing teams for late November and beyond.

WORK TEAMS

United Methodist Churches who would like to send a team into the area should contact, the **Reverend Eric Boomer** at 229-524-2457. They will be looking for adult teams containing one or more person "skilled" in construction. Eric will probably take information about your team's availability and need to contact you later with details about your assignment.

The Reverend Jerry Lott, pastor of Friendship UMC in Donalsonville, reports that arrangements have been made to assist with housing and feeding work teams. You may want to contact **Jerry Lott** for more information. (Church phone: 229-524-2328)

PRAYERS

We solicit your continued prayers for our brothers and sisters in Donalsonville as they rebuild following the flood. For more information, contact **Brad Brady** at brad@sgaumc.com or call (888) 266-7642.

Hurricanes Isidore and Lili

Recovery from Hurricane Isidore continues in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. UMCOR has sent medicine boxes and health kits. Emergency food has been distributed and homes are being rebuilt. This ongoing response prompts these requests: financial gifts to replenish UMCOR's Hurricanes 2002, Advance #901185-6, Hurricanes 2002, medicine boxes, and health kits.

Information about the kits is available on UMCOR's website or by phone at 1-800-554-8583. Information about the The Medicine Box. program is available at <http://gbgm-umc.org/health/medbox/>, where you can request a free instructional packet.

Assessment continues in Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Lili. UMCOR, in concert with the Louisiana Annual Conference, has one volunteer and one staff person on-site. Hardest hit was the Dulac area, where 3000 homes were flooded. This area had also been hit by Hurricane Andrew. The Sager Brown Depot is being used as a service center for the American Red Cross. It is also now a center for volunteers who are cleaning up after the storm,

FROM BISHOP MAX

Some of My Thoughts...

Violence is rapidly becoming a way of life for many people. I am embarrassed and shocked at the number of violent deaths occurring each month here in Albuquerque. Children are abused. Banks are robbed. Drive-by shootings are common. Murder occurs frequently.

A United Methodist laywoman, **Bobbie Sparks**, was presented the **Martin Luther King, Jr.** Peace Prize for her work in the Houston school districts where she promoted peacemaking and stopping the spread of violence. She has brought together lawyers who serve as mediators to help educate the children. The mediators set forth the following ground rules which help school children settle their differences:

- No name calling
- No fighting
- No interrupting
- Everybody's going to listen, and work hard to solve the problem.

As I read the list and thought of children learning how to end the cycle of violence, I wondered why the Church is not employing these "rules" and practices for assisting adults with conflict. How many marriages could be saved, if those "rules" were observed? How many political fights could be stopped, if those "rules" were observed? How many congregations could better focus on their mission of making disciples, if those "rules" were observed?

My mind moved almost immediately to our world crisis. What would happen if those simple "rules" were practiced by world and national leaders? I believe we would have a different world if those simple "rules" were implemented. I have been accused of being naive, and perhaps, I am. However, those simple "rules" sound a great deal like what **Jesus** said and taught.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matt. 5:9). Later he would say, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6:31). What **Jesus** said, seems so simple and easy to understand, and yet so difficult for most of us to do.

What we are doing in most communities and schools is not working. I hope we will try a new approach,

grounded in what **Jesus** taught. Those simple instructions given to children on ways to settle their differences are a great way to start. It just might bring peace to our communities and the world. I can't think of a better way to begin to change the world than by doing it **Jesus'** way.

Grace & Peace,
Max

More of My Thoughts

I will be leaving this weekend for the semi-annual meeting of the Council of Bishops. I am experiencing mixed emotions. My church membership lies in the Council of Bishops. There is the joy of visiting with my colleagues. The worship, covenant groups, and being together bring me great joy.

There will also be sadness. One of our acts of worship will be a Memorial Service. One of the persons we will remember is **Bishop Alsie Carleton**, who died since our last Council meeting. I will always cherish his friendship. His twelve years of service in this Area is remembered with appreciation. There is sadness and sorrow as we remember his death.

One of the reasons for meeting in Puerto Rico is to consult with the Methodist bishops in Central and South America. These bishops are in autonomous Methodist Churches, but our ties are still close. We need to hear and learn from one another. I anticipate that exciting strategies will be developed to enable greater support and strength for our ministries in the Americas.

The cost of meeting in Puerto Rico concerns me. I recognize the importance of meeting on the "home turf" of those we seek to learn from, but the cost still concerns me. I consider your support of the Episcopal Fund, which will pay the expenses, as a sacred trust. We must exercise good stewardship of what has been so sacrificially given.

This will be a particularly challenging Council meeting as we struggle to understand how God is calling us to exert leadership. Many governmental leaders continue to speak of possible war with Iraq. This causes me great pain. **Jesus** demonstrated that his way of dealing with his enemies was to turn the other cheek and pray for those who persecuted him. **Jesus** could have chosen to deal with both the Jewish

leadership and the Roman authority with force. He didn't. I believe sometimes war is necessary, but it is never the first, or even the second option. Please pray for the Council that we can see clearly what Jesus would have us do personally and corporately as we seek to provide moral leadership in the world confronted with terrorism and countries that possess weapons of mass destruction.

My heart and mind will be stretched as I meet with my colleagues from around the world. It is easy to become so focused upon West Texas and New Mexico that I fail to comprehend the tremendous gifts my brothers and sisters from Europe, Africa, and Asia bring to our meetings. The decisions we make not only affect and represent the views of Christians in the United States, but around the world. I need to be reminded that I have brothers and sisters on every continent who are United Methodist.

Finally, I want to end on a different note. I encourage you to vote. Valerie and I participated in "early voting" so we could participate in the democratic process we love so much. When we return from Puerto Rico, the election will be over and we will be spared the continuing barrage of negative, personal attack ads. I wish our politicians would consider for just a few moments what they are teaching our children about telling the truth, the

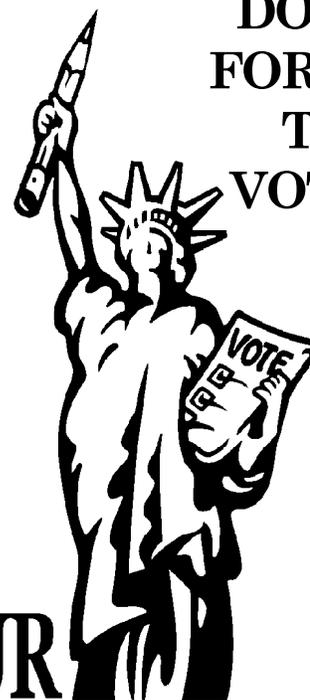
whole truth, and treating others as they desire to be treated. Maybe by our next election those who claim to follow Christ will begin demonstrate the teaching of Jesus in their political campaigns.

THE PILGRIM'S PRAYER

What kind of people were the Pilgrims? Clearly, they were fervent Christians who pursued their dream of religious freedom with a dedicated zeal that never wavered. One hundred one of them crowded into the ship known as the Mayflower and sailed from Lyden, Holland, to a land most of them had never seen. They sailed across a wild churning sea from September 16 to November 21, 1620. A year later, only half of them had survived all of the various afflictions and hardships which came to them.

Nevertheless, they were grateful. They had religious freedom. They had opportunity. They had a New World to explore, develop, inhabit and appreciate. They wanted to thank God. Thus, all who were left, gathered with their Native-American neighbors, and had a joyous celebration of Thanksgiving. It is recorded that they prayed this prayer: "Thanks be to God for the strength which he has given us and the blessing he has provided in bringing us to this hour which is laden with possibilities for the future."

That, of course, would be an appropriate prayer for us, wouldn't it?



**DON'T
FORGET
TO
VOTE!!**

**TUESDAY
NOV 5TH**

**OUR
PRIVILEGE**

CHOIR NEWS

Our choir began practice again in September. We continue regular practice Sunday mornings at 8:45.

At the present time, we are working on Thanksgiving and Christmas music. We invite anyone who likes to sing to join us. We would really like to have you.

See you here!

-Ethel

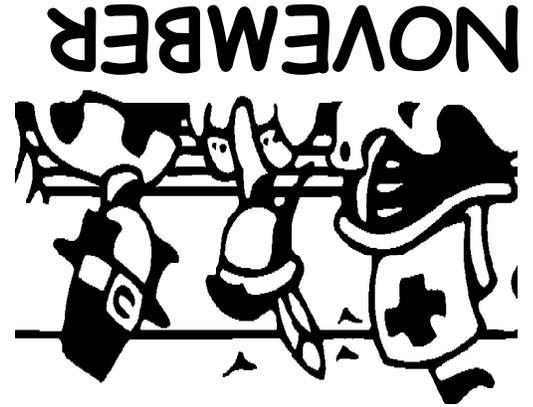
Sunday, Nov. 24th

**Thanksgiving Potluck after church
co-sponsored by PPRC and Care and
Outreach Committees.**

**5:00 PM Thanksgiving Worship Service by
Chip Bryant. Refreshments following the
service provided by UMW**



There are currently 936 seats left (out of 2300).... have you sent in your registration for this exceptional 2003 event? Don't delay!



NOVEMBER

Sent with a prayer to:

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

November 2002

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				31 <u>All Hallow's Eve.</u>	1	2
3 All Saints Sunday 10:00 Worship 11:15 Ad Council 6:pm UMY	4 5:00 pm Logos	5 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group 7:30pm LOGOS Board Meeting	6	7	8 CCYM Sacramento 11/8 - 11/10	9
10 Stewardship Sunday 10:00 Worship 11:30 PPRC 6:pm UMY	11 5:00 pm Logos	12 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Trustees	13	14	15	16 7:am Men's Breakfast
17 Bible Sunday 10:00 Worship 11:30 Worship Comm)IMPT! 6:pm UMY	18 5:00 pm Logos	19 10am Clergy Pray 12:Noon UMW 6:30pm Prayer Group	20	21	22	23
24 UM Student Day 10:00 Worship - Thanksgiving Potluck after Church 5:00pm Thanksgiving Service - Chip Bryant	25 5:00 pm Logos	26 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group	27	28 Thanksgiving Day!	29	30