



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



**NOVEMBER, 2007**



**Pastor: Rev. Gary Eggart**

600 Williams, P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016  
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710  
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**Your Church Staff**

Chairperson of Administrative Council	Marcia Fitzner
Recording Secretary	Carolyn Moore
Lay Leader	Francis Winn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Nick Griffo
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Education Committee	Vicky Dile
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Carolyn Moore
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Melanie Chavez
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Mel Stephenson
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Sylvia Levy
President UMW	Alma Wimsatt
President UMY	TBA
President UMM	Nick Griffo

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield  
 District Superintendent: Rev. Jim Hawk

**Please visit us on the web:**  
<http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/estancia>



**Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**  
**Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM**

**From Pastor Gary**

Thanksgiving has always been one of my favorite holidays. We would load up in the car on Thanksgiving Day and drive 4 1/2 hours to my Uncle Warren's where we would spend the four day weekend. It was great. My cousin Jeanne always got the best seat at the table, the one that had the best view of the TV so she could watch the Cowboys. We would even play football after the game. It would be Jeanne and I against Jim and my brother Danny. One year my aunt Clara's stuffing was green. It tasted good. I have fond memories of Thanksgiving weekend. As we move into the month of November we start to think of Thanksgiving and make plans for the holiday. But do you think of your "Thank You Power?"

Thank You Power, have you heard of it? There is power in saying "thank you." Deborah Norville wrote a book titled "Thank You Power: Making the Science of Gratitude Work for You." It is in thirteenth place on the New York Times best seller list. In this book she is making the case that showing gratitude can help you be healthier, happier and better equipped to deal with stress.

So what do you think about that, *the science of gratitude*? How on earth is saying "thank you" going to help you be healthier and better equipped to deal with stress? Of

course it doesn't matter whether I understand the science of giving thanks and a happier, healthier life. But what I do know and what comes to mind is Psalm 100: 4 **“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.”** There are around 175 verses using the word “thanks.” I do know that I need to give thanks to God. Even a casual reading of Scriptures reveals our need to give thanks to God.

The Albuquerque Journal ran an article about the book. Norville writes in a notebook the things she is thankful for and the majority of the time it is people she is thankful for. Now, that isn't too surprising. If you were to make a list of what you are thankful for, I'll bet family and friends would top the list. We appreciate the things we have, but it is the people we are the most thankful for in our lives.

Most nights as I lay down in bed, I say a prayer, “Thank you God for Amanda.” Who are you thankful for? Take the time to let those people know you are glad they are in your life. And remember to give thanks to God with a grateful heart because He has given you so much, mainly eternal life in Jesus. **“Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.”** (Ps 100:2)

*-Pastor Gary*

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### **Sacramento Methodist Assembly's Columbarium Ministry**

Sacramento Methodist Assembly will soon begin construction on the cap's beautiful campus of a new columbarium. The columbarium will be an enclosed memorial garden next to Bishop's Chapel with niches for urns and engraved plaques for cremated remains. The ministry is offered to United Methodist's families, and friends who have not made other arrangements or who have a special love for SMA. Niches are now being sold at low introductory rates of \$1500.00 each, and half of the payment will go to the SMA endowment at the New Mexico United Methodist Foundation for the long-term maintenance of the columbarium and stability of the Assembly. Check with the church office for brochures. For additional information, you may contact former Assembly director Jim Hengstenberg, who is coordinating the sales of niches: (505) 631-2369.

### **Presented by the Board of Trustees of the New Mexico Annual Conference**

PACT (Property and Casualty Trust of The United Methodist Church) Information Tours is coming November 13. This is a TOUR intended to provide more information about PACT and to address the comments and questions that you have indicated previously as we gather in a church hall meeting setting for conversation and fellowship. The pastor(s), members of the Board of Trustees, Church Council, Finance Committee, and any other interested persons from each church are invited to attend.

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

11:30 a.m. - **Mesa View UMC**, Albuquerque, N.M.

(lunch provided for \$6.00)

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- **Sunday November 11th at 5:30 p.m. Remembering the Persecuted Church.**

A **potluck dinner** will begin the evening followed by a 30 min. program on the persecuted church.

- **Charge Conference is on Tuesday November 13th at 6:00 p.m., Ed. Building.**

### **FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**

The Administrative Board met and made preparations for the upcoming Charge Conference (this is held yearly). The Finance Committee gave an excellent report about our finances and put into place a new budget for next year. We have voted to spend only what is necessary to keep the doors open for the remainder of the year due to the overrun on Vacation Bible School. Because all donations for the year are not in, we thought it would be wise to limit our spending in order to try and stay within budget.



The exciting news is that we will be experiencing an event starting Sunday, Nov. 4th with Dr. Don Crowson. He will be leading us in worship on that Sunday morning and evening, continuing on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with services starting at 7:00PM. There will be a wrap up on Thursday evening with dialogue about where we are as a church, what our gifts are, what we can do or not do in order to do God's work in this community.

Dr. Crowson is a graduate of McMurry University, Asbury Seminary and now works with chemically dependent women and with small churches like us as a general evangelist for his conference.

You may wonder: "Why Should I be Involved?? I am not in a leadership role." I want to remind you that this is OUR CHURCH. Ministers come and go, but this church remains ours, and we have been entrusted to care for it and its people. You have been asked to be God's ambassador in this community and the world. Our hope is that this event will enable us to not only work in this church, but in the world. We are called on to reflect the Christian values in this community and in the world. As you know, this is not always an easy job. Together we can learn to do this and at the same time make our church reflective of these values.

We have been up and down in membership for many reasons so we know that we are very capable of being a strong church. We have many strong members that have kept this church going through thick and thin and remained faithful through it all. Right at this time, if it were not for the folks that clean the church, provide paper goods, and many other things that keep us "living good", the budget could not keep up. Many step forward to provide meals for people when they need help, provide for the food pantry for folks in the community when they meet hard times, make monies available for the feeding of a hundred people on July 4th. Many of those may not even know who is providing for them. This church has a strong base and throughout this evangelical event, we hope to strengthen ourselves as well as the church as a whole.

My prayers are for all of us and Dr. Crowson as we gather and endeavor to make ourselves better equipped to do God's work.

**I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU AT THIS EVENT. WE NEED ALL OF US TO DO THIS. IT IS NOT A ONE PERSON JOB! IT IS UP TO ALL OF US TO WORK TOGETHER TO TAKE OUR CHURCH FORWARD.**

**Reminder:** We will have dinner on Sunday evening starting at 5:30 pm in preparation for the 7:00 pm service. More information will be forthcoming.

**NOTE: The trustees have asked that if you make a donation to our church's building fund, that you specify "New building fund" on your payment.**

**Following is a short biography from Dr. Crowson and a schedule of events for his visit:**

Dr. Don Crowson is a native of Lubbock, Texas and a graduate of McMurry University in Abilene, Texas. Don holds a Masters of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. While in seminary, Don served as the Evangelism Committee Chairperson for ICHTHUS Ministries for four years, Student Body Chaplain, and was co-recipient of the Frank Bateman Award for Excellence in Preaching for the graduating class of 1992. Don received his Doctor of Ministry in 1998 from Lake Charles Bible Seminary. Don has pastored churches in Texas, Kentucky, and Georgia. He is an Ordained Elder in the Kentucky Annual Conference. He served as a General Evangelist for the United Methodist Church for 5 years preaching throughout the United States, Central America, Europe, and Africa. Don is in his 10th year with Building Block Ministries, Inc. Don and his wife, Mary, live in Dublin, Georgia with their two children Ginny and Christian.

***Schedule of Events***

- Sunday Nov 4th** - Morning Worship 9:00AM  
 Evening Pot Luck Dinner 5:30PM  
 Evening Worship 7:00PM
- Monday Nov 5th** - Evening Worship 7:00PM
- Tuesday Nov 6th** - Evening Worship 7:00PM
- Wed. Nov 7th** - Evening Worship 7:00PM
- Thurs. Nov 8th** - Dialogue Session (consultation) 7:00PM

**CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2007**

How time flies! The next time you look around, it will be Christmas! The cleaning committee decided to break up December into 4 segments. You may sign up for one week and help our sanctuary and education building look nice for Christ's birthday. Those who are signed up for a month already, please let others have a chance to feel good about helping out. Thanks!! (Sign up sheet in Educ. Bldg.)

**November.....Susan & Sam Wilson**

**December.....week thru Dec. 2 - Fitzners**

*week thru Dec. 16 -*

*week thru Dec. 23 -*

*week thru Dec. 30 -*

***EUMC Mans Float in Punkin Chunkin Parade***

***Pictures by Gayle Clark***



Thanks to Gayle & Lowell for again providing their beautiful matched team and wagon for another special church event!



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***Methodist Children's Home in Waco***

October 22, 2007

**Dear Fellow Laborers for Christ,**

Once again it has been my privilege to serve as your Albuquerque District Clergy Commissioner to the Methodist Children's Home (MCH) in Waco, which serves children and their families throughout the states of Texas and New Mexico. Each year in early October commissioners are invited to the Waco campus to see the tangible fruit of MCH's labors, which is hundreds of precious children saved – physically and spiritually – from being lost, both in this world and for eternity.

I really wish that each of you could meet and talk with some of these children. Their stories are often more graphic and chilling than anything you'll find on TV or even in today's R-rated movies. And the difference that MCH has made in their lives is almost incredible. God's grace and human labors have combined to accomplish miracle after miracle. And each miracle is a young human being's life restored – to dignity and purpose now and, in most cases, to fellowship with Jesus Christ forever.

As a pastor I fully realize that we all receive dozens of “special appeals” each fall. Until I became an MCH Commissioner, the Methodist Children's Home in Waco was just one of many such. But now that I've seen what it does, I'm an evangelist for MCH. I strongly encourage you to put Methodist Children's Home at the top of your list for “Christmas holiday” attention and giving this year. It's one of the very best things our church does; it helps maintain my pride in United Methodism as a whole.

If there's anything I can do to help you promote Methodist Children's Home in your local church this fall, please call me. If I can't help myself, I'll do my best to find someone for you who can. Grace and blessings!

Sincerely, in Christ,

Dave Ring, Pastor  
Los Alamos First United Methodist Church

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***From Cheryl Hicks...***

Received word today of an upcoming recognition event in the life of one of our NM Conference UMC Chaplains. **Chaplain (Major) William E. Constantine, USAF**, will be honored at a Retirement Ceremony on November 29, 2007, at 3 pm, at the Base Chapel of Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington. We extend our prayerful blessings to Bill and his family on the safe completion of many years of loving outreach to the thousands of troops with whom he crossed paths at home and abroad during his service career. Your personal words of celebration may be sent to him at 5984 Kamiakin Trail, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011.

### **Finance Committee:**

As reported to the Administrative Council on October 15, 2007, the financial status for the year is of some concern due to the fact that our expenses thru September 30, 2007 are approximately \$6,300.00 more than our income. This overage can be attributed to three activities: \$2,500.00 for the Congo Scholarship, approximately \$1,800.00 of dedicated funds that were not budgeted, and \$2,235.00 for Vacation Bible School when only \$500.00 was budgeted. It is very apparent that our income for the year will not match what we budgeted let alone the incurred expenses to-date plus the cost for the fourth quarter. We need a significant increase in giving and/or a reduction in expenses.

The Administrative Council chose to reduce expenses to only essential items and reduce the pastor's continuing education to \$1,000.00. In addition, we will make an effort to encourage increasing our giving.

The 2008 Budget was adopted as presented with the exception of reducing the pastor's continuing education to \$1,000.00. The Council also agreed to the following recommendations made by the Finance Committee: 1) All elected members to a church committee are to be mandated to read The Book of Discipline, especially the chairperson and to read that section that pertains to their committee; 2) The Administrative Council will prepare written instructions to team leaders on their respective budgets and how the budgets need to be adjusted prior to incurring any additional expenses; 3) Advise the Church Treasurer not to pay invoices/bills that have not been approved per The Book of Discipline, Part V, paragraph 262.4 f.

*-Mel Stephenson, Finance Chairman*




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### **THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS**

#### **From Mother Teresa:**

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;  
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of having selfish, ulterior motives;  
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, others may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;  
Do it anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;  
It never was between you and them . . . anyway.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving.





# November 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	5	6 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	7 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Womens Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	12	13 11:30 AM PACT Meeting Mesa View UMC 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7:PM TRUSTEES	14 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Womens Bible Study	15	16 7 AM Men's Breakfast	17
18 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	19	20 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	21 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Womens Bible Study	22	23	24
25 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mtair	26	27 Pastor Gary in Mountainair 9 AM Womens Bible Study 7 PM Men's Bible Study	28 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Womens Bible Study	29	30	

**REMEMBER:**

- Sunday Nov 4th - Thurs Nov 8th: Spiritual Life Conference with Dr. Don Crowson
- Sunday Nov 11th - The Persecuted Church 5:30 PM Potluck Dinner & Program
- Please see Marcella Reynolds to schedule meetings or activities in the Education Building, 384-2358.

# NOVEMBER



*Sent with a prayer to:*

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

Several people have asked for Amanda's recipe for the chicken dish served at the Pastor's Dinner on Wednesday, October 3rd...

### *Chicken Rice Casserole*

2 cups minute rice  
1 envelope dry onion soup  
Sprinkle this in bottom of pan  
Mix together in bowl:  
2 cans water  
1 can cream of mushroom soup  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
(another can if desire)  
Pour this over the rice mixture and stir  
add chicken pieces to top  
(we used thighs, but legs and breasts work too)

Cook for 2 hours at 325 degrees  
Stir occasionally

#### 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.