



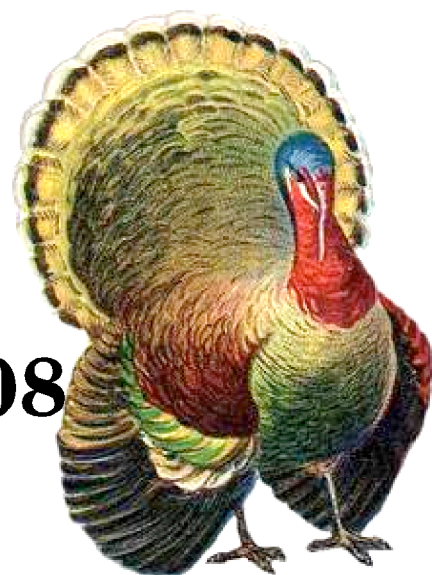
**NEWSLETTER**  
OF THE  
**Estancia United Methodist Church**  
*600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico*



**NOVEMBER, 2008**



**Nov. 2**



***Pastor: Rev. Charles Spooner***

600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016

Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710

email: spoonernote@gmail.com

**Your Church Staff**

Chairperson of Administrative Council

Recording Secretary

Lay Leader

Organist

Lay Member of the Annual Conference

Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference

Chairperson: Board of Trustees

Worship Team Leader

Education Team Leader

Chairperson: Missions

Chairperson: Evangelism

Care and Outreach Team Leader

Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations

Chairperson: Finance Committee

Financial Secretary

Church Treasurer

President UMW

President UMY

President UMM

Marcia Fitzner

Carolyn Moore

Francis Winn

Morrow Hall

Nick Griffo

Marcia Fitzner

Bill Simms

Pam Lambert

Leslie Fastnacht

Marcia Fitzner

Nick Griffo

Carolyn Moore

Melanie Chavez

Mel Stephenson

Vickie Coburn

Sylvia Levy

Alma Wimsatt

TBA

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***

**SPOONOTE****Thanks Giving Month:**

Who would have thought November is here already and plans have been laid for Thanksgiving Day? Not me! As I think back I tried to remember some wonderful, magical and cute concept to share today. The one idea I seem to recall is that in some old English transliteration the word thank came out think. Well, if we are intentional with reflecting about what we are thankful for we have to think! Stop to Think? Let's see where this goes... STOP TO THINK!



1. Before you speak, STT, what would be the most helpful?
2. Before you speak, STT, have you really listened to others?
3. Before you complain, STT, do you know all the facts?
4. Before you celebrate, STT, is it because you look down on others?
5. Before you share, STT, is it really for you to tell?
6. Before you berate, STT, have you helped the person to succeed?
7. Before you judge God, STT, have you really lived God's way and truth?
8. Before Thanksgiving, SST, have you really surveyed the blessing you have?
9. Before \_\_\_\_\_, SST, \_\_\_\_\_?

## **Finance Committee**

In developing the church's budget for 2009, we thought it appropriate to share with the congregation the finance situation for 2008. We started the year with a bank balance of approximately \$12,200.00. This large balance was due to a very large donation in October 2007. However, our expenses exceeded our income by just over \$3,300.00 in the first quarter of 2008. The reason for this was because the Finance Committee and Administrative Council agreed to pay the total property insurance premium, just over \$3,200.00, in February 2008 to save the penalty for paying monthly installments. In the second and third quarters of 2008 our income exceeded our expenses by a total of approximately \$900.00. In addition, it appears that our expenses for all of 2008 will be significantly below the 2008 budget. Our bank balance, as of September 30, 2008, was approximately \$9,700.00.



The Administrative Council approved several changes to the 2008 budget during the year with the most significant being in July 2008 for the pastoral change in June. The new pastor's compensation package is somewhat less than the package approved for the 2008 budget.

*-Mel Stephenson, Chairman*

## **Stained Glass Project**

There has been progress in the stained glass project as the first interior window has been completed and installed. Phil Levy has finished stripping the paint on the first set of windows and will be applying stain shortly. The sketches for these two windows, Jesus in the Garden and a Methodist Cross, has been completed and the pattern making will start shortly after the Stained Glass Panel meeting to discuss the path forward. In addition, Della and Mel have finished the glass inventory and sorting the glass by color and design.

Three people, Ruthie Moon, Jan Cool, and Mel Stephenson have signed-up to take a class on stained glass painting and firing on November 11, 2008 in Albuquerque. Each participant has offered to pay their own class fees, which will save the church \$750.00. They will lead in all our painting needs and teach others that may be interested in glass painting. This technique of painting stained glass and then firing the glass will make the painting as permanent as the glass itself. Firing of the glass will be done in the kiln at the same place where we take the training at a cost of \$15.00 per firing.

We are hoping to start working at the glass shop ("Shaw's Cafe" on Main Street) Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays starting next week, November 3, 2008 from 9:00 AM to about 4:00 PM. This will give those that want to help an opportunity to get in some meaningful time.

*-Mel*

**Dear Pastor,**

I would like to go to heaven someday because I know my brother won't be there.  
Stephen. Age 8, Chicago

**Dear Pastor,**

Please say a prayer for our Little League team. We need God's help or a new pitcher. Thank you.  
Alexander. Age 10, Raleigh

## ***FUNDING OUR WINDOW PROJECT***

Our Board of Trustees has decided the most appropriate way to fund our Stained Glass Window Project is through memorial contributions. This will make it possible for members and friends of the church to create a lasting tribute to celebrate the life of a loved one who has passed away or to honor a friend or loved one. Your tax deductible donation, whether or not you remember or honor someone, will help purchase the glass, tools, and supplies necessary to complete our church windows replacement project. There are about 50 windows to be replaced of greatly varying sizes and complexity. Therefore, the cost per window varies greatly, probably from around \$300 to \$600. Because of this wide cost variability, we will not be “selling windows.” but just taking donations for the project. Memorials and honorees will be placed on brass plaques near the window sills at the base of the window groupings.

If you would like to make a tax deductible *Memorial* or *Honor* Donation to the Stained Glass Window Project please send your donation, payable to: the Estancia United Methodist Church along with: (1) your complete mailing address to receive a receipt, (2) the name (as you would like to have it read) of the person you are remembering or honoring i.e., “In Honor of Mary Smith” or, “In Memory of Mary Smith” and (3) make a notation that your contribution is for the Stained Glass Project.

Please mail your donation along with the appropriate information to:

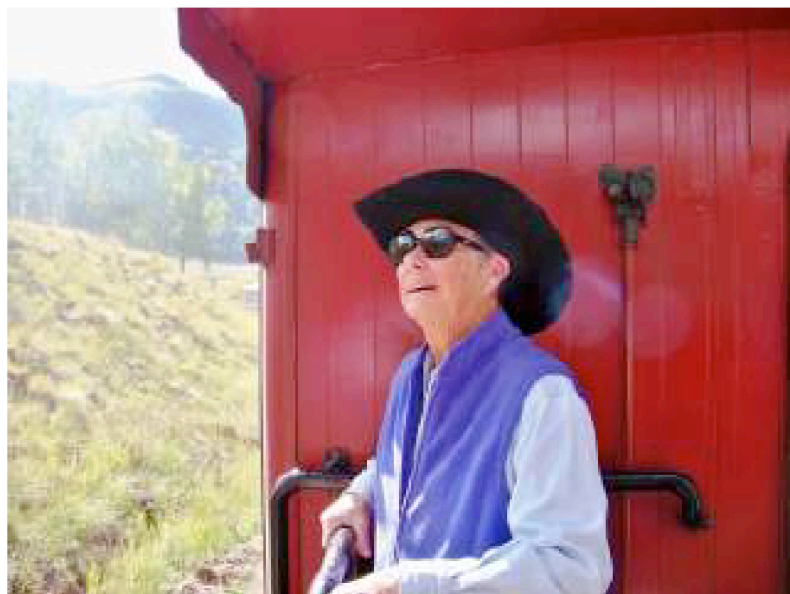
**Estancia United Methodist Church  
Board of Trustees  
P. O. Box 126  
Estancia, NM 87016**



**Mel Stephenson installing the first stained glass window!**

### **Train Ride To See Fall Foliage**

The weekend of September 27, a large group from our church took a trip to Chama to ride the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad. Below are some photos of the trip submitted by Gail Clark.



### **In Case You Hadn't Noticed...**

The Trustees will be installing a combination carport-storage unit at the parsonage in the next couple of weeks. Below is a picture of Jayson Fastnacht cleaning up the concrete pad in preparation for the installation.



### **The Methodist Men Makeover Mission (M4)**

The Methodist Men are now involved in two projects, the makeover of the church windows with new stained glass and the outreach project at Gaylyn's home. The windows project is church-wide and the Methodist Men expect to be heavily involved in this project in the near future. An example of the stained glass work has been installed in the sanctuary in the skylight area and one large window frame facing the entrance is ready for final staining.

The project at Gaylyn's home has completed work on the front door (see picture below of the satisfied customer). The front window to the living room is now sealed and ready for painting. The trash in the side yard and back yard is essentially gone. Work is now underway to repair the cook stove and clean up the cooking area.

- Jon Shively



## ***Make a Parachute for Colombia***

### **The Spiritual Battle for Columbia**

For more than 40 years, FARC (leftist) guerillas have waged war against village leaders, pastors and businessmen across Colombia. Twenty-two years ago, at the age of 14, Russell Stendal began using his motorcycle to deliver Christian literature to the guerillas to change their hearts and minds. Today, as a pilot, he goes deeper into the jungle using parachutes to drop Christian literature, Bibles and shortwave radios pre-set to Christian broadcast stations. When we called him he told us he needed “tens of thousands” more parachutes!

Will you and your friends help us make some parachutes? You can make this a fun group activity!

This “manna from heaven,” is well received. We need more!

To learn more about VOM's (Voice of the Martyrs) Colombia work and Russell Stendal go to [www.persecution.com/newsletter](http://www.persecution.com/newsletter) and look under the October Newsletter link.

1. Pray for Colombia as you make the parachutes.
2. Send \$3 with parachute to help with aviation fuel, shipping, Bibles and shortwave radios that are dropped into guerrilla camps.



June Spooner holding parachute pattern

# **FABULOUS FALL FLING**

**A**

***Bazaar Happening***

**November 22, 2008**

**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**ESTANCIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Lunch served 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Arts & Crafts**

**Bake Sale**

**White Elephants**

**Bazaar items too numerous to mention**

(For more information on contributions or how you can help, please contact June Spooner at 384-2710, Jan Winn at 384-2580 or Della Stephenson at 384-4223.)

# November 2008

Sunday

Monday

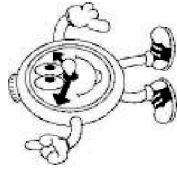
Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



**Fall Back Nov 2**



<b>2</b> 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mfair	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:am Quilters  6:30 PM Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>9</b> 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mfair	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:am Quilters  6:30 PM Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>16</b> 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mfair	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:am Quilters  6:30 PM Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10 AM EUMC Bazaar
<b>23</b> 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mfair	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:am Quilters  6:30 PM Bible Study	<b>27</b> <div>THANKSGIVING</div>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - Mfair						

# NOVEMBER



*Sent with a prayer to:*



*Estancia United Methodist Church  
P. O. Box 126  
Estancia, NM 87016*

## **Thanksgiving Prayer: Is there an official Thanksgiving Prayer?**

A Thanksgiving prayer brings to mind a festive table filled with turkey, cranberries, and other traditional dishes. Families surround the table with mouths watering as young cousins eyeball pumpkin pies with whipped cream. Before the turkey is carved, the family joins hands with heads bowed and offers words of thanks for the meal spread before them.

There is no official 'Thanks to God' but prayers of gratitude have been offered since long before the 1620 American tradition began. It is the source by which the Pilgrims decided to begin with a prayer of thanks at this historic feast shared with the Wampanoag Indians. Years later, both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln made Thanksgiving history with their Thanksgiving proclamations.

## **Thanksgiving Prayer: Where did the idea come from?**

For a way to express their thankfulness for survival and the first harvest, the deeply religious Pilgrims looked to the Bible. They found the celebrated Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot), or Feast of Ingathering. The ingathering of Israelites (delivered from the desert of Sinai) and their harvest were celebrated in this feast and is the most joyous of all feasts still today (Leviticus 23).

Another reference to giving thanks is found in the account of 'setting' what Samuel called the Ebenezer Stone. This was a memorial to remind them to be grateful for God's help during an attack from the Philistines (1 Samuel 7:10-12). Actually, the Bible speaks of giving thanks nearly from cover to cover. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says "No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

All early celebrations had one common theme -- God. Thanksgiving was directed toward God, their Creator, Protector, and Provider. They believed that all good things ultimately came from Him as they do today. Other verses that include thanks can be read in Psalm 100:4, Psalm 105:1 and 1 Corinthians 15:57.