



**NEWSLETTER
OF THE
Estancia United Methodist
Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico
<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>**



NOVEMBER, 2014

Pastor: Rev. Bonnie Hardesty
600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016
Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
Pastor Bonnie: 505-271-0486
email: bjharde1@msn.com

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Melanie Chavez
Recording Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Elaine Darnell
Lay Leader	Elaine Darnell
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Worship Team Leader	Julie Griffio
Education	Julie Griffio & Melanie Chavez
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Nick Griffio
Food Pantry	Butch McGee
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Nick Griffio
McMurry Rep	Julie Griffio
Sacramento Camp Rep	Melanie Chavez

Bishop: Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe

District Superintendent: Rev. James E. Large

Visit our website at:

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>

From the Desk of...

Pastor Bonnie

Have you ever stood on the brink of a great decision and suddenly, inexplicably, sensed a voice saying, “Jump,” or “Don’t do it,” or “Turn left NOW!” or “You are so loved” or ...? Have you ever felt a presence with you that somehow provided shelter, wisdom, insight, even superhuman strength in a time of dire need? If your answer is YES, then you’ve experienced an encounter with *the great cloud of witnesses*. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews says, “*Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles; and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...*” Hebrews 12:1-2

Those who’ve passed on to glory, having professed faith in Christ, and having lived a life worthy of the children of God, have become a part of that *great cloud of witnesses*. These are the dear departed **loved ones who cheer us on in this life!** They are REAL. They are the nearly audible voices that whisper in our ears, that make our innards quiver, that provide shelter, wisdom, insight, and inspiration, often at times we least expect it... in order to encourage our walk with Christ in this world.

November is a month of remembrance... All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Christ the King Sunday. Take a moment to remember and give thanks for those who are watching over YOU... and especially for Christ, *the author and perfecter of our faith*.

- Pastor Bonnie



Celebrating the Great Cloud of Witnesses - All Saints Day 2014

Members of Our Congregations:

Gayle Clark, Shirley Simmons

Relatives and Friends:

Infant of April Armijo

Angie, Aunt of Robert Chavez

Carl, great uncle of Lee Widner

Clint

David Simms, Bill Simms' Uncle

Penny's father, Bill Simms' daughter-in-law's father

Riva, beloved daughter of Alma Wimsatt

Armon Austin, father of Bonnie Thomas

Naomi Baer, friend of Addie Dile

Carol Baker

Mother of Darren Barela

Barbara Cavassos, Great Aunt of Julie Morales

Ted Chamberlin, sang in Patty's choir at St. Ansgar's

Rev. Edwin Chappell

Mary Lou Childers, Patty's aunt

Nadia & Lonnie Clouse, friends of Addie Dile

Zaida Jo Autry Coker

Roscoe Cook, friend of Vickie Coburn

Barbara Condon, mother of Kathy and Shorty Martinez

Ray Craig, husband of Rev. Layloni Drake

Chereen Fritz, guest of Sabbath House

Agatha Garrison, beloved friend of Butch McGee

Rev. E. Leonard Gillingham

Don Glass, friend of Addie Dile

John Griego

Donnie Guyer, friend of Addie Dile

Linda Hooper, friend of Addie Dile, Eric's mother
Paul Kayser, Musician & friend

Janice Kenne, friend of Wanda Giovengo

Juanita Lopez

Frank Maes

Esther, mother of Andy Otis

Peggy Ortiz, Natalie & Naomi's Mother

Victoria Parra, age 19

Kendra Partin

Jeannette Self

Max Simmons

Ollin Solomon, brother of Galen

Phillip Stowe

Gil Torres

Mr. Valdez (house fire)

Johnny Walker

Sasha & Billy Wells, beloved friends of Nancy

Karlsberger

Edy Zelinski, Patty's artistic neighbor

Tragic Losses:

Ebola Victims

Jim Foley, Christian journalist, victim of terrorism

Crew and Passengers of Malaysian Flt 17 & Other Aircraft

Nelson Mandela

Victims of the typhoon in the Philippines & tornadoes in the Midwest

100's of Passengers on the capsized Korean ferry

School Shooting victims

Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday Family Nights – are a Hit! Join Us !!

4:30–6:30 pm in Estancia's Fellowship Hall. Focus in November will shift to prep for Advent & Christmas! Format remains:

- Potluck Supper
- Adult Bible Study
 - 1 Lessons based on 'The Story'
 - 1 Participants' books cost \$5 each, cost-offsetting contributions are welcomed!
- Youth / Children Fellowship
 - 1
 - a Minute-to-Win-It
 - 1 Video Bible Lesson
 - 1 Singing & Playing (chimes in the sanctuary)

Coming Up...

Sunday, Nov. 9 – Ad Councils Compile & Sign Forms in preparation for Charge Conference. Mountainair meets immediately after Worship. Estancia @ 1:30pm.



Sunday, Nov. 16 - Ad Councils - Healthy Church Initiative conversation @3pm;
Charge Conference @ 4:30pm in Estancia.

Baby Shower to Welcome Baby Reagan Lavon Widner- Date to be Announced

Spiritual / Educational Retreats... is God calling you?

Emmaus Walks: 11/13 - 11/16 Thursday thru Sunday: Women's Walk, Madonna Center in ABQ (Handicapped Accessible)

Lay Servants' School: 11/7 - 11/8 Friday evening thru Saturday: First UMC ABQ; Hotel Hardesty is available for layovers in Albuquerque!

Want some great straight-forward, convincing arguments for your faith in God's Word? Read the following articles by Jason and Ron Carlson (on back) and John Bishop... and then share some thoughts with others!

Jesus Would Hire Who You Haven't

by John Bishop

If you take some time to study the Scriptures and stop to consider the people chosen by God to change history, it's a bit surprising. Noah, though a righteous man in his day, struggled with a bit too much drinking in his older years, yet he was used by God to save humankind. Jonah was a coward, yet he was chosen to preach to Israel's enemies. Moses was a murderer with an anger disorder, yet he was used to lead God's people out of Egypt. David was both a murderer and an adulterer, yet he was still the only individual in Scripture described as a man after God's own heart. Jeremiah struggled with depression, and Rahab was a prostitute. These are just a few of the men and women that God used to change the course of history.

Apparently, God has different criteria than we do when selecting people for His purposes. In fact, that's exactly what God tells the prophet Samuel, as we read in 1 Samuel 16:7:

"The Lord said to Samuel, 'Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'"

A day without laughter is a day wasted!

More Church Ladies with Typewriters...

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Trunk or Treat 2014 was...

fun

Fashionable



... a little bit

FREAKY !



flashy

And a good time was had by ALL THANKS to Everyone who made it a Success !!!
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On Friday, October 31, 2014 the Estancia United Methodist Church had their annual trunk or treat. Hot dogs, chips, drinks, s'mores and games were enjoyed by kids as well as adults in the community. Thanks to everyone who participated in the decorating of the trunks, dressing up and handing out goodies.





It's all about Perspective

God works in mysterious ways. I know I have complained a lot about being tired, overwhelmed, frustrated, overworked, body aches, etc., etc. I believe that complaining and whining is a habit of mine. I began realizing that complaining was not helping me feel any better; it was making me feel worse and less productive. Around the same time I began realizing the “errors in my thinking,” I was working with classrooms of students to help them make better decisions about their lives and education. The more I worked with them, the more I realized some of the students were not making progress because of their perspective about life. According to Sean Covey in “*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*”, we choose to adopt a proactive or reactive approach to life. A **reactive person** complains, whines, acts like a victim and blames others. A **proactive person** looks for solutions, does not take daily hassles to heart, does not take offense to the moods and actions of others, and is a problem solver.

On Sunday, Pastor Bonnie talked about the choices we make when we view the world and our daily experiences. What timing! Her sermon was about Moses’ and Joshua’s perspectives as they drew near the Promised Land, and our interpretation of the story. When we think about the opportunities Moses had throughout his life, especially as he served God and His people, we see how incredible his relationship with God was. Perhaps instead of feeling bad because Moses was not permitted to enter the Promised Land, we should be glad for all the things he did do through God.

I began thinking of my own experience with perspective. Each of us has the choice to look at the glass as **half full** or **half empty**. Each of us has the choice to believe that God is with us or not. Each of us have the choice about how we experience life. We can look for the good, the opportunities to do God’s work (which includes the decision to rest without feeling guilty), to be happy and to be content with the peace of God. Or, we can choose to be miserable.

When I pull myself out of my own pity party and serve others, I feel much better. Serving God by helping others allows me to find energy I didn’t know I had. I feel more happy and content. The fastest way out of my own misery is to look upward, garner the strength that God gives me, and help others.

I wonder if that is how Moses felt.

-Melanie

From the Membership Committee:

If you have a new PO Box, address or new telephone number (such as a cell phone as opposed to a land line in your home) would you please contact Carolyn Moore or myself—Terry Ann Moore at 384-2616 with the new information. If you are unable to come to Sunday worship the first Sunday of the month, let us know and we will mail you a newsletter.

Come by and leave a message on our Facebook page at Estancia United Methodist Church. -Carolyn Moore

From the Worship Committee:

This is the time of year when we begin to get ready for Thanksgiving and Advent. We have beautiful decorations and we will set a time to decorate the church. This year we want to add a new item to our decorations and that is a family wreath from each family. We would like for you to make a wreath, using the average sized wreath or another item like a cowboy hat or a rope, or a hanger.. Each family will "adopt" the end of a pew or another part of the church, to hang your wreath on the Sunday we ask you to bring them. This year the theme will be: What does Christmas mean to me/us? An example of how the wreath can be decorated is one could put a small manger scene in the middle part. You could wrap greenery or synthetic greenery, as some may be allergic to real greenery. You could find an old photo of your family at one of your favorite Christmas gatherings. You could write on a piece of paper the titles of some of your favorite Christmas hymns like "Away in the Manger" or a song like "Feliz Navidad" You could, of course, put candy canes on it or a recipe off your most traditional food you serve every year at this time.. Use your imagination. We are thinking of asking you to bring them on Sunday, Nov. 30th. Help us to decorate all the pews (we can!) and other places, as well. We ask you leave the wreaths at church until after the Christmas Eve Worship Service. If you have any questions, please talk to Julie Griff, Terry Ann Moore or Pastor Bonnie.

-Rev. Terry Ann Moore

Congratulations Wideners!

God has sent us a new little angel to Tamma and Lee Widner and big brother Landon!

So we would like to invite EVERYONE to a "Welcome to our World" baby shower that will be held sometime in mid November in the Fellowship Hall. Tamma says that the colors in the nursery are green, blue and pink. There are sea creatures painted on the walls of the nursery. So we hope that all the women and men in the church will help us welcome this beautiful little girl into our family.

Bethel Report-by Terry Ann Moore

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our Executive Director, Linda Smith, we would like to thank everyone who has donated money, items and food to the Bethel Community Storehouse. We would also like to thank those who have come and participated in our programs. Of course, we thank you for shopping in our store. In case you do not know, many of the items that are donated are brand new, often with tags still on them and / or they are gently used. Items that are donated have to pass inspection before being put on shelves. Anything that does not pass inspection is sent to other programs who make use of it, therefore, we recycle.

Coming up, we have the following opportunities that would help us feed Christ's sheep:

1. We have a food drive to fill boxes for the holidays.
2. We are in need of some nice items for children to be able to purchase at a reduced price for the adults in their family, and we really need items for men.
3. We are in need of toys for the parents to purchase for their children.
The toys can be dropped off at Bethel or at The Lions Club. If possible new toys would be nice to receive, but we will also take gently used toys as well.
4. Monetary donations are accepted as well.

Do you have a car that is just sitting in your yard, collecting cob webs? Or are you considering purchasing a new car and are not sure what to do with the one you are driving now? Please consider donating your vehicle to our new Vehicle Donation Program. Donate your unwanted vehicle to Bethel's Donation Program--Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program. We provide free vehicle pick-up regardless of your vehicle's condition. All donations are tax deductible.

Do not forget our special days and programs. We have services for many but especially for Senior Citizens and the disabled. We have all books 1/2 off on Saturday, and on "Wacky Wednesday", we have various Specials!

We are in need of volunteers! We need people to help us process the donations we have been so blessed to receive. Please, prayerfully consider coming to give a part of your time. If you only have an hour a week, come!

If you are not sure what you can do, come and find out. All volunteers, before starting, need to attend the training held on Thursday morning at 10 am.

To give you an idea of how many people are served through Bethel, below is the Client Service Report for July 2014. As an example: Total # of people helped—2027 which =841 families; Regular food-909 people which = 279 families; Senior program-325 people which =251 families; Disabled program-460 people which =283 families; Total # of people for food-1,894 which equals 813 families

Total food distributed -24,700 pounds valued at \$5,758.35

New Clients -383 people - equalling 156 families

Volunteer hours-1,457

Total value of service given \$9,110.90

Again, we thank you for all that you do to support Bethel. EUMC is one of 11 churches that has a representative on the Bethel Board.

Here is a list of our Board of Directors for your information:

Vincent Montano, President from the Estancia Valley Catholic Parish, Bernadine Dial, first Vice President from the First Baptist Church of Estancia; Diana Bushnell, Second Vice President from the Victory Faith Fellowship; Colleen Geib, Secretary who is from the Valley View Christian Church; Ray Tucker, Treasurer from the Church of the Holy Cross along with Linda Smith, Executive Director who is from the Woodsend Church.

Members of the Board are: Peter Straker who represents the volunteers , Bryan Hackett from the Woodsend Church, a representative from the Bethel United Methodist Church (to be filled), Clyrice Leasure from the Estancia Assembly of God, John Nash from the Stanley Union Church and Terry Ann Moore from the Estancia United Methodist Church.

Bethel's contact information is:

Bethel Community Storehouse
P.O. Box 968
Moriarty, NM 87035
Phone: 505-832-6642
Fax: 505-832-4609

Physical Address: 1719 4th Street, Moriarty, NM 87035 We are located on Hwy 41, one mile South of Route 66. Sign up to receive our Newsletter via e-mail at contact@bethelstorehouse.org (type newsletter in the subject line). If I can answer any questions you might have about Bethel, please let me know at 384-2616 and if I do not know the answer, I will find someone who does.

-Rev. Terry Ann

Ever thought about becoming involved in Mission Work?

We have two GREAT OPPORTUNITIES !!!

BETHEL STOREHOUSE in Moriarty is in need of new and gently used toys and clothing suitable for Christmas gift-giving. Help bring joy to a child this Christmas – make a donation! Or come to the store and help prepare items for shelving. Questions? Call Bethel Storehouse Board Member Terry Ann Moore at 384-2616.

SACRAMENTO METHODIST ASSEMBLY in Sacramento, New Mexico is in need of volunteers. Help is needed in restoration of forest trails, general forest rehabilitation, light construction work, landscape work, assisting in operations and food service as needed. Teams are bunked in dorms and meals are provided. Cost is \$25.00/day for lodging and meals. Help is needed year round. See the website at www.sacramentoassembly.org. For more information please contact 800-667-3414 or info@sacramento.org



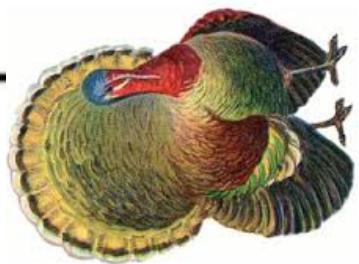
Youth Leading the Praise Music Last Sunday, Oct 26,2014



Kings Kids Last Sunday, Oct 26,2014

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
29 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	3	4	5	6	7	8
				4:30 - 6:30 pm Family Night		
9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair 1:30 pm Ad Council	10	11	12	13	14	15
				4:30 - 6:30 pm Family Night		
18 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair 3:00 pm Ad Council 4:30 pm CHARGE Conference	17	18	19	20	21	22
				4:30 - 6:30 pm Family Night		
29 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	24	25	26	27	28	29
				4:30 - 6:30 pm Family Night		
30 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair						
						Notes:





Send with a prayer to:



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

Is the Bible the Inspired Word of God?

by Jason Carlson and Ron Carlson, 2011

During a question and answer session at a recent speaking engagement, a university student asked me, "Why do you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God?" In answering this student's question, I encouraged him to consider the following facts about the Bible:

First, the Bible is not just one single book. The Bible is actually a collection of 66 books, which is called the canon of scriptures. These 66 books contain a variety of genres: history, poetry, prophecy, wisdom literature, letters, and apocalyptic, just to name a few.

Second, these 66 books were written by 40 different authors. These authors came from a variety of backgrounds: shepherds, fishermen, doctors, kings, prophets, and others. And most of these authors never knew one another personally.

Third, these 66 books were written over a period of 1,500 years. Yet again, this is another reminder that many of these authors never knew or collaborated with one another in writing these books.

Fourth, the 66 books of the Bible were written in 3 different languages. In the Bible we have books that were written in the ancient languages of Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic; a reflection of the historical and cultural circumstances in which each of these books were written.

And finally, these 66 books were written on 3 different continents: Africa , Asia , and Europe . Once again, this is a testament to the varied historical and cultural circumstances of God's people.

Think about the above realities: 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1,500 years, in 3 different languages, on 3 different continents. And yet - this collection of books shares a common storyline - the creation, fall, and redemption of God's people; a common theme - God's universal love for all of humanity; and a common message - salvation is available to all who repent of their sins and commit to following God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength.

Here's a challenge: "Go to any library in the world, choose any library you like, and find 66 books which match the characteristics of the 66 books in the Bible. Choose 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1,500 years, in 3 different languages, written on 3 different continents. They must share a common storyline, a common theme, and a common message, with no historical errors or contradictions... If you can produce such a collection of books, I will admit that the Bible is not the inspired word of God."

The student's reply was almost instantaneous, he emphatically stated, "But that's impossible!"