



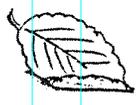
Estancia United Methodist Church,  
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



**Dave Blackwell, Pastor**

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016  
Church Office 384-5215  
Parsonage 384-2710  
email: methods@ix.netcom.com

*Sunday Worship 9:00 AM  
Nursery Provided  
Church School 10:30 AM*



# October 1999



## OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assistants: Alice Daniel & Katie Rogers  
Ushers: Julie & Nick Griffo  
Greeters: Tracy & Mary Hemke  
Acolytes: Jacque Creamer and Paige Deborski  
(subs: Sydney Alfonso and Erinmarie Blackwell)

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assistant: Laura Sanchez  
Ushers: Barbara & Bill Simms  
Greeters: Susan & Sam Wilson  
Acolytes: Brian Wilson and Lindsay Stinnett

## OCT. YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Oct. 3: Brian Wilson  
Oct. 10: Megan Bird  
Oct. 17: Catherine Gomez  
Oct. 24: Rose Ellen Daniel  
Oct. 31: Michael Hughes

## NOV. YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

Nov. 7: Chris Hughes  
Nov. 14: Nick Gomez  
Nov. 21: Riane Stinnett  
Nov. 28: Paige Deborski

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

### SUNDAY:

Worship - begins at 9:00 a.m.

- **Children and Youth Sunday School** starts at 10:20 in the Ed. Bldg. and downstairs in the church.
- **Adult Bible study** starts at 10:20 in the sanctuary.
- **Committee meetings** start after worship or after Bible Study.

## MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS MORNINGS:

The church is open from 5:30-8:30 a.m. to pray, meditate, hear a reading, and have communion if you choose. There is no organized structure and can be as private as you want it to be. This is a great way to start your day and week, and keep it going in faith.

## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS:

The **LOGOS** program goes from 5:00-8:00 p.m. This is one of the most exciting, innovative, learning and fun-filled programs to come to the church since ??? So far, over 50 children and youth have signed up to participate in learning about the Bible and various worship skills. Recreation and meal times are also part of the schedule.

**LOGOS**

This program is for the community, not just the Methodist church. Age groups are separated for most of the night except at dinner time. Friends continue to bring friends. The excitement is contagious. If you have thought about helping up front or behind the scenes, or inviting a child or youth to participate, it is not too late. The fee is very reasonable. The first session ends in mid-November. The second session starts in mid-January and goes to about Easter. Visitors are welcome to check it out. Call **Susan Wilson**, 384-1018, or **Julianne Welch**, 384-2569, for more information.

## STEWARDSHIP



Hopefully you have had the opportunity to study the church budget for the year 2000 and pray about the stewardship that God will guide you through. The Finance Committee voted to keep the pledge sheets open but *anonymous* to begin the process of gaining knowledge about future income so as to better plan for expenditures. The FC knows that not all of the

information will be gained, especially for 2000, but has prayed that there will be as much participation as possible now in order to make strides for the future.

Take time to read the stewardship letter again and study the budget. **Pray.** Trust God to be your guide. Read your Bibles about Jesus words on money, specifically Matthew 6:25-34, Matthew 7:7-12, Matthew 25:14-25, Mark 8:34-37, Luke 6:46-49, Luke 10:57-62, Luke 12:13-21, all of Luke 16, John 15:1-7.

**Estancia UMC** is a giving church that continues to receive good gifts from God because the church gives good gifts for His glory. God gives to God's givers.

Thank you for all you've done and are praying about continuing to do and be for Christ and His church.

### ON THE SUBJECT OF GIVING..

The blood drive in honor of **Matthew Sanchez** reaped 45 pints of blood and would have had more if time had allowed. There was plenty of good green chile stew, juice and cookies, and it was a time where we were able to meet some of our "newer" families.

### AND.....

Have you seen the inside of the Education Building lately? It is a freshly painted white and has a plum colored stain resistant carpet. Even the bathroom doors were redecorated! All the trimmings are not quite finished, but it looks wonderful. There were a lot of people who helped on this project and sacrificed their time and money for the good of the church and the community.

### WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

There are a lot of families recently who have come to church as visitors and are staying AND participating.



Welcome to the **Fastnachts**, the **Gomezs**, the **Popes**, and the **Prices**. Please call on us for questions, concerns, and ideas. Members, let us continue to be invitational; go, meet, and greet.

Newly baptized: **Nick Gomez, Jess Bird, and Paige Deborski**. We give God thanks for your response to His eternal love through Christ to you!

And, welcome in membership, **Mel and Della Stephenson, Tracy and Mary Hemke, Jess and Megan Bird, and Melanie Dunn!** We are honored by your commitment!

On November 14, the **Care and Outreach Committee** will be sponsoring a potluck (*potblessing*) lunch honoring our new families. Plan now to attend. Bring a main dish, salad, or dessert. Drinks and rolls will be provided.

### ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26 at 7:00 PM

It is again getting close to the time when we review the state of the church and it's future plans. **The Church Conference is on Tuesday night, not the traditional Sunday** we have become accustomed to. **District Superintendent Dr. Terry Anderson** will preside. This is not just a meeting for the Administrative Council; it is for the **entire church body to hear**, participate, gain and give knowledge. Prior to the conference, at 6:00, there will be a worship service with music, prayers, and a message. And where 2 or 3 Methodists get together...yes, bring finger foods, desserts, etc. to munch on after the meeting which should be finished about 8:15. You are encouraged to come to this low-key, low-stress class. Since we are going to stand around and visit anyway, and your supper may be cut a bit short, bring and eat some snacks. We hope to see you there!

### From the collection plate to where?

Of each dollar you put in the collection plate, 86.5 cents stays in your own church. Less than 4 cents goes to United Methodist churchwide missions, salaries and



administrative costs. The rest goes for regional ministries in your annual conference and jurisdiction.

Your church has a finance committee that recommends the budget for local mission projects, operating expenses and salaries. That budget is approved annually by your church council

Delegates from every church in your region establish the budget for your annual conference. United Methodism's top lawmaking body \_General Conference— sets a churchwide budget and a formula for apportioning fair-share amounts to be raised by each annual conference.

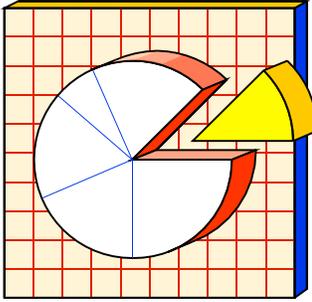
Each annual conference combines that fair-share goal with their conference and jurisdictional financial needs. The annual conference establishes a formula by which the total apportionment is divided among districts and parishes in your region.

### Builders with God

Isn't it strange that princes and kings  
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings  
And common people like you and me  
Are builders with God in eternity.  
Each is given a book of rules,  
A shapeless mass and a set of tools,  
And each must build, ere life has flown,  
A stumbling block or a stepping stone  
*-anonymous-*

## APPORTIONMENTS

The 2000 apportionment to the local church was calculated using the formula that appears on page 19 of the 1999 Pre-Conference Journal:

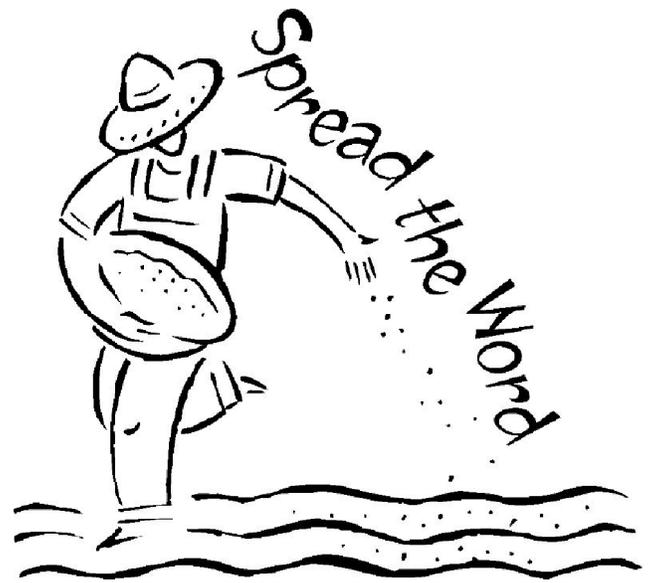


"The apportionments made to the churches are based on a three year average of membership and nonbenevolent and nonbuilding expenses. The decimal is based 25% on membership and 75% on nonbenevolent and

nonbuilding expenses. Beginning with the calculation of the apportionment for the year 2000, the membership portion will decrease by 2.5% and will increase the nonbenevolent and nonbuilding expenses by 2.5% each year, until church membership is no longer considered in formulating apportionments. The decimal will be calculated based on the figures from the preceding three years as printed in the Journal.

**A.** Twenty-two and 1/2 percent on total membership (column 9 of the statistical tables of the last complete year of statistics).

**B.** Seventy-seven and 1/2 percent on total nonbenevolent, nonbuilding expenditure. (Pastor's base compensation amount paid; associate(s) base compensation paid; pastor and associate(s) utilities and other housing-related allowances paid; pastor and associate(s) reimbursements paid; pastor and associate(s) other cash allowances paid; Diaconal minister(s) total compensation and expenses; other staff compensation and expenses; current expenses for program; and other current operating expenses.



## OUR VISION:

**Offering God's eternal life to all people such that they would be transformed by the Holy Spirit to live by faith and know that their salvation is secure in Jesus Christ.**

## OUR MISSION:

**To honor God by leading people to become devoted followers and ministers of Jesus Christ.**

THE BUCKETS

999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc. 7/14

...AND LEAD US  
NOT INTO  
TEMPTATION,  
BUT DELIVER  
US SOME  
e-MAIL.



Remember...

**FALL BACK  
OCT. 31ST**

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**FALL BACK  
OCT. 31ST**



*Sent with a prayer to:*

### **One Man's Observations**

Estancia United Methodist Church  
Wednesday night, October 13, 1999

I walked by this church a few times this night and saw many kids of different ages and sizes in the church yard. There were times when I walked in the buildings and was astounded at who and what was in front of me, and then behind me and all around me.

Big kids--kids old enough to drive, some of their peers are probably married--working with little kids making craft things and then playing outside together. Two rooms of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders having fun playing games while learning about the parts of a church worship order. There had to have been about 20 of them. Then, there was another group of about 20 who were singing and shouting to music in the sanctuary. Laughing, too. But, order. They knew what to do, had fun doing it, and wanted to get better.

I went away for awhile and came back. No one was outside except for a couple of adults. There was the smell of hamburgers and the sound of fun inside one of the buildings. I was allowed to go in and I saw what had to be close to 80 people eating, talking, and enjoying each other. Someone told me that they had already learned their new "manner" of the night. People offered to share a lot of food with me. When I went back outside and walked toward home, I heard this thunderous chorus, **"WE WANT THE COOKS, WE WANT THE COOKS..."** I stopped and listened. They all sang a "thank you" to the cooks. I guess I should do that at home.

I couldn't help it. I had to go back later. I saw:

- people dressed in red, white, and blue. Someone told me it was "patriotic" night.
- another group making things and playing games, and another group singing and laughing in the sanctuary.
- two women downstairs in the church building who were making plans for next week's class and talking about the good time they had this night.
- in another downstairs room, there were those same big kids who had been playing and helping the little kids. Now they were deep in Bible study. It was like a chapel.

Then bells rang, people scurried and groups were now in different places...playing, crafting, learning, conversing, singing, laughing...and praying. I just kept wandering around. Then I watched the adults. Some of them, I swear, had been

there the whole time, as long as 2 or 3 hours, and they were smiling, chattering, playing, teaching, reading...and praying.

At 8:00 there were more bells. Everybody started heading for the church building. I was going to go home. But, I thought I would take one more look. I went inside and saw adults and kids singing some song and clapping rhythmically while more people just kept coming in.

When everybody got there, a man announced that next week was going to be "sports night, and you can come as your favorite sports star or dressed in your favorite team uniform." Everybody started cheering. The man raised his hand. Everybody else raised theirs. Then I heard praying, and more praying. I moved around and craned my neck to see who was doing all this praying. It was the big kids, those same high schoolers, taking turns not praying just for themselves but for all to be led home in peace and for God to protect everyone.

Then in a flurry, everyone was dismissed. You would have thought the home team won the championship with all of the celebration. I guess maybe they did win.

Outside, people were talking, getting their kids into cars. The big kids were talking, and I think I even saw a hug or two given. And laughing, chattering. It seemed like some just didn't want to go home.

I finally had the nerve to ask what this was all about. "Oh, this is the LOGOS program." I asked what that meant. "It means, 'Word of God.' They are all learning about God and Jesus and they are learning that they are all children of God."

LOGOS. Must be something there that's causing all this. I hadn't felt that good in years, especially being around so many kids.

I came back late that night and tried to replay in my mind what I saw earlier. I kept thinking, "I wish some others could see this. It was something special."

When I walked home for the night, I noticed that the lights on the cross high up on the church were still on. Someone must have forgotten to turn them off ..... Or, maybe not.

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