



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 OCTOBER

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Assist:

Ushers: Julie & Nick Grffo

Acolytes:

Greeters: Shelly & Ashlea Stewart

YOUTH SCRIPTURE READERS

October 6: Ashley Welch

October 13:

October 20:

October 27:

KINGS KIDS

October 6:

October 13: Paul Mizell

October 20:

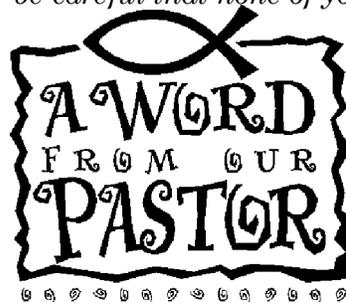
October 27: Marilyn Seddon



revlinda2@juno.com

Hebrews 3:12-1

Hebrews 3:12-13 (NCV) So brothers [and sisters], be careful that none of you has an evil, unbelieving heart. This will stop you from following the living God. But encourage each other every day. Do this while it is "today." Help each other so that none of you will become hardened because of sin and its tricks.



Hebrews 3:13 was sited in one of *The Upper Room* devotions for this week. The devotion was about a woman who remembered several teachers from when she was growing up. One teacher believed in her. This belief made it possible for her to achieve beyond her expectations and abilities in math -- not traditionally her best subject. On the other hand there was a choir teacher who told her friend to step out of the chorus and then after listening to the rest of the choir sing, exclaimed, "That sounds better."

Neither of these incidences, which happen when

these adults were young, has ever been forgotten. I remember my own experience in church as a young person. When I went to college and tried to connect to a church in the community it was if I wasn't even there. No one noticed me or spoke to me. Needless to say, I never went back, to that church (or any other). That was the beginning of what turned out to be a very long absence from the church.

I bring this up for two reasons. First, we need to be sensitive to new faces in our midst. How do we encourage the visitors that come to our congregation? Do we try to get to know them? It matters little whether they are one time visitors or visitors who are potential new members. Do we encourage them? Do we make them feel cared for?

Second, in the Logos training they talk about null curriculum. What they mean by this is usually something that happens that is beyond the words we speak. We can say all the right words and have the greatest worship, the best bible studies, youth programs, etc. But, if we give someone the "cold shoulder" we have nullified everything else we have taught.

You have all heard the phrase, "Faith is more caught, then taught." That means we all teach more by example then by what we say we believe. This is an awesome responsibility that none of us seek, but that is ours nonetheless. The author of Hebrews warns us that we must always be on guard, for sin is a trickster and we fall so easily into it's trap. We must be intentional about encouraging one another. I have learned a lot about the importance of encouragement in the last year as I work with our Border Collie, Annie. She is very timid and a harsh word often causes her to cower. But when I praise her and encourage her she will try her best to please me. Are we humans so different? The biggest difference is that we tend to hide our response better than Annie. And when we are wounded we go off in private and let those wounds fester.

James 3 reminds us of the difficulty of controlling our tongues. We can use our tongues to build up or tear down. The devotion concludes, "We don't always express ourselves in a Christlike way. But we can pray for God's help and practice using words that build up rather than tear down." Help us, Lord we pray, to speak carefully.



If the Devil were to write his Beatitudes

If the Devil were to write his Beatitudes, they would probably go something like this:

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians in Church – they are my best workers

Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them.

Blessed are the touchy, with a bit of luck they may stop going to church – they are my missionaries.

Blessed are those who are very religious but get on everyone's nerves – they are mine forever.

Blessed are the troublemakers – they shall be called my children.

Blessed are those who have no time to pray – they are easy prey for me.

Blessed are the gossipers – for they are my secret agents.

Blessed are those critical of church leadership – for they shall inherit a place with me in my fate.

Blessed are the complainers – I'm all ears for them.

Blessed are you when you read this and think it is about other people and not yourself – I've got you.

(Now go back and read Jesus' beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5.)

Remember that Roy Daniel would like to hear from us!



Email:

roy.daniel@idc-ch2m.com

PIANO RECITAL

Last Saturday, September 14th, we enjoyed a recital in the Church Sanctuary by nine of my eleven music students.

The recital began 87 years ago this month when my dad told my mother: "When **Ethel** can reach the keyboard on a piano, we are going to purchase one." They saw to it that we five girls had a music education.

Even though I am not the best in the world, I want to share the talent God gave me with others. There are so few people who play the piano or organ. Some churches are suffering for lack of someone to play the piano or organ.

My "music gang" of various ages and advancement, play all types of music from classical to "ho down". We just have a good time. I give to them and they give to me. What a joy it is to work with these young people.

At the recital, they played "Music from Musicals and Movies" - "A Study in Rhythm" - "Duets" - "Miscellaneous" and "Classics".

We appreciated the nice crowd who attended the recital and by their comments, we think they enjoyed it.

Since it was the birthday of one of the students and she gave up her own plans to celebrate, we surprised her and had our own birthday party for her following the recital.

Several parents helped with the recital by serving the "goodies" following the recital - taking pictures - and moving the piano and other furniture.

The musicians who entertained us at the recital were: **Hannah Benoit, Belynn Sharp, Paige Deborski, Jennifer Newton, Sidney Alfonso, Alice Daniel, Sierra Brown, Daniel Mendes, and Deidra Garley.** Two of the students, **Justin and Miriah Waldon,** were unable to attend.

This was my second recital. I hope to have many more. When we have our 3rd recital next fall, please come and support these young musicians. You will find it rewarding.

- *Ethel Floyd* Choir Director

Alateen Group

Alateen is a part of the AA family. It is for teens that have a parent, close friend, or relative with a substance abuse problem. They have started a group that meets on Wednesday nights at Our Lady of Carmel Church in Moriarty. Phone 262-2177 or 281-1846. Please feel free to share this information with others who might need the support of this group.

Cokesbury Publishing House

The United Methodist Church's publishing house has a new, free on-line service -- *Teaching Helps for Christian Education Leaders and Teachers Looking for Christian Education Resources.* To access the service, go to the Web site: www.Cokesbury.com and click on "Curriculum and Small Groups." The site includes sample lessons, resource suggestions for lesson plans, themes and Scriptures used in specific resources, and a place to offer feedback and suggest new resources. For more information send an e-mail query to : curricuphone@cokesbury.com. You may also talk to a real person about similar issues by calling Curric-U-Phone at 1 800-251-8591.

Ignite '03

 Brochures and registration forms are in the back of the sanctuary. If you haven't received yours please pick one up. **Angela Creamer** is collecting the registrations and will be sending them, in one packet, to make pick-up of tickets easier.

If you would like to be included please get your registration to her by Sunday, October 13th. **Ignite '03 takes place on Friday, April 4th and Saturday, April 5th at Kiva Auditorium in Albuquerque.** Only 1900 seats were available for the whole conference as of several weeks ago. I urge you not to procrastinate.

Ignite '03 will be a jamboree, retreat, revival, concert, and gathering of United Methodists. It will be a time to hear some of the most dynamic musical groups. There will be activities for youth and First UMC has offered to have childcare for the younger ones. **Anthony (Tony) Campolo, Adam Hamilton, Zan Holmes, Mark Mittelberg, and Lee Strobel** are the keynote speakers. These are highly sought after public speakers from a variety of backgrounds. This promises to be a "mountain top" experience that will enliven and renew our hearts. Think what can happen if this congregation became ignited by

the flame of God's Spirit like in the Upper Room on Pentecost! Ignite '03 is not a training event. It is an opportunity to refresh your faith and feed you souls. Don't miss this first-of-its-kind event in our Conference.

Also, please include Ignite '03 in your prayers on a regular basis. Imagine what can happen when this event is bathed in prayer.

Church Council/ Charge Conference

The **Church Council** will be meeting after worship, on Oct. 6th to approve all reports for the Charge Conference. Please be sure **all reports** are ready to be copied and put into the Charge Conference folder on this date.

The **Charge Conference** is scheduled for **October 10th, at 7 pm**. Your leadership team has been working hard to prepare for this conference that is the historical heart of Methodism. Come be a part of this time of meeting with our District Superintendent to do the business of God's church and celebrate our ministry here in Estancia.

Moms In Touch

If you are interested in being a part of a group that gathers each week for an hour to pray for our children and their schools please contact **Pastor Linda or Julie Griffo**.

FROM BISHOP MAX

Some of My Thoughts.....Several years ago I was taken to a restaurant where we were seated and asked what we wanted to drink. In a few moments the waitress returned with the water and ice tea we had ordered and began putting the food on the table. I started to protest that I would like to see a menu and choose what I wanted to eat. I was told the chef had already chosen what I would eat. "What if I don't like it?" I protested. "Then don't come back," the arrogant young waitress snapped.

Now I must admit I was to blame for this experience. I didn't check in advance about this restaurant. I was only told the food was good. I assumed I would have some variety and choice. Making assumptions can really get me in trouble.

Some churches tend to behave like that restaurant. The chef chooses the menu. He/she prepares the

meal and places it on the table. The options are: take it or leave it. Frequently the pastor or a small group in the congregation decides what the congregation will offer. No other choice or variety is offered.

More and more congregations in the Northwest Texas and New Mexico Conferences are moving away from the style described above. They are trying new and creative ways to reach the unchurched within their communities. Sunday nights and Wednesday nights have become primary occasions for Christian education. Church facilities are being utilized seven days a week for church activities and ministries. Worship services are occurring in a wide variety of styles and at various times on Sunday and during the week. I rejoice to see such openness, as congregations are being led by God to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

This creativity has not occurred without conflict. Old ways of planning must be altered and new designs instituted. At the same time, leaders must be immersed in United Methodist doctrines, beliefs, and practices so they can be faithfully observed. Doing something because the congregation down the street, across town, or out in the country is attracting people, is not a valid reason for instituting change. There are several questions every congregation needs to ask, "Does this practice contradict or compromise what we believe and teach as the Church? Will this action, ministry, or aspect of worship lead individuals into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ and a life of faithful discipleship?"

A pastor recently told me about a worship service where no offering was taken, the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion were not observed, participants were not invited to enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ, nor invited to become members of the congregation. I have serious questions whether such "worship" conducted on a regular basis ought to be called United Methodist worship, or even Christian worship.

I am thrilled to see congregations adding a variety of styles of worship aimed at particular age and ethnic backgrounds. I hope it was noticed that I wrote, adding. All persons should not be expected to appreciate traditional styles of worship; neither should all persons be expected to find new and innovative styles of worship meaningful. However, this will require most congregations to add one or more worship services in order to adequately address the various needs within a community. In many smaller congregations, it may require an additional worship experience during the week to meet the

SACRAMENTO METHODIST ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER, 2002



The mornings & evenings are cooler - the days are shorter fall must surely be coming!

Our hills are graced with abundant yellow blooms, as well as some lively reds and purples.

It is a glorious time of year up here, and we'd love to see you all up here

Specifically, for those of you for whom S.M.A. is a significant part of your past, present or future, we will be hosting the first Sacramento Mountain Homecoming, to be held October 18 - 20, 2002. There will be lots of nostalgia, great speakers, wonderful worship, lots of free time - and even a look toward the future of this wonderful place for God's ministry.

But, you know you don't ever have to have a specific reason for coming to S.M.A. When space is available, you are welcome! Call us if you have a free day or 2, and we'll check openings for you. This applies to individuals, families, Sunday School classes, etc. We have some special rates available if you find an opening in your schedule that coincides with an opening in our schedule. Go ahead - call us! We'd love to see you! *...it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD It will be provided."* (Gao 22.14 All V)

Will the ministries of the church continue when you are no longer here to participate?

CORNERSTONE

Not a one of us started the church. A band of faithful believers realized that the message of Jesus had radically changed their lives. In faith they struggled to share the power of that message and saving grace. They set out to share the Love of God. They set out to make disciples of this holy one, the Christ. For them, the truth of the message and the meaning of the faith community has been passed down from one generation to the next. We're the beneficiaries.

See the **Cornerstone**, the newsletter of the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation for

information and inspiration about how your gift can make a difference in proclaiming the Gospel for years and generations to come. Perhaps a gift from your estate will be the gift that enables the ministry that transforms the life of a person otherwise bound for estrangement and desolation.

What power you have through your faith and through your estate. You can be in ministry for generations to come!

Pick up your copy of Cornerstone at the front of our church.

Optimism

Count your blessings instead of your crosses,
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joy instead of your woes,
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears,
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean,
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth,
Count on God instead of yourself.

—Trinity Church Chimes,

What we need and what we need to give away

In his book, *Uncommon Graces: Christlike Responses to a Hostile World*, **Dr. John Vawter** lists some of the uncommon graces which should be endemic in Christians. They include gentleness, attentiveness, loyalty, candor, mercy, kindness and repentance.

"Jesus told his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love' (John 15:9-10).

"His love. That's what it all boils down to. Receiving it, then giving it away. Always giving it away.

"But we're living in a time when nobody's giving away much of anything, least of all love. We're living in a time when the rule is 'look out for number one,' and there's nothing very golden about that. In just such a time, God has called us to remain in his love. To show that love by treating others as we would want to be treated ourselves. To fill the world with uncommon graces.

- "It's time.
- "It's time these uncommon graces became common. Starting with us.
- "If they are not common in us, God help the church.
- "And if they are not common in the church, God help the world."



Sent with a prayer to:



October

Estancia, NM 87016

P. O. Box 378

Estancia United Methodist Church

October 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 10:00 Worship Prayer and Praise Fifth Sunday Probationers	30 Noon Rotary 5:00 pm Logos Clergy Retreat SMA until Wed.	1 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 Worship 11:15 Ad Council World Communion Sunday	7 Noon Rotary 5:00 pm Logos	8 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Trustees	9	10 7:00pm Charge Conference	11	12
13 10:00 Worship 11:15 PPRC	14 Noon Rotary Columbus Day NO LOGOS	15 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group Pastor Pray at City Council	16 Pastor Linda's Spiritual B-Day	17	18	19 7am Men's Breakfast
20 10:00 Worship Laity Sunday	21 Noon Rotary 5:00 pm Logos	22 10am Clergy Pray 6:30pm Prayer Group	23	24	25 UMW Annual Meeting First UMC-ABQ	26 UMW Annual Meeting First UMC-ABQ Pumpkin Day
27 10:00 Worship United Methodist Men's Sunday DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS!	28 Noon Rotary 5:00 pm Logos	29 10am Clergy Pray 12:Noon UMW 6:30pm Prayer Group	30	31 All Hallows Eve		