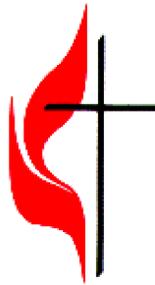




NEWSLETTER
OF THE
Estancia United Methodist Church
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



OCTOBER, 2008



Pastor: Rev. Charles Spooner

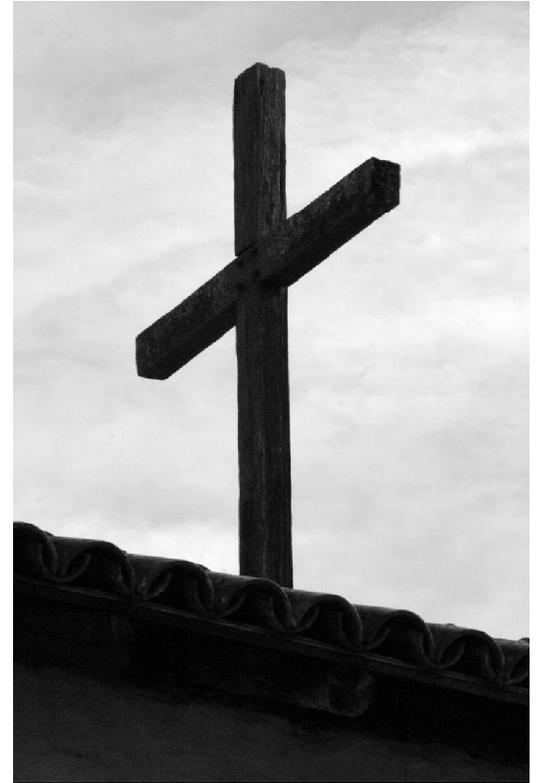
600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
 email: spoonernote@gmail.com

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Administrative Council	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
Worship Team Leader	Pam Lambert
Education Team Leader	Leslie Fastnacht
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Care and Outreach Team Leader	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.gbqm-umc.org/estancia>



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

I Thought we might need a refresher on United Methodist Beliefs!



United Methodists share a common heritage with all Christians. According to our foundational statement of beliefs in The Book of Discipline, we share the following basic affirmations in common with all Christian communities:

Trinity

We describe God in three persons. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are commonly used to refer to the threefold nature of God. Sometimes we use other terms, such as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

God

- We believe in one God, who created the world and all that is in it.
- We believe that God is sovereign; that is, God is the ruler of the universe.
- We believe that God is loving. We can experience God's love and grace

Jesus

- We believe that Jesus was human. He lived as a man and died when he was crucified.

- We believe that Jesus is divine. He is the Son of God.
- We believe that God raised Jesus from the dead and that the risen Christ lives today. (Christ and Messiah mean the same thing, God's anointed.)
- We believe that Jesus is our Savior. In Christ we receive abundant life and forgiveness of sins.
- We believe that Jesus is our Lord and that we are called to pattern our lives after his.

The Holy Spirit

- We believe that the Holy Spirit is God with us.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit comforts us when we are in need and convicts us when we stray from God.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit awakens us to God's will and empowers us to live obediently.

Human Beings

- We believe that God created human beings in God's image.
- We believe that humans can choose to accept or reject a relationship with God.
- We believe that all humans need to be in relationship with God in order to be fully human.

The Church

- We believe that the church is the body of Christ, an extension of Christ's life and ministry in the world today.
- We believe that the mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
- We believe that the church is the communion of saints, a community made up of all past, present, and future disciples of Christ.
- We believe that the church is called to worship God and to support those who participate in its life as they grow in faith.

The Bible

- We believe that the Bible is God's Word.
- We believe that the Bible is the primary authority for our faith and practice.
- We believe that Christians need to know and study the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Reign of God

- We believe that the kingdom or reign of God is both a present reality and future hope.
- We believe that wherever God's will is done, the kingdom or reign of God is present. It was present in Jesus' ministry, and it is also present in our world whenever persons and communities experience reconciliation, restoration, and healing.
- We believe that although the fulfillment of God's kingdom --the complete restoration of creation --is still to come.
- We believe that the church is called to be both witness to the vision of what God's kingdom will be like and a participant in helping to bring it to completion.
- We believe that the reign of God is both personal and social. Personally, we display the

kingdom of God as our hearts and minds are transformed and we become more Christ-like. Socially, God's vision for the kingdom includes the restoration and transformation of all of creation.

Sacraments

With many other Protestants, we recognize the two sacraments in which Christ himself participated: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Baptism

- Through baptism we are joined with the church and with Christians everywhere.
- Baptism is a symbol of new life and a sign of God's love and forgiveness of our sins.
- Persons of any age can be baptized.
- We baptize by sprinkling, immersion or pouring.
- A person receives the sacrament of baptism only once in his or her life.

The Lord's Supper (Communion, Eucharist)

- The Lord's Supper is a holy meal of bread and wine that symbolizes the body and blood of Christ.
- The Lord's Supper recalls the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and celebrates the unity of all the members of God's family.
- By sharing this meal, we give thanks for Christ's sacrifice and are nourished and empowered to go into the world in mission and ministry.
- We practice "open Communion," welcoming all who love Christ, repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.

Our Church Windows

Unless you have been absent from church lately, you know that our board of trustees, in response to the concerns of our members, has decided to commit its efforts to replacing the painted glass church windows with actual stained glass. Our good fortune to be able to acquire the complete stock of a glass shop going out of business was an amazing start to our project. We were also able to get the temporary use of the old Moore Appliance building as a place to begin work.

How can I help?? You may personally help with your TIME, TALENT and GIFTS to this project. As we have stated before, the success of our volunteering and funding efforts will ultimately determine the success of our project. Della and Mel Stephenson, who have a long background in stained glass projects, have agreed to supervise our efforts. Please let them know if you might be interested in helping out. We anticipate posting a dedication list which includes the names of past (or present) members and families to which we could dedicate a window. One could then dedicate any amount toward that window. We are open to suggestions as to who to include on the list.



Nick Griffo Helps unload tons of glass with Starco's forklift

Stained Glass Project

The stained glass project is underway and more people are getting involved. One big and important event was the naming of a panel of interested people to determine what exactly we are going to do. The panel will decide on the specific themes and style of the scenes. This will include determining to keep some of the more modern scenes or making all biblical or church scenes. We will also need a decision on how to structure the scenes. Della and I have some ideas we would like to share with the panel and provide some suggestions made by Kyle and Erin of Albuquerque Art Glass located at 405 Montano Rd. NE. Kyle is a professional artist (my words) who does beautiful work and is very knowledgeable of glass painting and firing to make the paint last for a thousand years (his words). He also teaches from beginner stained glass up to painting on stained glass and fusing glass for effects. Della and I think it would be a good idea if one person would take the class on stained glass painting and then come back and teach other interested



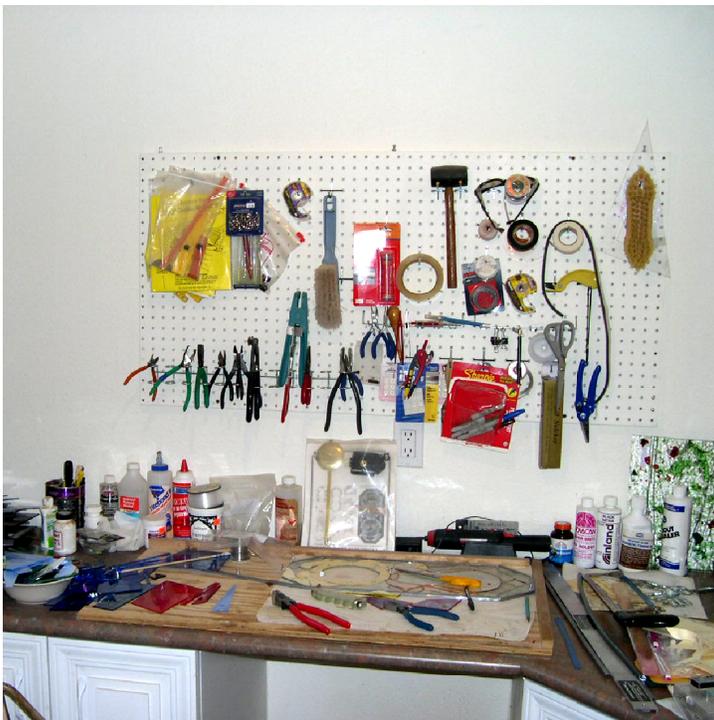
people working on our project. Kyle suggested that we look at stained glass windows in other churches (St. Michaels on Montano Rd. about a half block west of 4th. Della and I did go see the church and were not impressed with the style of most of the face features but the concept was fine.

Della and I have started an interior window (in the partition at the back) to show an example of how it would look. The photo shows the progress which is about 2/3 complete of having the glass installed. Then we need to solder all joints and put in putty. We will then copper and/or black patina, as appropriate, the came (lead/zinc parts). The photos below shows Della at work on the diamond grinder putting the finishing touch on the glass edge and some of our tools and work place.

Phil Levy and Jason Fastnacht have put-up scaffolding in back of the sanctuary in preparation for stripping the windows in the back and making patterns of each window. After the blank patterns are made, Della and some of the other helpers will make specific patterns of how the glass will be arranged with the color and other details in accordance with the decisions made by the review panel. Then the real work begins of making a "cut pattern" to stick and orient on the glass for cutting the glass. Then comes the really fun work which is beginning to assemble the glass in the metal (zinc) frame and making alterations to each piece so that it fits in its proper place. There are several more steps that are required before the basic window is completed and will be discussed in a workshop before helpers begin the process of making the windows. We will also be discussing the techniques for getting the desired detail on each piece of glass and how the overall window is installed in the church window frames.

I hope this has been helpful in trying to show the enormous task that is before us, but with the help of the many volunteers and the donations that we expect, the job will get done. Just do not expect the job to be completed in a month or two as it could easily take as much as a year or two.

Mel



Glass Working Tools



Della Stephenson shaping stained glass

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.

Day at The Park Worship Service

On Sunday September 14th at 10:00 AM, a joint EUMC - MUMC worship service was held at Arthur Park. Jon Shively provided accompaniment for the singing and the weather was perfect. As you can see from the pictures, there was a good turnout.



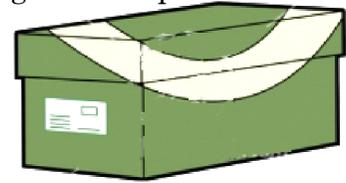
Jon Shively Pastor Charlie Patty Mahoney



Congregation

Bonnie Thomas has asked folks in our church to save and bring to church their spare shoe boxes for “Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God’s love. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe. People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ. Please ask Bonnie for details.



National Collection Week is November 17-24.

On the Bailout: It's okay to pray for wisdom

On the bailout which Washington is putting together to keep our economy from unthinkable ruin, I would venture to suggest that prayer is not just okay, it is imperative - particularly given the recent and clear revelation that both houses of congress are mostly populated with sad clowns incapable of putting partisanship aside - that those of us who pray consider turning to prayer that our current governmental leadership be giving the thing that Solomon had and which so many of them clearly lack: *Wisdom*.

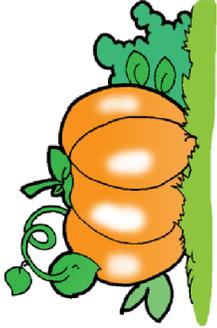
Not “degrees from elite colleges.” Not general airs of superior knowledge. Not “book-smarts” because that can only take you so far, but the sort of “gut-smarts” that are so often the touchstones of real wisdom.

Solomon was smart enough - wise enough - to pray, not for riches, not to not get caught, not for security, but for an understanding heart.

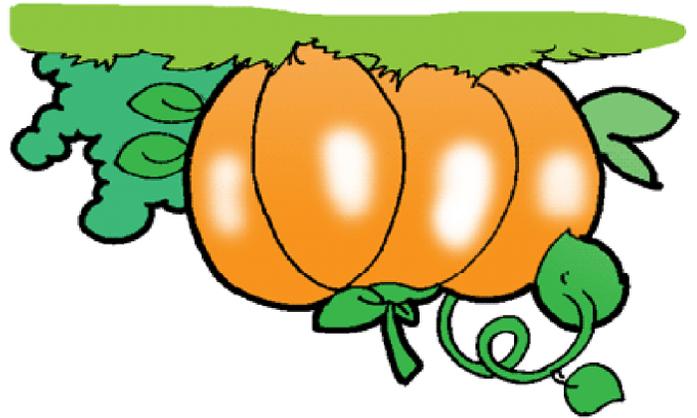
“O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?”

The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: “Because you have asked for this—not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right. I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you.

October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - M/tair	6 	7	1 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	2	3	4
12 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - M/tair	13	14	8 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	9	10	11
19 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - M/tair	20 7:PM TRUSTEES	21	15 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	16	17	18 7 AM Men's Breakfast
26 9 AM Worship 9:15 Childrens Church 10:15 AM Adult SS 11 AM Worship - M/tair	27	28	22 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	23	24	25
			29 10:am Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	30	31	

OCTOBER



Sent with a prayer to:

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

JAMES (age 4) was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: “The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.” Concerned, James asked: “What happened to the flea?”

The Sermon I think this Mom will never forget....this particular Sunday sermon... “Dear Lord,” the minister began, with arms extended toward heaven and a rapturous look on his upturned face. “Without you, we are but dust...” He would have continued but at that moment my very attentive daughter who was listening leaned over to me and asked quite audibly in her shrill little four year old girl voice, “Mom, what is butt dust?”