



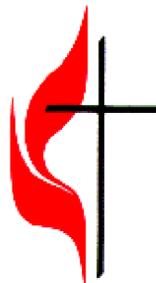
100th Anniversary - August 2005

NEWSLETTER

OF THE

Estancia United Methodist Church

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico



SEPTEMBER

2003

Your Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Linda Mizell

P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016

Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710

email: revlinda2@juno.com

Chairperson of Administrative Council	Mel Stephenson
Recording Secretary	Shellee Stewart
Lay Leader	Tracy Hemke
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Carolyn Moore
Alt. Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	John Creamer
Chairperson: Worship Committee	Julie Griffo
Chairperson: Education Committee	Angela Creamer
Youth Representative	Alice Daniel
Chairperson: Missions	Marcia Fitzner
Chairperson: Prayer Evangelism	Nick Griffo
Chairperson: Care and Outreach	Alma Wimsatt
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Finance Committee	Melanie Chavez
Financial Secretary	Sylvia Levy
Church Treasurer	Jim Wyman
President UMW	Ethel Floyd
President UMY	Alice Daniel

Bishop: D. Max Whitfield

District Superintendent: Dr. Larry Hall

Please visit us on the web:

<http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/estancia>

Prayer Concerns

Christie and Eric Kurtz
 Bill Bass and wife Dorothy
 Sharon Avery and family
 Toni Nimms
 Oralio Dominguez
 Marshall Hall family
 The Babb Family
 Gayle Clark
 Tracy Hemke
 Renee's family
 Melanie Chavez
 Tracy Hemke
 Tanith Badger
 Danny Chavez's nephew, Martin
 Beth Roberts
 Wes KoIb
 Jim & DeeDee Young
 Amber
 Bill Simms mother
 Kasey Solomon
 Bess Young
 Annabel Lesperune
 Doug Jackson
 Terry Ann Hanig
 Francis Tyler
 Ruby and Craig Martin
 Sayaka
 Fanny Morgan
 Agatha Garrison

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Nursery Provided

FROM PASTOR LINDA



It feels wonderful to be finished with my required studies. I began this process in the summer of 1994. For nine years I have been spending my summers in Dallas, California, or Durham, North Carolina. I am thankful for the opportunity to learn from many fine instructors. Some classes were more interesting than others, but they all stretched my "gray matter" and encouraged me to rethink my understanding of the Christian faith. (A faith untested is often a faith in danger of toppling when things get tuff.) This years classes were all great classes for my final hurrah. The Bible interpretation class was superb. Dr. James Efird (called Mickey by most) has been teaching Greek and Bible for over 40 years. He is a walking encyclopedia with a great sense of humor. He especially likes a southern humorist named Carl Hurley. The Spiritual Direction Class was what I needed to re-energize my personal walk with God. I have always wanted to learn more about spiritual direction. I am only sorry there was not more of an emphasis on this aspect of leadership prior to my last year. The third class was on the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion. It was taught by a 20 something doctoral student, and my class was his first teaching experience. He was brilliant. He was smart enough to learn as much from us as we learned from him. We had years of experience to bring to bear on his "head" learning. I have always had a deep love for the sacraments of the church and now have an even deeper understanding of why we do things the way we do them.

In the Bible interpretation class, my assignment was to choose 8-12 verses from the Pastoral or Catholic Epistles of the New Testament. I finally chose Ephesians as my project, the 5th chapter, verses 21-33. I became so fascinated with what I learned about the book of Ephesians that I have decided to do a series of sermons on this remarkable book. Of all the Pauline books, it has the highest view of the Church and what she is intended to be in the world. We have not yet become the Church that Christ intended. I hope that by studying this insightful book we can grow in our understanding and call to be what God created and intended us to be. Glory be to God!

OKAY, SO WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE NEWSLETTER??

Well, let's start with the fact that our church's 100th anniversary celebration is exactly 24 months away from today (8/31/03). During these next 24 months, we need to remind ourselves of the commitment and effort provided by many previous members that made this church what it is today.

Our newsletter is a representation of our church that is read across New Mexico as well as many other states and as such, it should do its best to show off our history, our members, and the faith it took to keep this church going for the last 98 years.

Over the summer, Barbara and I have asked for and received valuable, constructive feedback about our newsletter's content and format. Below are some of the additions and changes we will make:

In addition to our regular features and necessary announcements, we'll

1. Make our newsletter more about our membership.
2. Do an occasional profile of our longtime members.
3. Include more pictures of what's going on in our church.
4. Get the youth involved in writing articles about what's on their minds.
5. Include news items about major events in our member's and their children's lives.

To make this vision of our newsletter a reality, we will need help. Physically doing the newsletter is not a problem; however, writing the news about our church family, doing profiles and identifying newsworthy facts about our membership needs to come from you. Please contact Barbara or me with any ideas you have for articles or newsletter format. Let's make the next 24 issues of the EUMC newsletter worth keeping.

Mailing Newsletters - In the past, the church has mailed out all newsletters that were not picked up. In light of our church's current tight financial situation, let's each of us take the responsibility of either delivering or mailing copies of the newsletter to those who should, or would like receive one. From now on, we will not be labeling each newsletter; however, we will make plenty of extras.





PIANO RECITAL

On Saturday, September 6, 2003, the music students of Ethel Floyd will perform at the Methodist Church at 2:00 P.M. There will be music by four keyboard ensemble, classics, rhythm techniques, American Folk music and hymn arrangements.




Please attend and support these talented young people. There will be a reception following the recital.

There will only be one of you for all time-- Fearlessly be yourself!

Ethel Floyd Highlighted in East Mountain Telegraph - Thursday, June 19, 2003

By Leola Austin-Niell

At age 88, Ethel Floyd of Estancia Stays Actively Involved in Her Community

The word most often used to describe Ethel Floyd of Estancia is the same word that has been associated with her since she arrived in The Valley from Kansas in 1943. That word is "involved".

Ethel has spearheaded and been the driving force behind more community and civic affairs over the years than this short column can enumerate. Now, at eighty-eight, she is still a very busy lady who agreed to squeeze in an interview between the water aerobics class she takes in Moriarty and her 2 p.m. piano student, the first of the day.

She has lived for the past 53 years in one of those great, old, rambling homes that is steeped in its own traditions and history. A history that had its beginning in 1911 as the two-room homestead house of John M. Berry. Rooms have been added as need prescribed and each room now reflects the spirit and energy of this very active lady.

One room, complete with kiln, worktables and storage shelves, is set up solely for her ceramic creations and classroom. Her home reflects a distinct preference for Oriental decor and displays objects of art from her travels and everyday living that express her many interests. Her bedroom houses a large doll collection that contains her first doll - a doll she had professionally restored to repair damage received in a Kansas tornado when Ethel was a child.

There is a very old organ and a modern computerized piano standing side by side in the music room.

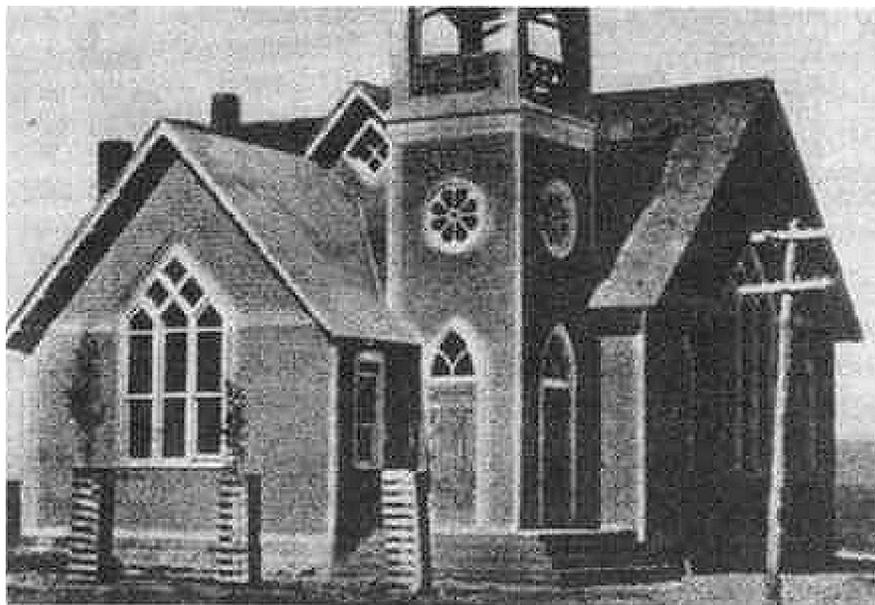
"Music is my passion," Ethel says. "I still have eighteen piano students but I'm concerned that piano is fast becoming a lost art here. Often church functions are left without a pianist. I'm trying to help remedy that."

When asked for a favorite memory of The Valley, Ethel hesitates and one gets the impression that this lady is far too involved with the present to spend much time thinking of the past. She is currently working on writing the history of the Estancia United Methodist Church for the church's 100th Birthday celebration to be held in 2005. She has been combing through boxes of dusty old church records and compiling excerpts from the memories of early church members. She provides a copy of her rough draft and says: "There might be something of interest here."

Indeed there is. Early records of the church's beginnings typify life as it was lived on America's Western Frontier. One account reveals on October 27, 1903, the Reverend A. P. Morrison, DD, Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Mission in New Mexico, visited Estancia and preached his first sermon to a congregation consisting of two ladies and forty men. Services were held in the old news office of P.A. Speckman, which was then only partially under roof. The congregation set up a stove and sat on benches improvised from nail kegs and boards. That night the Rev. Morrison slept on one of the counters in the newsroom and the sheriff slept on a second counter to which an outlaw was chained.



Ethel Floyd



United Methodist Church-----Estancia-----1913

Another early account shows that the first Methodist church in Estancia came about when a Methodist circuit rider rode into Estancia. This man happened to know the local bar owner was a Methodist who kept his bar open seven days a week and had him close his bar for an hour on the two Sundays each month when he came to Estancia. Then he preached for an hour, passed the hat and went on his way. This building is still standing and most recently was occupied by the Estancia Citizen newspaper office. At the back of this building where the original entry door was located, the word SALOON can still be detected over the arch.

Ethel Floyd has lived alone since her husband, R.T. "Slim" Floyd died seventeen

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

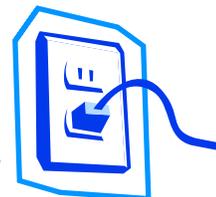
Late last fall several of our youth gathered together to plan and form a new UMY group. This formative year was one of enormous accomplishments. This is a summary of their work as it appeared in the NM Conference United Methodist Reporter earlier this summer.



The group elected officers and began meeting on Sunday evenings back in November of 2002. Since then the group has had two members attend CCYM camp at Sacramento. There was a great welcome home party with perspective members as guests. Two bake sales were held (one the last Sunday before Lent and one on Easter Sunday) to raise money for scholarships for summer camp at SMA. In February the group planned and lead a worship service. The youth provided music, a lay leader, a prayer leader, King's Kids, a witness, and a skit called, "What is this Place" for that service. It was wonderful to see the youth taking a leadership role in the church. For Easter, beside the bake sale, this active group of youth also planned an Easter egg hunt for the children. This mission-minded group reached beyond themselves into the wider community. They decided to give money to help the church pay the Sacramento Methodist Assembly Apportionment, and sent an equal amount of money to The Youth Service Fund. Then they started a recycling program. They collected aluminum cans and they redeemed them at a local scrape yard. The money was used to purchase a goat through the Heifer Project. As of June 22, they received enough money to purchase one goat and recycled about 400 pounds of aluminum. The youth helped the church with Vacation Bible School by working as "light leaders." They also voted to give a donation to help purchase materials for a very successful Bible school. At the conclusion of VBS the youth meet for a lock-in to celebrate a successful year.

Wednesday Night Blessing

Wednesday evening is a time to enjoy God's blessings. John Wesley, founder of Methodism, talked about "means of grace." What he was describing were ways in which God reaches out to us through dependable paths to help us to know, experience, and live in harmony with Him and one another. Wednesday night is a time to practice several of these means of grace: Bible Study, Prayer, and Christian Conference. These are all important ways to grow into the people of God. There are so many things in our lives that work to pull us away from our spiritual center and into



alienation from God. It takes effort on our part to stay “plugged in” to our spiritual roots. Come, be blessed. The Gospel of John is the current focus of study. Several chapters are covered each week. Please, feel free to join in, it’s never too late. The current study will continue until October 8th. At that time those in attendance will chose the topic of the next study. The group meets from 6:30-8:15 PM. There is time for study, prayer, and fellowship. A snack break midway through the study offers a chance for informal conversation. Various members lead the study and bring snacks each week. It is an opportunity to get to know one another on a deeper level, and to come to a deeper understanding of God

Agatha's African Violet Trip



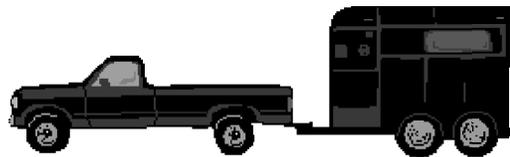
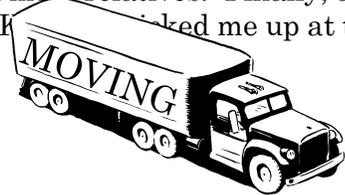
Last April, at the age of 85, long-time member, Agatha Garrison took a trip to South Carolina to attend the African Violet Assoc. Convention and to visit relatives.

This is how she describes her trip:

On April 22, 2003 I boarded a plane with my friend, Margaret Schmierer, and traveled to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to attend the 57th African Violet Society Association Convention. The next day I was in judging school from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. On Friday we attended a banquet. At each person’s place there was a piece of cheesecake which we were asked to eat first – before dinner! At each table one piece of cake had a small baby doll imbedded in it. If it was your piece, you took home the centerpiece. Guess who got the doll at our table! I also ate my very first crayfish. On Saturday morning there were more presentations and awards at the judge’s breakfast.

Sunday I traveled to Rockhill South Carolina to see my great niece, Lana Wheeler. We went to Myrtle Beach, and then my great, great nephew took us to dinner and shopping. The next day we drove to West Virginia. A cousin I know only through e-mails called to ask if I could come to Buffalo so we could exchange family history information. When I arrived in Buffalo, my cousin told me there was a group of women having a flower show. Knowing I was an advanced judge, they asked me to come see their plants. When I walked in there were approximately 100 persons all of whom stood and sang Happy Birthday – I cried.

Every afternoon and evening I had visitors, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. Some relatives I had never met and many I had not seen in years came to visit. On May 10 I went to Ohio for a week and visited more relatives. Finally, on Tuesday, May 20, I came home – I think they were glad to see me. When I was picked me up at the airport he said, “You only missed 2 days being gone a month.”



MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Creamers - Well it finally happened, the Creamers sold their house!

After many prayers the right family came and fell in love with the little house with the red roof. We had three weeks to pack eight years of stuff and move out. Boxes were flying. We are now living on the Wrye ranch about fourteen miles east of Estancia. We now know what Big Sky means, what a beautiful gift we have from the creator. We also bought 80 acres west of Estancia to build our dream home. We should start construction sometime after hunting season. :-)

Many thanks for your prayers, John, Angela, Jacque and Lil John

Fitzners - Marcia and Don Fitzner, after several years in their home south of Willard have sold their place and are moving about 3 miles north of Willard on Hwy 41. We all wish them the best and will keep them in our prayers.

History of UMW

The United Methodist Women have been involved in missions on behalf of women, children and youth for over 125 years.

The Female Benevolent Society of Baltimore was organized in 1818 by the Methodist Episcopal Church Women (ME) to assist retired preachers and their widows, wives and children and to do missionary work.

In 1828, a group left the ME church and formed the Methodist Protestant (MP). The MP women raised money to support mission work in India and China.

In 1869, the Women's Foreign Missionary society was founded by wives of two missionaries. They went to India as their first mission. The first issue of the magazine "The Heathen Women's Friend" was published.

Through the years, different Methodist Women's groups have formed, i.e.: Women's China Missionary Society, Women's Home Missionary Society, The Women's Bible Mission at Home and Abroad, The Women's Missionary Association, The Women's Foreign Missionary Society, Lady's Aide Society and many other titles.

In 1885, at age 52, Mary Fletcher Scranton became the first missionary of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society to Korea. She opened her home for a school for girls. She began with one student. Nine months after construction began on a new school buildings, "E'wha" (which means "Pear Blossom" was opened for the Girls High School. It later became the E'wha Women's University.

The General Conference passed legislation stating that educational work among Native Americans could no longer be done by the Women's Home Missionary Society. (I guess they got their minds changed as this is not true today) The women gave up the work among the Native Americans with the exception of Alaska and the Jesse Lee Home.

In 1898, Women's Missionary Association missionaries and many of their African co-workers were massacred in Sierra Leone but within two weeks of the event, the association continued its work there.

In 1907, the Women's Home Mission Society changed its name to Women's Board of Home Missions and sent a missionary to Tolchace, Arizona. In 1912, a missionary, Nellie Perkins was sent to Valarde, New Mexico to work with the Hispanics. Later, she founded McCurdy School.

The Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) was chartered in 1940.

On November 6, 1905, the Estancia Ladies Aide Society was organized. They met in the home of Mrs. Dunlavy with Mrs. S. B. Rose as president. Their main purpose was to help the local church with finances and to perform services for the church and community.

The Estancia Public library had its beginning in a reading room opened in the Methodist Church in January, 1906. An organization for the maintenance of the library was formed, the officers being A. H. Garnett, president, M. B. Atkinson, Vice President; C. H. Hittson, Secretary and Miss Clara Pense, treasurer. Some books and magazines were given by the public, others were bought by the library association. The reading room was known as the Garnett Public Library. It became the Estancia Public Library when the books were given to the Women's Club in the 1930's. Later the Estancia Business and Professional Women's Club took charge of the library and it is presently staffed and governed by the Town of Estancia.

The Ladies Aide Society chose as their mission project, support of the local church. During the war, they served dinners every month in the church basement. The members of the society took their turn serving as

chairman to set up tables and to serve the meals. Everyone was told what to furnish. The dinners helped meet their \$50.00 to \$100.00 a month support to the church budget. The money realized from this service was very vital to the operation of the church.

UMW History cont'd

Other functions carried out by this group was house to house canvas, soliciting funds to meet the church budget. Calls were even made to the many local bars. Sometimes the caller would be told by the bartender that they (the bartender) did not attend church and had no obligation to the church. These courageous Methodist women were determined and reminded the bar personnel that surely they would not want to live in a town without a church. The ladies nearly always got a donation. Other money making projects were selling Marian Kay extracts, making and selling quilts and the annual Mother and Daughter Banquet.

Around 1940, the Society became the Women's Society of Christian Services. The membership continued their support of the local church. It was the custom for the mothers to bring their children to the meetings.

Three outstanding programs recorded were: (1) "Living Portraits" in which Mrs. Nichols (the wife of Rev. Nichols) unveiled pictures of Christ and told of some of Paul's letters. (2) "A Methodist Tour of London". This program included the Wesley Altergate Church. (3) "My Favorite Poet - David and the Psalms."

There was never much money in the treasury and there was always a need for new linoleum, hot water heater, candles for the Sanctuary, curtains for the parsonage, carpeting for the Sanctuary, refrigerator repairs or something, but the society always took time for prayers. Prayers to thank God for giving them the means to provide the necessities of the church properties, prayers for peace, prayers for the church, prayers for our missionaries and prayers for the people in need.

In 1968, we became the Estancia United Methodist Women. We were still few in number but worked hard for the church survival and were very supportive of Missions both local and abroad.

In May of 1982, we sponsored the first Ecumenical Luncheon in Estancia. Women of all denominations were invited as guests. This first endeavor was just a luncheon followed by a fellowship hour. However, the next year, we gave a program which was pantomiming the six "Women of the Bible" with descriptive narration. We have continued with interesting programs and the luncheons have been very successful.

Marcia Fitzner has been a source of pride to our Unit as she has taken her time and talents to pursue higher positions in all levels of the United Methodist Women. She has shared her talents in the choir as well as filling our pulpit and other church pulpits for regular Sunday Services. She has held pledge services and other services for District and Conference meetings and shared her beautiful voice and talents with many people throughout the state, North America, and other nations.

In closing this report, I would like to use the benediction that was used years ago when our WSCS worked so hard to keep our little church doors open:

Let us not be weary and well-doing

For in due season, we shall reap, if we faint not.

OUR MISSION

To honor God through our worship, ministry and discipleship based on God's Word; supporting one another with Christian Fellowship and reaching out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, President of EUMW

How can you make God laugh??

-Make a plan!-

EUMC Calendar

September 2003

Tear Off

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:am Worship PPRC	1	2	3 6:30-8:15pm Wed Night Blessing - Study of John	4 7:pm Men & Women's Emmaus Reunion (educ. bldg)	5	6 2:pm Ethel's Piano Recital - Sanctuary
7 10:am Worship - Communion Sunday	8	9	10 6:30-8:15pm Wed Night Blessing - Study of John	11 7:pm Men & Women's Emmaus Reunion (educ. bldg)	12	13 Pre-Pole Rally for Students
14 10:am Worship - Ad Council Meeting	15	16	17 7:am See You at the Pole at the Flag Pole at School 6:30-8:15pm Wed Night Blessing -	18 7:pm Men & Women's Emmaus Reunion (educ. bldg)	19 Sept 19 - 21 - Celebrate SMA See Pastor Linda for Details	20 7am Men's Prayer Breakfast 10am - 2pm Candidacy concerns - Dist Office
21 10:am Worship - Worship Committee	22	23 Noon: UMW	24 6:30-8:15pm Wed Night Blessing - Study of John	25 7:pm Men & Women's Emmaus Reunion (educ. bldg)	26 Sept 26-27 - Lay Speaker School Paradise Hills UMC	27
28 10:am Worship - Sun - Wed Probationer's Retreat. Pastor must attend	29 Sun - Wed Probationer's Retreat. Pastor must attend	30 Sun - Wed Probationer's Retreat. Pastor must attend	1 Sun - Wed Probationer's Retreat. Pastor must attend	Important Dates: Nov 30th - Charge Conference Oct 24th & 25th UMW Conference - Clovis Oct 6th - 23rd Nomads here to paint church! Monday's - Pastor's Sabbath Day		



Sent with a prayer to:

*Estancia United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 378
Estancia, NM 87016*