



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



MAY, 2008

Pastor: Rev. Gary Eggart

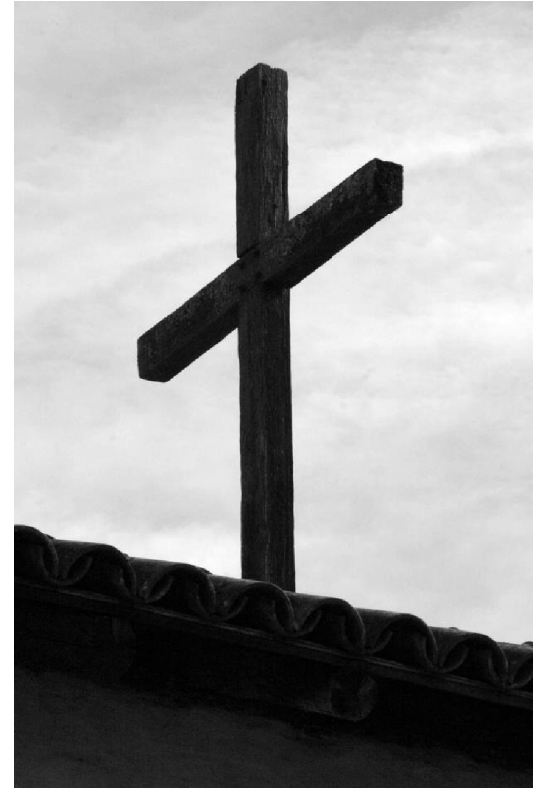
600 Williams, P. O. Box 378, Estancia, NM 87016
 Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710
 email: garye_1@q.com

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

A Simple Bag of Groceries

Dr. James Dobson shares this personal story in his little book, *Coming Home, Timeless Wisdom for Families*:

“A few years ago I slipped into a market to buy a few groceries for lunch. Standing in front of me at the checkout was an elderly woman who didn’t seem to be altogether lucid. It quickly became obvious that she had selected more food than she could pay for as she fumbled in her purse frantically for a few more coins. The checker politely continued to add up the items.

‘I just don’t understand where my money is,’ said the old lady as she made another desperate foray into the depths of her purse.

With that, I whispered to the checker, ‘Just go ahead and total her bill, then accept whatever money she has and put the rest on my bill.’

That’s what she did, and I paid an extra eight dollars to make up the difference. The old woman never knew that I had helped her. She shuffled off with her cart,

relieved that her groceries cost exactly the amount of money she was able to locate. Then I looked back at the checker and saw that she was crying. I asked her why.

‘Because’ she said, ‘I’ve been doing this work for twenty years, and I’ve never seen anyone do something like that before.’

It was no big deal--an insignificant eight dollars--but simple kindness is so unusual today that it shocks us when it occurs. I’ll tell you this: ‘that may have been the best eight dollars I ever spent!’”

We have a lot to be thankful for and God has lavished his love on us. (1 John 3:1)

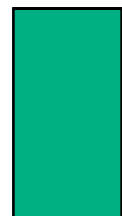
You and I may never know what God can do with our simple words and acts of kindness. But we will certainly never know unless we speak and act kindly to others.

Kindness is part of the “fruit” that proves the Spirit of God is working in us (Galatians 5:22-23). Be on the look out for chances to be kind. Get ready though, because they are all around you. And when the chance comes, be kind, and see God’s work through you.

-Pastor Gary



Spring Has Sprung



Cleaning Our Church

What do you know?! It’s sign-up time again! **But first let’s go out of our way to individually thank each of the families who gave of their time and energy each week to help keep our sanctuary and education building presentable.** Below are the volunteers who signed up for the 2007-08 season:

June.....Barbara & Bill Simms
July.....Fitzner & Chavez (split)
August.....Amanda and Gary Eggart
Sept.....Pam & Mark Lambert
October.....Della and Mel Stephenson
Nov.....Susan & Sam Wilson

December.....Fitzners, Gary Skaggs, Simms,
Levys and Vickie Coburn
January.....Charlotte & Claudio Baca
February.....Alma Wimsatt & Vickie Coburn
March.....Jan and Francis Winn
April.....Lily & Jim Wyman

Sign-Up Time Again for the 2008-09 season! ~~May new sign-up sheet is posted~~ in the Education Building. Please take time **NOW** to choose a month, and help keep our church lookin’ good! THANKS!!

Farewell to Pastor Gary...

Although this time comes around every few years, its difficult to say good bye to a pastor and family that we have grown to know and love.

The Conference office has spoken and we have learned that we will be receiving a new pastor from Marfa, Texas. The Reverend Charles Spooner and his wife, June will be arriving sometime in early June.

Pastor Gary has been reassigned to the Methodist Church in Amherst, Texas, which is located on US Hwy 84 almost midway between Clovis, NM and Lubbock, TX.

GOOD BYE and HELLO!

Moving, Packing and Cleaning...

Moving is a big job for everyone involved including the church.

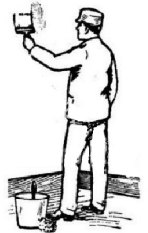
Help will be needed. Toward the end of the month and early

June, folks will be asked to lend a hand with moving out and

moving in. The parsonage will need to be ready for our new pastor and his family in June. The PPRC committee will really appreciate your help.

United Methodist Men...

The UMM may be embarking on a new ministry soon. The group has been searching for a new and meaningful ministry that can take advantage of our group's talents. We decided on a community help program, the name of which is still being discussed. Basically, the effort will involve teams - one to seek out an individual's or family's needs, another team to acquire the necessary materials and yet a third to actually accomplish the work. We expect that many individuals will be on more than one team.



Our congregation can be of great help to this effort by alerting the Men's group to special needs within our church and in our community. Although this effort is in the formative stage, we anticipate making this effort public in the next few weeks.

Trustee News

Have you noticed the beeping coming from the basement during our church services?? Well, it's not coming from the children's Sunday School. The company managing the church's fire protection system has discovered a malfunction in the control panel and they will be replacing it soon. Our fire alarm is still working fine and the the overall protection has not been compromised; however, we will be glad to get rid of the beeping.

The trustees will be beginning another construction project in the Education Building to install a new evaporative cooler. The current cooler has significant cooling and safety issues.

The trustees sent a contribution of \$1000 to the Methodist Church in Maxwell, NM, which was destroyed by fire early the morning of March 21st. The church has purchased tents so that services can continue to be held on the grounds.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Who Must Report

1. Everyone who suspects abuse and/or neglect
2. Licensed physicians residents, or Interns, registered nurses, and vaulting nurses.
3. Social workers
4. Law enforcement officers
5. A judge presiding during any proceeding

Immunity

If you report child abuse and/or neglect in good faith you will be immune from civil or criminal liability.

Failure to Report

If you suspect abuse and/or neglect and do not report your suspicion you can be charged with a misdemeanor in a court of law.

HOW TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Where

1. New Mexico Statewide Central Intake
2. Local County Child Protective Services Office
3. Local Law Enforcement, including State Police, County Sheriff's Office, or Local City Police Department
4. Tribal Law Enforcement or Tribal Social Services

What

1. All known demographic information on the child and family
2. Allegations of suspected abuse and neglect
3. Location of the child and the family
4. Safety factors involving the child
5. Potential risks for the child and the family
6. Assessment of the Family Needs and Strengths
7. Potential Risks to the Investigator

Who Investigates

1. Child Protective Services Division only investigates abuse and neglect in which the perpetrator is a caretaker of the child.
2. Law Enforcement investigates all abuse and neglect reports including abuse and/or neglect by the day care providers, foster parents and institutions.
3. Child Protective Services and Law Enforcement jointly investigate child abuse and/or neglect when appropriate.

Care Boxes to Dustin Newsom and Josh Hall

The boxes to our young men in Iraq are being regularly sent. We are including the food and other items you have donated and we thank you very much. Dustin has told Julie that he does not have access to a microwave oven or hot water for tea or coffee so we're packing his boxes with snack food that is ready to eat. Please remember this when you bring food. Josh says that we can send anything as he has 200 guys with which to share.

So keep your donations coming. Keep the box in the Ed Building full of the good stuff. The feedback is that we cannot ship too much HOT SPICY JERKY!!

We also want to give a big thank you to those who contributed money for postage. Each box sent costs \$8.95, which is very reasonable, so is a bargain all things considered.

-Thanks, Alma

Mountainair UMC News



On this month's calendar is the Council Meeting/Potluck Luncheon scheduled for Sunday, May 18th. For June, we should have some nice photos of the parish hall that the artist group, headed by Shirley and Wray Simmons, have been painting, and hanging some of their lovely art. We'll try to run a few photos and story about that project next month after it's all finished.

-Mary Jones

May 4, 2008, The Seventh Sunday of Easter

* Acts 1:6-14. We move as Christians at Christ's command and the Spirit's prompting, motivated by the love of God. Here we see what the group of about 120 disciples did as they waited for the Spirit's next move after the ascension of our Lord: praying diligently, becoming of one spirit.

* Psalm response: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (UMH 792).

* 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11. More elements to expect in our active waiting: suffering, endurance, resisting evil, and expecting God to strengthen us for service in and through it all.

* John 17:1-11. Jesus was waiting for his betrayer to arrive, and as he was waiting, offered this prayer -- that we would have everything we needed as his disciples to continue and multiply his ministry: God's direction, God's protection, and unity in mission among ourselves.

<p>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.</p>
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Ad Council

It has been brought to my attention that the men in our church are in the process of investigating ways they can help residents in our community who may need a helping hand. Many times men and women who are disabled or too old to get out to do things for themselves, let important chores go undone. Even if one has the resources, it is many times difficult to find someone to help out.

Now days, unfortunately, there can also be legal implications. So, these issues will need to be worked out in advance so that no one is put in an awkward position.

I have been following issues going on at the General Conference, and came across the laity address given by Lyn Powell. I was impressed by what was said. Dr. Lovette Weems from Wesley Theological Seminary was quoted. He said, "When the community looks at the church the community must see itself. And if the community does not see itself, then the church will begin to decline."

As I reflected on this issue, the current United Methodist Men's project came to mind. What better way for our church to be known, than our willingness to help others in their time of need, while asking nothing in return! In other words reflecting God's Love. WOW!!

The laity address spoke of reaching out in what was called "Personal Ministry." And that, as laity, we no longer seem to be claiming the core responsibility of finding the lost and getting them back to our churches, to claim their salvation. As laity, we are, many times, sitting back and RECEIVING the ministry from the clergy.

We, as laity, are called to be equipped by our pastors to go out to do the ministry of offering Christ to the world.

In our church, we are seeing numerous examples of this attitude: the generous donations of money, needed food pantry items and kitchen supplies is a wonderful gift we all need to appreciate. Another great example is the generous attitude of the Quilting Group which sends care packages to our service men as well as gathering UMCOR kits for the disadvantaged.

Those of us who are not yet involved, need to start our own "Personal Ministry" by telling others about our church and continuing to build our awareness of helping others.

As we begin this next journey with our church, we should all encourage our new pastor to show us new personal and joint ministries. As we go forward on this journey TOGETHER, we know there will be challenges. Some may not like what we are doing and others may take advantage of what we are offering, but we need to keep in mind that when we do these things in GOD'S name, we and our church will be blessed.

-Marcia Fitzner, Administrative Council Chairman

Just Remember...

When everything's coming your way,
you may be in the wrong lane.

FROM GOD..

As you got up this morning, I watched you, and hoped you would talk to me, even if it was just a few words, asking my opinion or thanking me for something good that happened in your life yesterday. But I noticed you were too busy, trying to find the right outfit to wear.

When you ran around the house getting ready, I knew there would be a few minutes for you to stop and say hello, but you were too busy. At one point you had to wait fifteen minutes with nothing to do except sit in a chair. Then I saw you spring to your feet. I thought you wanted to talk to me but you ran to the phone and called a friend to get the latest gossip instead. I watched patiently all day long. With all our activities I guess you were too busy to say anything to me.

I noticed that before lunch you looked around, maybe you felt embarrassed to talk to me, that is why you didn't bow your head. You glanced three or four tables over and you noticed some of your friends talking to me briefly before they ate, but you didn't. That's okay. There is still more time left, and I hope that you will talk to me yet.

You went home and it seems as if you had lots of things to do. After a few of them were done, you turned on the TV. I don't know if you like TV or not, just about anything goes there and you spend a lot of time each day in front of it not thinking about anything, just enjoying the show. I waited patiently again as you watched the TV and ate your meal, but again you didn't talk to me.

Bedtime, I guess you felt too tired. After you said good night to your family, you plopped into bed and fell asleep in no time. That's okay because you may not realize that I am always there for you. I've got patience, more than you will ever know.... I even want to teach you how to be patient with others, as well.

I love you so much that I wait everyday for a nod, prayer or thought, or a thankful part of your heart. It is hard to have a one-sided conversation. Well, you are getting up once again. Once again I will wait, with nothing but love for you. Hoping that today you will give me some time. Have a nice day!

Your friend,
GOD

Ways to Know you are in the wrong Church...

- They have ATM machines in the lobby.

They have karaoke worship time.

- The guy that takes the minutes in business meeting votes against everything because he can't spell unanimous.

- The church bus has gun racks.

- The Bible they use is the "Dr. Seuss" version.

- When you go in ushers ask you, "Do you want smoking or non-smoking?"

We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names and all are different colors, but they all have to learn to live in the same box.

May 2008

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



Sent with a prayer to:

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

Job or Ministry?

A job is at your choice;
A ministry is at Christ's call.

In a job, you expect to receive;
In a ministry you expect to give.

In a job you give something to get something;
In a ministry you return something that has already been given to you.

A job depends on your abilities;
A ministry depends on your availability to God.

A job done well brings you praise;
A ministry done well brings honor to Christ.

-James N. Sprugeon