



## **NEWSLETTER**

**OF THE**

**Estancia United Methodist Church**

**600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico**

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



# **OCTOBER, 2018**

## Estancia United Methodist Church

[www.EstanciaMethodist.org](http://www.EstanciaMethodist.org)

600 W. Williams, P.O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016

Rev. Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

Email [smithkw@gmail.com](mailto:smithkw@gmail.com)

Worship Chair	Susan Samuels
Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Comptroller & Trustee Chair	Bill Simms
Finance Chair	Julie Griffio
Kitchen Crew	Alma Wimsatt
Lay Leader Ann. Conf. Delegate, Recording Sec.	Elaine Darnell
McMurry College Representative	Raymond Moore
Membership Nurture	Barbara Simms
Membership Rolls	Carolyn Moore & Marque Sturges
Music	Morrow Hall
Outreach & Food Vouchers	Butch McGee
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
United Methodist Men Chair	Nick Griffio
United Methodist Youth Fellowship	Alexandra Chavez

## Mountainair United Methodist Church

211 S. Sunset, Mountainair, NM 87036

Rev. Keith Smith Ph 505-234-4959

Email [smithkw@gmail.com](mailto:smithkw@gmail.com)

Church Council Chair, Lay Leader, Worship Chair & Recording Secretary	Patty Mahoney
Finance Chair	David Dixon
Trustees Chair & Treasurer	Kent Potter
Annual Conference Delegate & Outreach	Wanda Giovengo
McMurry College Representative	Anna Hopping
Native American Ministries	Rebecca Lueras
Social Concerns Chairpersons	David & Maribeth Dixon
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Bertha Warner

## FROM THE PASTOR'S KEYBOARD

This year, in fact just a few weeks ago, marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “rapture,” the time that Jesus took his disciples that were on Earth—first those who had fallen asleep (i.e. died) and next those who were still living. They were all taken up to be with Him in the clouds. So if you are still here, you missed it. If it makes you feel any better, so did I. Paul warned this would happen in his letter to the followers of The Way in Thessalonica (1 Thess 4:16-17) and more recently Edgar Whisenant told anyone who would listen that it would be between Sept 11 and Sept 13, 1988. He detailed this prediction in “88 REASONS Why The Rapture Will Be In 1988.”

Many Christians would immediately refer Whisenant (and me!) to Matthew 24:36 which records Jesus as saying “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, [nor the Son,] but only the Father.” But he points out that that is only the case because at any given instant, it is 24 different hours, and two different days at various locations around the Earth. However (this is Reason #1 of the 88, he wisely responds to the appearance that he is calling Jesus a liar first of all) he points out that, while day and hour are unknown, “...this does not preclude or prevent the faithful from knowing the year, the month, and the week of the Lord’s return.” He did a nice job of splitting hairs; the ancient priests and Pharisees would have been proud of him. He died in 2001, so we may assume that he’s in his grave, still waiting for the rapture.

Jesus understands human nature and our desire to have our cake and eat it too, to follow the priorities of the world for fame, money and stuff,

but also to be right with God on Judgment Day. He told several parables to teach us to *always* be ready- **all** the time, not **just in time**. The core reason, as He also pointed out, is that we cannot serve two masters. We must choose whom we will serve, either God or the World, and then **serve**. That’s a verb, an action word. Perhaps if those who spend, (read: waste) so much time splitting hairs would devote that time to sharing the Word, and loving, and feeding, clothing, visiting, they might be so busy, and happy, that they wouldn’t have time to worry about “when.” Let me help by telling you exactly when the rapture will occur. Only God knows. Now that we have that settled let’s get back to work.

God Bless you,

-Pastor Keith

# KING'S KIDS



Barbara Explaining to kids about God's "Hedge of Protection"

## Church Conferences

The church conferences for both congregations were held Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The conferences were conducted by Rev. Craig Cockrell, our new District Superintendent who was appointed by Bishop Bledsoe to replace Rev. James Large who retired. If you were there, most of this will be information you already know. If you have attended a church or charge conference in the past, you missed the opportunity to meet the new DS. Craig grew up in Las Vegas, NM, and has been a pastor for more than 30 years. He most recently served St. John's UMC in Albuquerque.

Just for reference, a "charge" is where a pastor is assigned, and can consist of one or more congregations. I intentionally use the word "congregation" because it's important to remember that there is only one Church, the Bride of Christ, all Christian believers. If a charge has more than one congregation it is referred to as an X-point charge where X is the number of congregations. So Estancia/Mountainair is a 2-point charge. Technically it's a  $\frac{3}{4}$  2-point charge, but we can go into that in a future newsletter if there is tremendous demand for it. Since the congregations held separate conferences, these were church conferences. If both congregations met together in a combined meeting, it would be a charge conference.

The conferences began with a devotion by Rev. Cockrell. He talked about how Jesus felt in the Garden of Gethsemane. This is the only recorded time when Jesus' will and the will of God were not identical. But Jesus made his own wishes secondary to God's will, just as we should. As each conference continued, the church leadership was approved, the pastor's salary for 2019 was set, and a variety of reports were submitted. After the paperwork portion of the meetings was completed, congregation members shared what ministries they particularly enjoyed and got to hear about the DS's priorities and views. He emphasized that the old approach of "build it and they will come" evangelism is not effective in reaching people today. We must be the church outside the walls of the church. Craig wants us to come up with additional ways of engaging the communities as the Church in addition to our current ways, and he is able to support us if the barrier to a new idea is some extra money.

Rev. Cockrell has been worshipping with the congregations in the Albuquerque District, so don't be surprised to see him in a pew near you some Sunday morning.

*-Pastor Keith*

# **TRUNK OR TREAT**



**Estancia United  
Methodist Church  
600 W. Williams**



**Bring your trunk,  
and some friends!**

**Wednesday  
Oct. 31st  
5:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Free  
Hot Dogs  
& Nachos!**

**GAMES**

# OCTOBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> ESTANCIA Volleyball Home 6:30 PM	<b>10</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>11</b> ESTANCIA Volleyball Home 6:30 PM	<b>12</b> ESTANCIA Football Home 7:00 PM	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> ESTANCIA Volleyball Home 6:30 PM	<b>17</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>18</b> ESTANCIA Volleyball Home 6:30 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
<b>21</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM <u>Ray Darnell</u>	<b>22</b> ECHO Food Distribution 9:00 - 12:00	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Women's Bible Study 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>25</b> ESTANCIA Volleyball Home 6:30 PM	<b>26</b> ESTANCIA Football Home 7:00 PM	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Worship 9:00 AM Mtair 11:00 AM	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> TRUNK OR TREAT 5:00 - 7:00 PM			



*Sent with a prayer to:*



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

**PSALM 121:1-3, 5-8**

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,  
from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made  
heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:  
he that keepeth thee will not slumber....

The Lord shall preserve thee from all  
evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out  
and thy coming in from this time forth, and  
even for evermore.

-Contributed by Alma Wimsatt