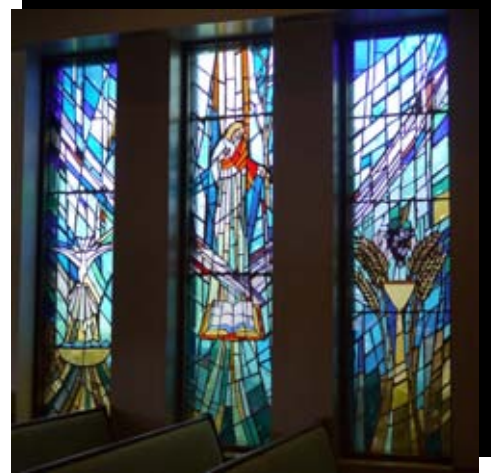


Foothills'

VIEW



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We welcomed Christmas in with Angels



Twenty-eight angels sang 'Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are,' 'Give a Little Angel Shove,' and 'See How They Shine' in Sunday, Dec. 4, afternoon's presentation of 'ARCH the Angel.' Over two hundred people enjoyed the musical by the Alleluia Singers and Sounds of Joy choirs before the Family Christmas Celebration in King Hall.

PHOTOS BY ADAM KLARER



At the Family Christmas Celebration, everyone enjoyed a meal of chicken nuggets, green salad, fruit salad, coleslaw and brownies from Chick-fil-A.

The angel theme for the evening continued as participants made angel crafts, homemade Christmas cards and decorated Christmas cookies.

"But today our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change. The large house in which we live demands that we transform this world-wide neighborhood into a world-wide brotherhood. Together we must learn to live as brothers or together we will be forced to perish as fools."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.



*From
the pastor's
perspective...*



Rev. John Farley

Foothills Church Staff

Rev. John Farley
Lead Pastor

Rev. Christian DeMent
Associate Pastor

Theresa Erb
Family Ministries

Anthony Aranico
Youth and Young Adults

Jeanette Ham
Welcome and Pastoral Care

Carol Paton
Director of Music

Glenn Ward
Organist, Accompanist

Jack Erb
Contemporary Music

Tim Robertson
Media and Music

Linda Cree
Bell Choir

Ruth Phillips
Preschool Director

Sheri Etter
Development, Administration

Steven Topham
Website and Marketing

Carrie Dubert
Ministry Support

Mary Lou Standiford
Ministry Support

Valerie Sachs
Ministry Assistant

Jonny Oyama
Facility Support

Tish Weamer
Wedding, Bereavement
Coordinator

Help us to know each other better

by John Farley, lead pastor

When Jesus asked his disciples; “Who do you say that I am,” Simon answered: “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And, Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church...” Matt. 16:15-18.

Scholarship tells us there is a play on words here, because, in the original language of the text, “Peter” means “rock.” This is not the only place where a name change also signifies an identity change. In the beginning of Acts, the apostle Paul is named Saul as he persecutes the Christians. When he is converted and begins his Christian mission work, he switches from Saul to Paul. Names help us identify who we are and with whom we are affiliated.

During the last communion service, I was working on seeing how many

persons I could name as they came forward for the bread and wine. Then I began to notice something; name tags. Some were white and noted, “Common Ground Volunteer” along with the name; a further definition of who was before me. Others were blue and noted, “Pastoral Care Team” in addition to the name. The “Ushers” also have a name tag that identifies them. Each name tag helped me identify who a person was as well as who they are affiliated with at Foothills. There was a certain comfort and clarity that came, and I was actually rather proud that the individuals felt dedicated enough to wear their particular name tag to communicate to others who they are and what they do in the community of faith.

We have an average attendance of 550-600 in worship on Sundays. We have 1334 members on the rolls. If you add in all the constituents (persons active who have not become members), the total number of people here at Foothills is 1,950. That’s a lot

[Continued on page 4: ‘Help us](#)

A young woman receives God’s grace

by Susan Naslund, VIEW reporter

“And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God.” Luke 1:30

The Gospel tells us that Mary was a virgin when the angel proclaimed that she would soon become the mother of Jesus. Some scholars believe, however, that in telling the story, Matthew was probably referring to a prophecy in Isaiah which stated that the Messiah would be born to a virgin. It is claimed that in the Hebrew Scriptures to which Matthew referred, the word he interpreted as “virgin” was merely meant to mean “young woman.” For many, the power of the Christmas story is in the miracle that occurred when Mary conceived the child. Could Matthew have misunderstood the meaning of a word that led to misperceptions about Mary?

An unwed pregnant woman seems to be an unlikely choice for the Messiah’s mother. A closer look at Luke 1:30, how-

ever, indicates that the Greek word for “favor” means “grace,” and perhaps we should understand that when God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus, he was giving her an unearned blessing. For me, the power of the story is not so much in the miracle that may have occurred when Mary conceived the child as in the depth of God’s grace.

Maybe Mary was selected for her loveliness and purity, or maybe God poured out his grace upon an undervalued young woman. We can be encouraged by the birth story because while God rejoices in those who are faithful, God sometimes chooses people with inadequacies to receive his grace. In the New Year, I will ponder whether I am ready—with all of my own inadequacies—to receive God’s blessings and respond to His call to serve. Are you ready for a miracle of God’s grace in your life?

Now is a great time to start a bucket list

by Steve Hable, lay leader

The other day my daughter, Stephanie, mentioned she would like to ride the rapids of the Colorado River someday. As we continued to talk about similar adventures, we mentioned the movie, "Bucket List." I admit I did not see the movie; popular movie review websites suggest I made a wise choice. "The Bucket List" is about two gentlemen who meet in the hospital after finding out they have terminal diseases. They decide to set out and do all they can do before they "kick the bucket."

Rather than leave the important things to the last moment, I suggest everyone start on a bucket list today. There needs to be some ground rules established when establishing a bucket list. First, the list should not be just about travel and adventure or just about you. Your list should include family and friends. Second, items on your list should be things you really have an interest in – no "responding to a dare." Third, your list should include something

that is a bit of a challenge. This doesn't have to be a physical challenge. It should be something that makes you think and move outside of your comfort zone. Finally, your bucket list should include some things that benefit others.

Foothills UMC gives us ample opportunities to add to our personal bucket lists: form a small group for Bible study, teach Sunday school, sing in the choir, go on a mission trip with the youth, or volunteer to serve on one of the committees. You may have an interest in a new mission area that others would find very rewarding.

As we begin a new year, now would be a great time to start your list. Remember; a bucket list is not a series of New Year's resolutions. These are not things you wish to do; these are specific goals that you will check off as you complete them. Your bucket list will likely change as you cross off completed items, and add new items to keep your bucket list active. Next time you see me, please share some of your bucket list items.

'God has a plan for all of us'

by Linda Miller, VIEW reporter



Don and Dot Jenkinson

Dot and Don Jenkinson are familiar faces around Foothills. They participate in so many activities it would be impossible to list them, but their smiling faces can be seen on campus every week.

The Jenkinsons have been married for 51 years and have been members of

Foothills since 1963. They met at a Phoenix United Methodist church singles group and, shortly after their wedding, they moved to La Mesa.

After retiring from his administrative position with Project Concern, an international humanitarian non-profit, Don worked at Foothills for five years. While here, he worked on outreach projects, especially those aimed at seniors. He was responsible for bringing the Meals on Wheels program to Foothills and it is still going strong almost 20 years later.

Dot is a retired social worker who also specialized in seniors' services. "There is not much we haven't been involved in," said Don. "We've been very, very blessed. We try to return that in our daily lives. We

Continued on page 4 'Jenkinsons'



*As
I see it...*



Steve Hable

Foothills' VIEW

The Foothills' VIEW is published monthly by Foothills United Methodist Church. The due date for articles is the second Monday of the month. You may submit an article on events, fellowship groups, or persons related to the mission of Foothills. Email your article and picture (jpeg) to the editor.

Editor

Mary Lou Standiford
marylous@foothillsumc.org

Lay Person Reporter

Linda Miller
lsmillerq@cox.net

'Outside the Walls' Column

Mary Lou Standiford
marylous@foothillsumc.org

Seasons of Worship Reporter

Susan Naslund
enaslund@cox.net

Photographer

Adam Klarer
adam@visualartists.tv

LOOK at THIS!

*Nurturing
communities*



Mary Lou Standiford

January Calendar

- 1/1 Epiphany Sunday
New Year's Day
- 1/2 Office Closed
- 1/4 Sarah/Ruth Circle
Yoga (Wed.)
Jesus in the Gospels (Weds.)
- 1/5 EarthCare (EO Thurs.)
- 1/6-8 Young Adult Winter Retreat
- 1/9 Women at the Well
Harmony Ringers Dinner
- 1/10 Storefront
- 1/11 Foothills Folks
Kid's Exploration (Weds.)
4th, 5th Fellowship (Weds.)
- 1/12 La Vida Real
Volunteer Lunch
- 1/13 Friday Friends
- 1/14 Day of Prayer
Wil-Mat
- 1/14-28 Interfaith Shelter
- 1/16 Martin Luther King Holiday
Office Closed
- 1/18 Men's Lunch Coronado
- 1/19 Tender Loving Care Team
- 1/21 La Roca
Winter Choir Retreat
- 1/24 Bridge Marathon
Understanding Your Grief
- 1/28 Prayer Quilt Ministry
Preschool "He & Me"
- 1/29 UMW Sunday
- 1/31 Discover Foothills

Changes will come from General Conference

By Mary Lou Standiford, editor

The United Methodist Church needs to change and the beginning of that change will come when the delegates to General Conference meet in May to address proposals from an international panel of United Methodist leaders. They are offering three ways to make the denomination less centered on the United States and stronger in its worldwide connection.

1) To adopt "A Covenant for the Church as a Worldwide Church." The United Methodist Church has nearly 40,000 congregations in the United States, Africa, Europe and the Philippines with more than 12 million members. Changing demographics show that the U.S. congregations have declined to 7.8 million members. After three years of listening to churches worldwide, the panel members learned that United Methodists want to belong to a worldwide church. "That was very clear. But it was clear also that the current structure gives domination to the U.S. part of the church over other regions," said The Rev. Forbes Matonga, a committee member in Harare, Zimbabwe. He hopes the cove-

nant will "move the church from legalistic engagement to connectional engagement where it is our common faith that brings us together."

2) To adopt a petition that slims down the *Book of Discipline* to make its purpose more of a clarification need than a rule book. There could be two books, one for questions belonging to the unity of the church and kept at the General Conference level and one to rule the things appropriately decided by regions or annual conferences.

3) To restructure the Church. The group calls for church members to discuss creating "Continental Conferences," new regional bodies in North America, Africa, Asia and Europe/Eurasia to focus on regional church issues. Under such restructuring, General Conference would still meet every four years, but its role would narrow to include only issues of global relevance. Matonga said. "The center of Christianity is shifting from the Western world to the so-called Third World. If we want to be sensitive to the future of Christianity, we will have to recognize the shift, especially to the African continent."

Continued from page 2: 'Help us know...'

of names to put to faces! Name tags really do help.

If you are a member, a name tag is made for you and hangs on the name tag board on the pillars outside the sanctuary by the front lawn. How about a New Year's resolution to remember to wear your name tag each week? Along with the new pictorial

directory, it helps us to put a name and face together here at Foothills.

We offer ourselves to each other when we offer our names. As a Christian community, and as a church family, we seek to belong to each other as the body of Christ; that's the name of the game. Let's help each other know each other a little better this year.

Continued from page 3: 'Jenkinsons'

both feel God brought us together. God has a plan for all of us," he said.

Dot's personal ministry is creating and sending paper cards to people. Years ago, after she was diagnosed with breast cancer and suffering from the negative effects of chemo, Dot said she received something like 150 cards from friends and acquaintances. She said it made her feel better to read the cards again and again.

Now she goes through the weekly prayer list and sends her beautiful homemade cards to some of the people going through difficult – or good – times. "I know God has worked in my life because he gave me my husband and got me through a serious illness," Dot said.

They believe God brought them to Foothills too. "The church is a very important part of our lives," Don said. Quietly Dot added, "It's our family."

Foundry has been preparing the soil; time to plant!

By Valerie Sachs, ministry assistant

“Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times.”

The year 2011 has been one of “firsts” for Foundry UMC. It has been a year of introducing ourselves to the community and sharing our values with them. Borrowing from Jesus’ parable in the Book of Mark, it has been a time of preparing the ground for planting and a fertile harvest. Look what has been accomplished this year:

➤ Working relationships have been formed with community organizations such as The Rotary Club; The Chula Vista Public Library Foundation; the YMCA; South Bay Community Services; the City of Chula Vista and the recreation centers in Otay Ranch and Eastlake.

➤ Otay Ranch residents have seen Foundry members assisting their community through Impact Sunday; sponsoring free Family Movie Nights Under the Stars; assisting at the city’s recreation department campout, *Snores & S’mores*; and participating in city celebrations such as Family Kids Day, Harbor Days and the Chula Vista Centennial Celebration.

➤ On Easter morning, Foundry held its first public worship service at Mountain Hawk Park.

➤ A small group of committed members have begun regular meetings to study scripture, support one another and draw friends and family to this new faith-life community.

➤ Foundry has “adopted” and continued to care for a group of young people who are living in the Trolley Trestle apartments and who have aged out of foster care.

➤ The “look” of Foundry has been established with the help of a local marketing



firm. With this branding in mind, a logo has been developed and public awareness tools (website, Facebook; signage, brochures, postcards, etc.) have been created. There is even a proscribed color palette and typeface that the church uses in its communications!

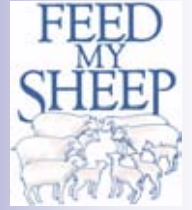
➤ Foundry is advertising in Otay Ranch’s publication, *My Hometown Magazine*, and has received editorial coverage there as well.

➤ Shoppers at the area’s largest mall, Otay Ranch Town Center, are learning more about the church through a six-month advertising campaign utilizing the large poster kiosk that stands in the main corridor of the shopping area. (This Christmas featured our “Whose Birthday Is It Anyway?” message.)

➤ Foundry’s first golf tournament to support the community was held in November and raised \$2800; half of which will be donated to the new public library scheduled to open this year at Otay Ranch Town Center. In appreciation, the library will post a sponsorship plaque on one of their new bookcases.

➤ On Thanksgiving Eve, Foundry received the first cross that will grace the walls of its new church. When Rolando UMC closed its doors last year, they chose to share their legacy throughout the district by giving each congregation one of the crosses from its building. Foundry’s wooden cross will be a cherished element of the church’s worship experience.

So, the “ground” is being prepared – many residents of Eastlake and Otay Ranch have now heard of Foundry. If they have been paying attention, they even know the four elements the church will emphasize – Celebrating, Serving, Christ and Community. Now it’s time to determine a home base, begin regular worship services, continue serving the community and invite others to share in the planting and harvest.



*Look to
serve others...*



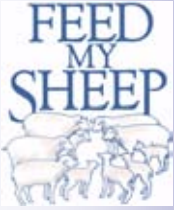
Rev. Christian DeMent

Foundry Opportunities

Faith on Tap
Conversations
of Faith
Small Group



Valerie Sachs



*Look to
serve others...*



Theresa Erb

Common Ground

- Classroom Volunteers
- Children's Clothing
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Christmas Gifts
- Emergency Assistance



Anthony Aranico

Opportunities for Youth

- FUMY
- Sunday Small Groups
- Confirmation
- Work Teams
- 4th, 5th Fellowship
- Sound Faith
- Young Adults

Common Ground gives lots of food

By Marilyn Honea, Common Ground Thanksgiving Chair

What a bountiful Thanksgiving for 100 families in the La Mesa-Spring Valley School area. Our congregation provided stuffing, beans, gravy, and cranberry sauce, as well as \$20 certificates for a turkey and dessert. Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church provided potatoes and onions for each family. Generous money donations were provided by the San Diego Rotary Club, as well as congregational members from Foothills and Santa Sophia churches.

Volunteers from all three churches met in the James Room at Foothills on November 14 to bag all the dinners. Deliv-

ery was made to each of the schools during the week. Family's names were generated through the school personnel at Kempton, Bancroft, Highlands, Casa de Oro, and Avondale schools.

Common Ground extends much gratitude to our three participating churches for their generosity. Foothills UMC provided all of the non-perishable food as well as many gift certificates. It is very humbling to receive such generosity and love and be able to share that good fortune with other deserving families. Thank you all for your donations in meeting this important goal.

Roots&Shoots has change in leadership

by Jeanette Ham, welcome and pastoral care

The children of Roots & Shoots will miss the leadership, love and support of Paulette Bacling, who served as their volunteer leader for nearly three years. Paulette has retired from her position to have more time for gardening and time with her retired husband, Marcus. Jeanette Ham invited Paulette to begin a group here at Foothills after Dr. Jane Goodall spoke in our sanctuary in 2008.

"With the help of many parents and the work and ideas of the children, we have been able to accomplish many things with love," said Paulette. The children have supported Second Dog Chance Rescue with donations, participated in Peace Day, created the Community Peace Garden on

campus, and helped start the recycling efforts on our campus, to name a few. According to Erin Viera, the Education Outreach manager for Roots & Shoots, "Foothills' Roots & Shoots is one of the most active groups in the nation."



Paulette Bacling

Like Dr. Goodall, Paulette believes that, "Young people, when informed and empowered, when they realize that what they do truly makes a difference, can indeed change the world." To continue in that path, Mark Long, a Foothills' member and dad to Emily and Brett, will now lead as the coordinator for Roots & Shoots at Foothills. Indeed, we are truly blessed!

Youth collect over 1300 pounds of food

by Anthony Aranico, youth ministries

The Foothills United Methodist Youth spent two Sundays in November on their annual canned food drive. The first week was to pass around fliers letting the neighborhood around Foothills UMC know that



we would be collecting canned goods on the next week. The youth walked around the neighborhoods that second week in rainy weather and were able to collect over 1,300 pounds of food for the Good Neighbor Center.

UMW hosts Korean children's choir

On November 12, the United Methodist Women ushered in the holidays with a lovely brunch. Karen Rausis catered a wonderful meal. With a rainy Saturday, we had lots of sunshine in King Hall. We were entertained by the singers and dancers from the Korean United Methodist Church conducted by Terah Lee and accompanied by Mrs. Jenny Choi on the piano. There were a few numbers done by the girls in their native costumes, which were very bright and lovely. Then Bryan Kaleta, age 11, played several numbers on the violin. He is definitely a



young maestro. After Bryan played, we enjoyed the J.U.M.P. 24/7 (Jesus Ur My Praise 24/7) children as they performed a song/dance routine.

Youth, families play golf to help kids

by Susan Naslund

The second Annual Youth Golf Tournament to benefit the Common Ground Collaborative was held on Saturday, November 19, at the Sun Valley Golf Course. A total of 16 golfers (9 adults and 7 youth players) teed up for the event that raised nearly \$300 for our five schools.

Members of the winning team were Ham Southworth, Will Southworth, Peter Bullard and Anthony Aranico. Susan Nas-

lund won the "Closest to the Pin" prize, while Jason Turner took home the "Putting Challenge" honors.

Tournament organizer, Matthew Naslund, said, "Everyone had a great time and it was a really fun way to raise money for Common Ground." A special "thank you" goes to Mary Jane Gonzales at Sun Valley Golf Course who was a wonderful hostess, making sure all of the golfers felt welcome at their family-friendly course.

New members join Foothills in November

by Jeanette Ham, Welcoming & Discipleship

Please welcome our newest members to Foothills. Bob and Holly Yarris have four adult children and three grandchildren who live in Portland, Oregon. Vern and Barbara Neff have been attending Foothills for about a year and between them have

seven adult children. Dan and Katie Root are expecting another child in the spring and both Katie and their baby girl, Riley, were baptized recently at Foothills. Tom Dubert is married to Carrie, who works in our church front office.

Not pictured: Tom Dubert and Dan Root



Bob & Holly Yarris



Barbara & Vern Neff



Katie Root



John & Kim Cooney

LOOK
at THIS!

*Nurturing
communities*



Jeanette Ham

Welcoming
and Community Life
Opportunities
Small Groups
Environmental Ministries
Welcoming Ministry
United Methodist Women

Please consider joining Foothills UMC

The first step to become a member here at Foothills is to attend a Discover Foothills class, where you can ask questions and learn more about the church. Discover Foothills sessions occur approximately four times a year. A typical session has about 12 people attending and childcare is available with a reservation for children up through four years-of-age.

Our next Discover Foothills class is **Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. in Pastor Farley's office**, followed by New Member Sunday on February 12. New members are then encouraged to attend our introductory Starting Point classes held on Tuesdays, February 14 and 21.

New Worship Times begin January 8

Beginning Sunday, January 8, the morning worship times will move to 8:30 a.m. for the Traditional service and 10:30 a.m. for the Contemporary service. This will allow time for gathering and fellowship surrounding each service. It is our ministry goal for 2012 to enhance and expand our opportunities to 'connect' as a congregation and enjoy the fellowship of the Spirit here at Foothills.

The 11:30 a.m. Sunday communion service will move to Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We hope this will allow those who work on Sunday mornings an opportunity to worship each week. This will continue to be an informal service with song, prayer and communion.

The 'change' is that Pastor John will lead a Bible study. Join in the biblical reflection and insights that he will then mold into the sermon for the next Sunday. Who knows, YOUR insight might end up as a part of Pastor John's message! The Wednesday evening service will begin on Wednesday, January 11.

Staffing changes announced for 2012

by Paul Duvall, Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee

The Staff Parish Relations Committee at Foothills UMC has announced staffing changes for 2012. One is Mary Lou Standiford, retiring; and the other is Jack Erb.

For nine years, Mary Lou Standiford has creatively and effectively served the staff and ministry of Foothills. Mary Lou's key role as the editor of the Foothills' VIEW, and the E-View has offered Foothills the highest quality communication tools. Mary Lou's work can be characterized as diligent, organized, creative and insightful. In addition, Mary Lou has coordinated the calendar, the office resources, the facility-use calendar and much more. She will be sorely missed. Mary Lou's last day will be January 19, 2012. Please take every opportunity to share your appreciation and thanks.



Mary Lou

Jack Erb is known by all, but best known by those in the second service. Though Jack has worn many different hats over the years, his most recent and key role has been the guiding force as leader of the "Witness Band." Jack has brought a unique blend of organizational ability, creativity and inspiration to his work. The pastors appreciate that his song selections always enhance and deepen the message of the sermon each week. Jack completed his service with the Christmas Eve service and reluctantly relinquished his staff position. Jack will take on new responsibilities in his profession as a music teacher for the Poway School District and SDSU, but still intends to remain an active part of the Foothills' ministry. Once again you are invited to share your thanks with Jack as you are able.



Jack



Website: www.foothillsumc.org

Phone: 619-670-4009

Fax: 619-670-4012

E-mail:

foothills@foothillsumc.org