

Foothills' VIEW



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September is time to choose your place

Sunday, September 11

Choose classes or a small group for stretching your faith



Disciple classes, Grief classes, Children's classes



EarthCare Small Group



Moms Understanding Moms (MUMS)



People of Purpose Book Study

...and many more!

Sunday, September 18

Choose a mission project to stretch your heart



Common Ground



La Roca School and Church



Prayer Quilt Ministry

...and many more!

Sunday, September 25

Choose a way to see God more clearly



Ring the bells!



Raise your voice in song!



Participate in worship!

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

-I Corinthians 12:4-7



*From
the pastor's
perspective...*



Rev. John Farley

Foothills Church Staff

Rev. John Farley
Lead Pastor

Rev. Christian DeMent
Associate Pastor

Rev. Martha Kogle
Pastoral Care (Volunteer)

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

Carrie Dubert
Ministry Support

Mary Lou Standiford
Ministry Support

Valerie Sachs
Ministry Assistant

Jonny Oyama
Facility Support

Tish Weamer
Marketing, Website Coordinator
Wedding, Bereavement
Coordinator

Raise the bar to grow in faith and service

by John Farley, lead pastor

"...we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." -Romans 5:3b-5

Can you remember a time in your life when you came to that rare and precious moment of feeling a deep sense of accomplishment, and then thought to yourself... "wow, that was easy!" I doubt it. Oh, sometimes good things happen as a pleasant surprise, but I am talking about that deep sense of satisfaction that comes after you have stuck with a challenge, a project, or a struggle over a period of time.

It is that feeling you get when you come out on the other side with a sense that you met the challenge, the project was completed successfully, or the struggle was worth the goal. The more important the task, the more deeply felt is that feeling of contentment and peace.

This is what I talk about with the college-age young adults who come back from school and want to give back to the church and world in service. I see how all the years of Vacation Bible School, FUMY, choir and camps have formed them into caring Christian people who will make our world a better place.

And, now, another Fall begins. It is a struggle. It is a struggle to get many parents to stay committed to consistent involvement of their children in church school, FUMY, choir, confirmation, mission teams, family faith enrichment programs and all the opportunities for raising our children in the rich soil of the Christian community.

I know it is not easy; nothing worthwhile is easy. But, I firmly believe the only way to transform this world from a self-focused personal success-oriented society, to a people ready to provide for all is to instill in our children and youth the Christian values of self-sacrifice, giving and service. These are not easy things to instill when most of the world promises an easier, albeit

[Continued on page 4](#)

Seeking the presence of the Lord

by Susan Naslund, VIEW reporter

As a young girl, my heart swelled whenever I entered the sanctuary of my community church. I felt safe and enfolded there. Simple yet beautiful, I could touch the reverence in the building. Each time I walked through those doors, I fully expected to meet God in His house. Surely the presence of the Lord was in this place.

Through the years, I have entered the doors of many churches. Over time, I assumed it was the familiarity of place that helps me push aside any anxieties that might distract me from the Holy Spirit. I convinced myself that access to the Spirit was assured in the comfort and ritual of sameness.

So, I took a risk. I left my pew.

I recently attended all three Sunday morning services at Foothills and experienced the other styles of worship that are offered. I can tell you that the Spirit of the Living God is indeed waiting to meet each of us in His house, greeting each person in a fresh way.

However, it is not the walls of the buildings that contain that Spirit. I have felt the mighty power in the rich tones of the pipe organ, and the brush of the Angel's wings in a strong, lone voice. The Holy Spirit is in the scripture, the sermon, the beat of the drum and even in the silence. Most certainly, I see Glory on the face of each person there.

Expect that God is wherever we seek to commune with the One who loves us. Surely the presence of the Lord is in that place.

We must change the routine to plan our time

by Steve Hable, lay leader

The summer months usually consist of hectic schedules. Vacations, camps and other activities keep everyone scurrying from one place to another. With fall, we all return to our routine schedules. School is back in session, traffic patterns return to normal, and our schedules become reliable.

With all of the surprises life has to offer, I appreciate the stability and feeling of calm that a daily routine provides. My early morning routine offers time for morning prayer and meditation followed by the first cup of coffee. After finishing my work schedule, I have time available for other activities at night and on the weekends. With a more defined schedule, having a routine offers me the opportunity to have the time to explore new ventures.

The same applies to the activity at Foothills. I like that return of the routine as well. For first service, the choir is back!

'I feel humbled to be part of it.'

by Linda Miller, VIEW reporter



Dr. John Parsons

You might think that when Dr. John Parsons retired from his job as an elementary school principal, that he would want a break from all the little children. But that's not what happened.

John, who retired just one year ago, has agreed to manage the Common Ground ministry, which provides support to some of the poorest schools in our area. "We have a wonderful core group in Common Ground. They are the heart and soul of it," he said, adding that he would like to expand the number of volunteers – of all ages – to serve in a variety of ways.

"You don't have to lead a reading group and you don't have to volunteer every day or even every week," he said. For example, John hopes to expand the number of teas and dinners for fifth and sixth grad-

ers. While I appreciate the soloists and small groups, there is nothing like the sound of the full choir. The return of classes, small groups, active ministry groups, and several meetings and events to our calendar signifies a return to our church routine. Now we have the opportunity to arrange our time to learn and serve.

A well-managed routine removes the largest obstacle we have as Christians – feeling that, "I don't have the time to take a class, join a small group or become active in ministry." Have you reached the point where you are ready to step outside your comfort zone? Looking for a service ministry that ignites the spirit within you?

Change your routine. Instead of looking for a time slot to fit a ministry area into your schedule, reverse the routine. Plan your schedule around the hours that you are dedicating to your new commitment to learn and serve. You will be amazed about what you can accomplish!

In their homes, many of these children don't sit down at a dinner table and don't know how to use utensils, he said. One of the goals of the teas and dinners is to have the students sit down together and use forks and spoons.

John and his wife, Jeannie, were married in 1982 and were blessed with Sarah in 1990. After Sarah's birth, the young couple worked harder at finding a faith home. When they started attending Foothills, they were given some Dudley Bakery bread as part of the "Bread Ministry." It was an ah-ha moment for them: "They care," the Parsons told each other.

John ushered and Jeannie taught Sunday school, but the event that really tethered them to Foothills was the All Church Family Camp. There they created close friendships that have lasted for years.

"People here are not Sunday Christians," John said. "They really walk the walk. I feel humbled to be part of it."



*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

September Calendar

- 9/1 Starting Point I
- 9/5 Labor Day - Office Closed
- 9/6 Grief Class
- 9/6-9 Preschool Visits
- 9/7 Sarah/Ruth Circle
- 9/8 La Vida Real
Starting Point II
- 9/9 Friday Friends
- 9/11 Education/Small Group
Sunday
Roots & Shoots
- 9/12 Preschool Starts
- 9/13 Storefront
Men's 'Meating'
Loss Class
- 9/14 Foothills' Folks
Children's Choirs
4th, 5th Fellowship
Kid's Exploration
- 9/15 Tender Loving Care Team
Family Table
- 9/17 La Roca
- 9/18 Missions Sunday
- 9/20 UMW Dinner
- 9/21 Men's Lunch Coronado
Jesus in the Gospels
- 9/23 UMM Padres Night
- 9/24 Prayer Quilt Ministry
- 9/25 Music/Worship Sunday
'Raise the Roof' Concert

Call the Church Office,
670-4009,

or go to www.foothillsumc.org
to get more information

What does the 'cross and flame' mean for us?

By Mary Lou Standiford, editor

The Cross and Flame. You know, the red flame attached to a dark cross. You see it on the front of our building that houses King Hall and the church offices. You see it on Foothills' stationary, on the front of our hymnals and on the front of our pew Bibles. What does this symbol mean and why is it important for us as United Methodists to use it as our official logo?

An article by Rev. Phil Blackwell in the *Northern Illinois Reporter* helps us understand the Cross and Flame. "The cross represents the presence of Christ; the flame represents the power of the Holy Spirit. Taken together, they depict the activity of God in our lives, what God does for us in Christ – what John Wesley called 'justifying grace' – and what God does in us through the work of the Holy Spirit – what Wesley termed 'sanctifying grace.'

"The cross has been the central image for Christianity for over 2,000 years. For Christians who understand the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the cross is a positive image. It reminds us that through Christ, God has saved us in a way that we never could do for ourselves, no matter how hard we have tried. It portrays the love of God, the joy of having Jesus Christ in our hearts, and the peace that comes when we walk with Jesus by our sides. We United Methodists 'cling to the old rugged cross' not because we are maud-

Continued from page 2 - Raise the bar

false path, to happiness. It takes time, consistency and, above all, commitment. But, the reward is priceless.

No matter what age you are, you are a child; a child of God. As children, we still have much to learn. It is my fervent prayer that you and your family will raise the bar this year on your plan to grow in faith and service. It won't be easy, but nothing of great value is ever easily attained.

lin, but because we see in it the grace of God reflected through Christ's self-giving love.

"What do we say about the flame? We know that fire both destroys and refines. Fire has always been evidence that God is present. The fire of creation separated the mountains from the seas. The burning bush beckoned Moses to lead an oppressed people through the wilderness to freedom. The fire of Pentecost undid the mayhem of Babel and resulted in the emergence of the Church.

"This is the same fire that strangely warmed John Wesley's heart. And, it is the fire of the Holy Spirit that is burning in our own souls and in the lives of our congregations calling us to live what our tradition identifies as 'a holy life.'

"For Methodists throughout history, this fire has burned most brightly when it has resulted in Christian service to others. We have blazed a path of schools, hospitals, libraries, orphanages, soup kitchens, labor organizations, agricultural centers and social service agencies around the world, all done in Christ's name.

"With the Cross and Flame, we say that, as United Methodists, we believe God saves us through Jesus Christ and empowers us with the Holy Spirit to make a difference in the world. That is what the symbol proclaims, and we are obliged to hold one another accountable for living this truly in our lives."

For our part, Foothills will offer more and varied times and places to enter into the journey of faith. We are so blessed with the truth of Paul's words that; "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit..." What greater hope is there for the world, than a people whose hearts are filled with God's love?

That's my perspective. I pray it is our children's, too.



A time to gather! - Foundry update

By Valerie Sachs, ministry assistant

"For where two or more are gathered in my name, I am among them." -Jesus

Fall seems to be a universally busy time. The relatively clear calendar days of June, July, and August give way to September and October schedules that feature back-to-back classes, meetings, and appointments. The same is true for Foundry as we establish regular meeting times and activities designed to grow and nurture our base – the individuals and families who will make up this new congregation.



Many of these people learned about Foundry through the fun, family-centered activities that our church sponsored over the summer. On the final Friday of each month, we invited community members to enjoy a free movie, complete with snacks and prizes, at one of their local parks. We watched *How to Train Your Dragon*, *Tangled* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* under beautiful, starry skies. The sounds of children giggling as they sat with their parents on picnic blankets are memories to be treasured.

Foundry team members also helped out at the City of Chula Vista's outdoor campout, "Snores & S'mores," this summer. We handed out almost 400 hot dog dinners to members of the community who pitched tents and spent the night at the Monteville Recreation Center.

So, now we build upon the foundation of relationships that began over the summer by meeting to support each other in our individual journeys of faith. Pastor Christian DeMent has developed four regular meeting opportunities designed to engage our supporters and introduce ourselves to new friends.

Faith On Tap This discussion group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning on Sept. 6 at the Brewhouse restaurant (871 Showroom Place) to discuss modern faith/life issues. Rob Bell's best-selling book, *Love*

Wins, will be used as a discussion resource. Interested adults who attend will be able to learn more about Foundry, share a meal and find out how their faith can influence all aspects of their daily lives.

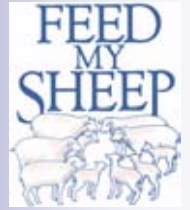
Out-and-About Walking Group Beginning Sept. 7 at 9:00 a.m., Christian will lead a weekly walking group in the Otoy Ranch/Eastlake community. Walkers will meet at Mountain Hawk Park (1475 Lake Crest Dr.) and explore the winding, intermingled trails that make these communities so unique. This will be a chance to discuss life issues, make new friends and establish a morning exercise routine!

Conversations of Faith With a similar format to *Faith on Tap*, Conversations of Faith will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning Sept. 13 at En Caliente Cafe (872 Eastlake Parkway.) All are welcome for these thought-provoking discussions about God and the relevance of faith in modern society.

In addition to these meetings that are open to the public, **Foundry's first small group** will begin meeting in a private home on a weekly basis in September. Members of this group will grow closer to each other and closer to God as they pray and study scripture together. Believing that God's design as described in the Book of Acts is for groups like this to grow and replicate themselves. We are excited to watch how God continues this multiplication in Foundry's home community!

There are so many new experiences in Foundry's future! In November, we will host a golf tournament that will help raise money for the Chula Vista Public Library Foundation. Multiple mission trips and international outreach efforts are also planned.

This fall really is an important time in Foundry's development! Please keep praying for Pastor Christian, his partners in ministry and those whom they will meet over these next crucial months.

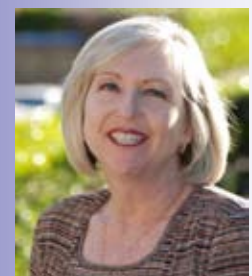


Look to serve others...



Rev. Christian DeMent

Foundry Opportunities
 Faith on Tap
 Out-and-About Walking Group
 Conversations of Faith
 Small Group



Valerie Sachs



*As we
grow...*



Theresa Erb

Growing Opportunities

Faith Formation

Sunday School

Kid's Exploration

Vacation Bible School



Teaching children about God

by Theresa Erb, family ministries

Young children are curious. They are especially curious about God. They are curious about where He lives, what He wears, how He does things and when He will answer their latest prayer request. Because they are curious about God, they pick up many different things they hear and see, and, early in life, they form very definite ideas about feelings for Him.

At Foothills United Methodist Church, our fall Sunday school programs begin on Sunday, September 11. Our teachers teach children; children who need adults who love them and care for them; teachers who tell them the stories of the faith; teachers who help them learn to live as Jesus taught. Our children deserve the best that we have to offer.

Because of those who teach them, our children have a welcoming place to grow in Christian love and fellowship and a safe place to explore what the church teaches, ask their questions, express their doubts, and discover their own Christian faith. We provide Sunday school classes for all children two-years-old through fifth grade at our 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. worship services.

The goals of our Sunday school are to:

- ☐ Connect children with adults to build meaningful relationships
- ☐ Introduce the Bible, different versions and basic themes
- ☐ Provide an opportunity to understand Church as a community
- ☐ Provide children an opportunity to develop an understanding of justice, service and mission to others.

In addition to Sunday school, we provide a midweek spiritual development opportunity for children on Wednesday evening through Kid's Exploration, for children in kindergarten through third grade and the 4th & 5th Fellowship program for 4th and 5th graders.

Please keep our Sunday school leaders, teachers and students in your prayers as we begin our classes. If you are called to the ministry with the children of our church, please contact Theresa Erb for more information about the opportunities we have for adults and youth to volunteer. You may call 670-4009, or email her at theresaerb@foothillsumc.org.

Journey of Faith for adults at Foothills

by Theresa Erb, family ministries

You are invited to join us on the greatest journey of your life – the journey of faith. Not everyone starts the journey at the same place or in the same way. For many, worship is the first step on the journey of faith. Some begin by serving in missions, becoming a part of a small group or joining the choir. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, we endeavor to provide opportunities for adults to learn with other committed Christians. At Foothills UMC, we offer a variety of Faith Formation and Spiritual Development classes starting throughout the year.

Starting Point Classes

Our Starting Point classes are entry level classes which do not assume any previous study. They are designed as a helpful

starting point in your faith journey. In the Starting Point I class, *The Bible and You*, we'll spend time learning what's in the Bible, its contents, resources and how to read the Bible as a guide to Christian living.

The Starting Point II class is *Community*. We believe that one of the best ways to live out our faith is in community with one another. Discover why God has called the church to be about creating environments where authentic community can take place. We'll discuss ways to connect in to community at Foothills through small groups and serving groups.

To register for these two classes,

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Find your place in music ministry this year

by Carol Paton, music ministries



Do you love the songs of Christmas? Do you move with the energy of praise songs or find hope and promise in the traditional hymns? Wouldn't it be great to exercise your mind and your lungs and, at the same time, feed your spirit with the words from the scriptures, all while sharing time in fellowship with people who care about you?

If you answered 'YES' to any of these questions, the music ministry is just the place for you this fall. Don't commit to the entire year with children's choirs or youth choir, or the adult choir or praise band – or even the hand bell programs... but, do consider giving any of these wonderful groups

Continued from page 6—Journey of Faith

contact jeanetteh@foothillsumc.org by email or call the church office at 619-670-4009. Starting Point classes for the fall begin September 1 and 8, at 6:30 p.m. and meet in the Small Groups Room.

In Depth Classes

Our in-depth series of classes require a larger commitment with greater study and more time to grow in discipleship. These are a series of more advanced classes for those who have some Bible study experience. This fall we will be offering *Disciple 1 and Jesus in the Gospels (Disciple 5)*.

What is Disciple? Disciple is a program of disciplined Bible study aimed at developing strong Christian leaders.

- Disciple focuses on the disciple as learner, believer, follower, proclaimer, and servant.
- Disciple assumes that the Bible is the key to renewal in the church.
- Disciple affirms that the canon was formed as it is in order for God to speak to us.
- Disciple draws upon the work of scholars to aid understanding of the Bible.

your time and energy from September through the Christmas season. Your life experience, your spiritual growth, and your personal well-being will not be the same, I promise.

Contact *Jack Erb* if you are interested in Witness, contact *Linda Cree* if you need more information about Genesis Ringers (grades two through five), and contact *Carol Paton* for specifics on Alleluia Singers (grades one and two), Sounds of Joy (grades three, four and five), and Sound Faith (grades six through 12). All groups resume rehearsals in September. See dates below.

Chancel Choir - August 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Harmony Ringers - September 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Sound Faith - September 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Genesis Ringers - September 11 at 11:00 a.m.

Alleluia Singers and Sounds of Joy - September 14 at 4:45 p.m.

Witness - ongoing on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. by invitation.

- The purpose of Disciple may be expressed in the words of Ephesians 4:12, "to equip the saint for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

If you are looking to deepen your faith journey, we invite you to join us. This year Disciple 1 will be taught in a series of six-week sessions. Look for date and times in the weekly E-VIEW.

Seasonal and Topical Classes

We also offer seasonal and topical classes that take place specifically during Advent, Lent or on subjects such as prayer or other areas of lifted interest. We have already begun discussing which classes we will offer during Advent including *Hurry Less Worry Less at Christmastime*, which helps busy people learn to celebrate more joyfully, peacefully, and deeply during the holiday season – the days between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day – and on through the Christian celebration of Epiphany. If you have other suggestions, Theresa Erb would enjoy talking to you.

LOOK
at THIS!

Nurturing
communities



Carol Paton



Good Reasons

#10

Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on "doing" as opposed to observing, and teaches students how to perform, literally, anywhere in the world. Employers are looking for multi-dimensional workers with the sort of flexible and supple intellects that music education helps to develop. In the music classroom, students can also learn to better communicate and cooperate with one another.



Chancel Choir invites all at Foothills, 'Let's Raise the Roof'

The Chancel Choir extends an *Irresistible Invitation* to the church family and the community for a special concert on Sunday, September 25, at 5:00 p.m. This fabulous concert is presented by the choir for the purpose of raising funds to help repair the sanctuary roof.

The cost for the concert is \$20 per person whatever the age... remember, this is a fundraiser. Look at it this way, it is \$1.00 per anthem. The choir will sing favorite anthems written by John Rutter, Rene Clausen, Mark Hayes, Craig Courtney, Tom Fette, Pepper Choplin and many more.

Come, expecting to help us "Raise the Roof" in response to the sounds of inspiring music meant to feed your spirit and surround your soul with energy, joy and passion.

An 'Irresistible Invitation' is waiting for you!

by Rev. John Farley, lead pastor

What do you find "Irresistible?" Is it the smell of the barbeque on a holiday weekend? The salted sea breeze? Coffee in the morning? A baby after a bath? What "Invitation" would you find it impossible to turn down? Dinner at the White House? Front row seats at the Academy Awards? The first seat on the next flight to space?

All of these images evoke something different for each person and some stir one while another stirs someone else. But, all of us would find it an "Irresistible Invitation" to do anything and go anywhere with the one who loves us most, and we love most.

Now make the leap of faith and realize this is what God did in the life of

Jesus Christ, and continues to do through the life of your family of faith here at Foothills; offer you an "Irresistible Invitation" to live a life of faith, hope and love. God has invited us to share in the abundance of the creation God has provided. God has invited us to live in community, our faith community. God has promised us the reward of hope and peace if we do.

As you hear more about this theme, you will realize it is the theme of our Ministry Support Campaign. When the time comes to make your decision to give to our ministry for 2012, open your heart to the hope that lives for you and those you love here at Foothills. Recognize the joy that comes just from being a part of such a special community. No one will have to ASK you to give; the desire will be "Irresistible!"



Website: www.foothillsumc.org

Phone: 619-670-4009

Fax: 619-670-4012

E-mail:

foothills@foothillsumc.org