May, 2011

Foothills United Methodist Church

Foothills' VIEW

Inside this Issue Page

The question every Easter 2
Rev. John Farley, pastor
Living up to the name 2
Susan Naslund, reporter

Here I Am Lord! 3
Steve Hable, lay leader
Jeanette Ham 3
Linda Miller, reporter

The mother of Methodism 4
Mary Lou Standiford, editor
Camp can change your life! 4
Anthony Aranico

VBS involves everyone 5
Theresa Erb
Take the next step 5
Jeanette Ham

A Night at the Oscars 6
Carol Paton
Children sing at festival

Foundry Church 7
Rev. Christian DeMent
The Church and Poverty 7
Eric Naslund

Farley Invitation 8

IMPACT Sunday
May 1, 2011
Be the church...

"When we got to the work site, I thought that we'd never get this all done. Then everyone pitched in... and we did it!"

Lent and Easter activities gave joy

Ash Wednesday

Hunting eggs

Decorating cookies

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday

PHOTOS BY ADAM KLARER

Easter Sunday

From the pastor's perspective...

Rev. John Farley

Foothills Church Staff

Lead Pastor
Rev. John H. Farley

Associate Pastor
Rev. Christian DeMent

Pastoral Care (Volunteer)
Rev. Martha Kogle

Family Ministries
Theresa Erb

Youth and Young Adults
Anthony Aranico

Development and Administration
Sheri Etter

Welcome and Discipleship
Jeanette Ham

Director of Music
Carol Paton

Contemporary Music
Jack Erb

Media and Music
Tim Robertson

Bell Choir
Linda Cree

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Ministry Support
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Ministry Support
Mary Lou Standiford

Ministry Support
Val Sachs

Facility Support
Mike Etter

Organist, Accompanist
Glenn Ward

Wedding and Bereavement Coordinator
Tish Weamer

The question on my heart every Easter

by John Farley, lead pastor

Why did you come? It is a question on my heart every Easter Sunday and pretty much each week. Some of you are here every week, some come every chance you get, some now and then, and others just at Christmas and Easter. Why? Perhaps the pattern attests to the motivation.

If you come only for special holidays, I think you feel church is special and enhances those important family gatherings. It has also become a "tradition." Traditions are good; they remind us of who we are; but they don't change who we are.

If you come now and then, I think you are looking for something, but you are not quite sure what, and you may be hesitant to commit until you figure it out. Keep seeking, risk a little more investment of yourself and I think you may find it.

If you come every week or every week you are able, I think you have found it. What is it? It is the center of your being, it is the heart of life, it is the place of true belonging. For you, coming to church is not an "obligation" or something good people "should do." It is the place where our loving God, the source of all life, binds us into relationships with our children, our sisters and brothers, our parents and grandparents, and everyone else who gives life meaning and purpose.

Sunday is the day we set aside to fellowship, learn and be inspired to change our world, to make it a better place by making ourselves better people. John Wesley called it going on to "Christian perfection." Christ called it building the kingdom of God "on earth as it is in heaven."

There are 1337 members at Foothills, and hundreds more who haven't joined yet. There were 998 persons in worship last Easter and an average of about 600 weekly. Just imagine how much more we could do for God's world, for our families and communities, if more of us were willing to make a deeper commitment to belong to a community ready to serve the community!

Funny thing is, when you do make that commitment, you find you gain far more than you feared you would have to give up. And, that's not just MY perspective. Ask anyone who is in church each week.

Living up to the name we are given

by Susan Naslund, VIEW reporter

Before I was born, my sister asked if she could choose my name. If I was going to be the baby girl she was hoping for, she wanted to call me "Susie" after her favorite doll. I am sure that the crying, colicky infant my parents brought home from the hospital did not quite fulfill the expectations she had for me. Even fifty years later, it is humbling to recall that I share the same name as my sister's once prized possession. I am certain that I have not always lived up to that honor.

Another name I call myself is "Christian," and I am also certain that I have not always lived up to the privilege of being associated with the name of Christ.

In the New Testament, however, the term "Christian" was never used by Jesus in reference to his followers. It was not until the end of the first century after his death, that the label "Christian" was commonly accepted to mean someone who followed the teachings of Jesus. The apostles referred to themselves as disciples, servants, believers, the faithful, and the called. They were not defined by who they followed as much as they were characterized by the things they did.

A child's doll may be "life-like" in appearance, but obviously, it can not be compared to a living, breathing, soul-filled human. A Christian, however, should do one's best to live a Christ-like life. It is when others see us in action as God's faithful servants that we live up to the honor of the name of the risen Christ.

Here I am, Lord. Send me!

by Steve Hable, lay leader

One of my favorite verses from the Bible comes from the book of Isaiah. Considered to be one of the greatest prophets, Isaiah is also quoted over 50 times in the New Testament. Chapter 6, verse 8 reads, "Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.'" Isaiah volunteered to be God's messenger.

Today when we think of a messenger, we think of a person that is giving us information we need to know. The message we receive during worship can be from the Scripture, the words from a classic hymn or modern song, and most certainly, the inspiration we receive from the pulpit. However, being a messenger is not limited to being able to be a public speaker, sing or even be ordained. All of us are called to be a messenger of God.

As Christians, we are called to love our God and our neighbor as ourselves. We are called upon by Jesus to provide food, shelter and clothing to those in need. He calls us to visit the sick and the imprisoned. Many of you have answered the call through a variety of small and large groups that minister to other people. There is Common Ground, Meals-on-Wheels, Prayer Quilt Ministry, Kairos, and caring for the other members in your small group. We can do more.

On May 1, we will again be a church outside in the community with IMPACT Sunday. There are projects at schools, community parks, housework and yardwork for the elderly, and several projects around the campus at Foothills. Whether you have participated in a previous IMPACT Sunday or, if this would be your first time, remember you are being called to be a messenger of God. I can hear the Lord saying to all of us, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" I pray that each one of us stands and says, "Here I am Lord! Send me!" Let's make an impact on May 1 and everyday thereafter.

'God empowers us to do our best'

by Linda Miller, VIEW reporter

Jeanette Ham

Jeanette Ham is a life-long Methodist. She grew up in a small town Methodist church, and she and Kevin were married in a Methodist church. They have been active at Foothills UMC since 1999.

It was after the Easter season in 2004 that Jeanette knew she was going to take her faith to a higher level. It was then she decided to go into the ministry. "I felt God called me to do that," she said on a recent warm evening. "I could be giving in a variety of ways, but this seemed like the best way I could make use of my gifts and graces."

Many people know Jeanette as the FUMC staff person who cultivates small groups, works on environmental issues, helps organize the Pastoral Care Team and is the Welcoming and Discipleship lead.

She is also a parent to two teenagers. Becoming a mother made her more understanding of God's unconditional love. "I don't think I really understood God's unconditional love before I had kids," she said. "I'm more patient now and maybe more patient with God," she laughed.

Jeanette says she loves her job and loves the people who work on the FUMC staff. She says that together they have 'synergy.' "I feel blessed to be doing what I'm doing and I have received many blessings," she said.

"To make a difference in people's lives is very compelling," she said. "God empowers us to do our best in our area of growth. It's an empowering love."

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.

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LOOK at THIS!

Nurturing communities

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'Outside the Walls'

This monthly column in the Foothills' VIEW covers all sorts of things concerning the larger church, The United Methodist Church world-wide.

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Opportunities for Youth

- FUMY
- Sunday School
- Confirmation
- Work Teams
- 4th, 5th Fellowship
- Young Adults

Susanna Wesley & the Unauthorized Meetings

By J.B. Wakeley, 19th Century Methodist Historian

While her husband was in London in 1711, attending Convocation, Mrs. Wesley adopted the practice of reading in her family, and instructing them. One of the servants told his parents and they wished to come. They told others, and they came, till the congregations amounted to forty, and increased till they were over two hundred, and the parsonage could not hold all that came.

She read to them the best and most awakening sermons she could find in the library, talked to the people freely and affectionately. The meetings were held at the parsonage "because she thought the end of the institution of the Sabbath was not fully answered by attending Church unless the intermediate spaces of time were filled up by other acts of devotion."

Inman, the Curate, was a very stupid and narrow man. He became jealous because her audience was larger than his, and he wrote to Mr. Wesley, complaining that his wife, in his absence, had turned the parsonage into a meetinghouse; that the Church was likely to be scandalized by such irregular proceedings; and that they ought to be tolerated no longer. Mr. Wesley wrote to his wife that she should get someone else to read the sermons. She replied that there was not a man there who could read a sermon without spoiling it.

Inman, the Curate, still complained, and the Rector wrote to Mrs. Wesley that the meetings should be discontinued. Mrs. Wesley answered him by showing what good the meetings had done, and that none were opposed to them but Mr. Inman and one other. She then concludes with these wonderful sentences: "If after all this you think fit to dissolve this assembly do not tell me you ***desire*** me to do it, for that will not satisfy my conscience; but send your ***positive command*** in such full and express terms as may absolve me from all guilt and punishment for neglecting this opportunity for doing good when you and I shall appear before the great and awful tribunal of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Were not these the first Methodist meetings held by the Wesleys? Can we wonder that Isaac Taylor says that "the mother of the Wesleys was the mother of Methodism; and that in her characteristic letter, when she said, 'Do not advise me, but command me to desist,' she was bringing to its place a corner-stone of the future of Methodism?"

Who can tell the influence those meetings of their mother in the parsonage had upon John and Charles in future years, who were then little boys, and always present?

In honor of Mother's Day, May 10.

Youth Camp can change your life!

By Anthony Aranico

Each year, hundreds of youth head up to Camp Cedar Glen in Julian to participate in a week-long summer camp with fellow United Methodists. This year is no different.

Camp can be a life-changing experience; bringing together youth for fellowship, fun, and spiritual growth for seven days with peers can do that for you.

This year's theme is "Got Spirit." Through a variety of biblical stories, singing, discussions, crafts, games and exciting group activities, campers will discover the presence of God in creation and community.

Many young adults and FUMY leaders are counselors at camp as well! Contact Anthony Aranico if you have any questions. You can register for camp online at www.calpaccamps.org.

Everyone can be involved in VBS!

by Theresa Erb, family ministries

Foothills invites all children to this year's Vacation Bible School, Shake It Up Café: Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe! Your child will become a chef-in-training at Shake It Up Cafe as we discover God's recipe for living. After a high-energy opening at Shake It Up Cafe, the chefs make their way to Kitchen a la King. Interactive Bible lessons will reveal five secret ingredients for living as a follower of God: Be ready for God, Give happily to God, Believe fully in Jesus, Remember Jesus often and Celebrate God forever. Your child and their friends can be part of the fun beginning June 27 and ending July 1 from 8:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. daily.

Vacation Bible School is one of the largest outreach events that Foothills offers. Each year more than two hundred, students, teachers, station leaders, and classroom assistants are involved. You can support VBS in one of the following ways.

➥Donate requested items (more information coming soon) or gift certificates for Michael's, Target or Smart & Final for craft items, supplies or snacks.

➥Pray for the students and leaders involved in Vacation Bible School.

Registration has just begun. Children must be four years (by June 1)-5th grade. Class sizes are limited, so you will want to make your plans to attend VBS as soon as possible! The registration fee is $45 per child and includes a t-shirt and lots of fun. The deadline is June 1 or until the classes are full. There will be a $10 late fee per child for registrations and payments received after June 1.

For more information, please contact Theresa Erb at 670-4009 or theresaerb@foothillsumc.org or Stephanie Rutledge at srblonde@cox.net.

Take the next step in your journey

by Jeanette Ham, discipleship

This can be the greatest journey of your life. And to help make it seem less overwhelming, we will give you the tools and the opportunities to help navigate your way to grow in your faith that brings joy and greater meaning to your life.

After Linda and Dan Chupco felt so welcomed at Foothills, they decided to take the next step. "After we attended the Starting Point II gathering on Community, we knew that we wanted Foothills to be our church," said Linda. Starting Point provided us with a small group experience where we could talk with the pastor and get a feel for the people and community in which we would be participating."

"Of all the churches we visited, Foothills took the most initiative. We knew how the church would meet our needs and how we could serve here," explained Linda. Since becoming a member, Linda has joined the Eat, Pray, Love women's small group, sings in the choir and serves in the church office several times a month.

Discover Foothills will meet next on Tuesday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. in King Hall. Gather for a fun and interactive evening with Pastor John and Jeanette Ham. You will have the opportunity to ask questions, learn more about our church and what it means to become a member.

Starting Point I - The Bible and You (Wed., May 25, 6:30 p.m.) 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.

Starting Point II – Community (Wed., June 1, 6:30 p.m.) We believe that 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 into community at Foothills.

FEED MY SHEEP

Look to serve others...

May Calendar

5/1	IMPACT Sunday
5/3	Middle School Hangout
5/4	Sarah/Ruth Circle
5/6-8	TentPegs Campout
5/7	Prayer Quilt Ministry
5/8	Mother's Day
5/9	Women at the Well
5/10	Storefront Discover Foothills Grief Group
5/11	Foothills Folks
5/12	La Vida Real
5/13	Friday Friends
5/14	UMW Tea Common Ground Volunteers
5/15	Blood Mobile VBS Leaders Meeting
5/17	FUMY Girls' Night
5/18	Men's Lunch in Coronado
5/19	Tender Loving Care Team
5/21	La Roca PQM Sit-N-Sew Preschool Picnic
5/22	New Member Sunday District Dodgeball Tourn.
5/24	Bridge Marathon
5/25	Starting Point I
5/28-30	All Church Camp
5/30	Memorial Day Office Closed

Call the Church Office, 670-4009, or go to www.foothillsumc.org to get more information on any of these events.

LOOK at THIS!

Nurturing communities

Carol Paton
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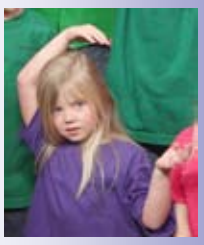

Good Reasons to Sing in the Choir

#7

Students of music learn craftmanship as they study how details are put together painstakingly and what constitutes good, as opposed to mediocre work. These standards, when applied to a student's own work, demand a new level of excellence and require students to stretch their inner resources.

A night at the Oscars—Foothills' style

by Carol Paton, music ministry

From 'High Hopes' to 'We Belong Together,' the best original songs from 1959 and 2010, the Chancel Choir captured the spirit of fellowship, friendship, growth and outreach at Foothills UMC over the past five decades. Academy Award songs filled the sanctuary as almost 300 people sang 'Moon River,' 'Chim-Chim-Cher-ee' and 'Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head,' as well as the ever-favorite selections from *Sermon in Word and Song* days, 'Getting To Know You,' 'Feed the Birds,' 'Sunrise, Sunset,' 'The Impossible Dream' and 'The Sound of Music.'

MC John Parson presented Lois Hoyle her award.

Three Life Time Achievement Awards were given out during the evening: Lois Hoyle, the only living charter member of Foothills; Ruth Phillips, the longest serving Director of our preschool and member of the current church staff; and Missions and Outreach, represented by Martha Kogle.

The choir was honored to have John Parsons as Master of Ceremonies and DownBeat Jazz Band as special guest performers. A night of glitz and glamour was enjoyed by all.

Children and youth choirs sing in festival

On Sunday March 27, members of our children and youth choirs traveled to Rancho Santa Fe for a choir festival sponsored by the San Diego Chapter of Chorister's Guild. 150 children and 80 youth spent the afternoon working with guest conductors from LA and Texas and then offered a worship concert in the Village Presbyterian Church.

Foundry UMC—meeting our new community

by Christian DeMent, associate pastor

When planning something as ambitious as a church start-up in a new community, only so much can be done from an office. We've prayed; we've studied scripture; we've consulted experts and we've outlined objectives. On April 16, the big day finally arrived. The Foundry team and I introduced ourselves publicly to the community we will call home.

The day began with CycleEastlake, a fundraiser for the Eastlake Education Foundation. Non-cycling Foundry supporters were also able to participate by joining the Family Run/Walk later that morning.

The real one-on-one interaction began at 10:00 a.m. when Foundry and more than 100 other community organizations took part in the YMCA Healthy Kids Day at Otay Ranch Town Center. The Foundry table ran a prize wheel where people could try their luck at winning everything from Planet Earth key chains to packages of brightly-colored Easter *Peeps*.

With several thousand participants at the health fair, we had the wonderful opportunity to meet some of the residents of Otay Ranch. What a joy it was to finally interact with the very people we have been praying for! We met single parents, a family who had recently been transplanted form the United Kingdom, new Southern California transplants and long-time Chula Vistans. We heard about their community's needs as well as the reasons they treasure their neighborhoods. In turn, we shared with them information about Foundry UMC and invited them to participate in this new faith-life community.

Please keep praying for Foundry as well as the people of Otay Ranch. April 16 was the first day of a journey I expect will change lives and hearts. It's exciting to witness God's work in this diverse, young

What does the church say about poverty?

by Eric Naslund, chair Social Concerns Committee

This is the first article in an ongoing series examining the Social Principles (what The United Methodist Church says about social issues). The United Methodist Church has a long history of concern for social justice.

As Christians, we are challenged almost daily to comprehend our role in the world and what our responsibilities are to the community in which we live. We draw our inspiration from Christ's life, teaching and example, but often we are confronted with complex social issues. As a church, we discern an appropriate way to live that honors life and seeks to understand God's vision for our purpose. The church describes this responsibility as a "*challenge to think clearly and logically about our role in both the local parish and the world at large. Where is God at work in our world? How can we support the work God is doing? What role has God given the church to play in the midst of a broken and hurting world in need of healing? Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that the church should neither dominate the state, nor be dominated by the state. Instead, the church is called to be the conscience of the state. How can we perform this vital role faithfully in a world that increasing relegates the work of the church only to the spiritual and private realm?*"

In The United Methodist Church, these questions are responded to through

Continued on page 8

As we grow...

Rev. Christian DeMent
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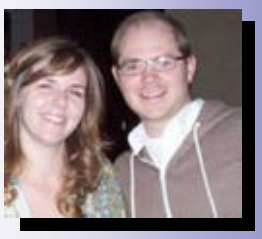
On-going Mission Projects

- Interfaith Shelter
- Kairos
- La Roca
- Meals on Wheels
- Project Moses
- Russia Initiative
- UPLIFT
- Work Teams

An invitation from the Farleys



With great joy, Rev. John and Sue Farley invite the Foothills' family to a marriage blessing and reception for their son, Jason Farley, and April Dean. The celebration will be on Saturday, July 30, at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary with a Patio Reception to follow. Jason and April will be married on May 14 in North Carolina, and then they will come to San Diego for a "West Coast" celebration on July 30.

For more information on the couple and their plans, you can go to their wedding website: jasonandapril.beachbrides.com.

What does the church say about poverty?

Continued from page 7

dialogue and prayerful conversation at our General Conference held every four years. Social Principles (as explained in the UMC *Book of Discipline*) speak to the human issues from a sound biblical and theological foundation as historically demonstrated in United Methodist traditions. They are a call to faithfulness and are intended to be instructive and persuasive in the best of the prophetic spirit.

Of these principles, I have a keen interest in the Methodist views on poverty. My interest in this issue comes from the work that I am engaged in as an architect. Over the last twenty years, I have designed many affordable housing communities throughout the western United States. I work for non-profit developers who are in service to the working poor. Through this process, I have developed a profound respect for the people who live in these communities and I have come to appreciate the struggles that they endure everyday just to provide dignified lives for themselves and their families. I often wonder just what the church should do about their plight. How can we help them to have a more stable and secure life?

What can the church do?

The church's Social Principles on poverty try to answer these questions. The Social Principles call for us to support the poor and seek ways to alleviate poverty. They look for ways to provide support for people to work and to do so at a fair wage. Finally, they emphasize action that helps the poor to build wealth and to sustain themselves through education, micro-enterprise lending, home ownership and job training. They call upon churches to develop ministries around these ideas.

To address the issue of poverty in our community, the Social Concerns Committee will be hosting a church wide gathering on the topic this fall and I invite everyone to come and participate in this dialogue. We need lots of perspectives and experience to make this a meaningful discussion and I hope that you will consider adding your voice to the conversation. Stay tuned for more information in the near future.

To learn more about the UMC Social Principles, go to www.umc.org. For work in the area of social justice go to www.umc-gbcs.org

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