

Footprints



A Publication of
Church of the
Foothills

19211 Dodge Ave
Santa Ana, CA 92705
Tel: 714-544-1319

October 2020 - Mini Edition



PANDEMIC PUMPKIN PATCH

(see Kel's Korner—Page 4)

Worship Schedule September 2020

Worship Services begin at 9:45 AM (on-line)

Website: www.churchofthefoothills.org

October Worship Theme: *Room at the Table*

Oct 4 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Virtual Communion

Reading: Luke 22:7-14

Sermon: "Made Whole Again"



October 18

Virtual Communion

Reading: Luke 19:1-10

Sermon: "Sitting Around the Dinner Table"



October 11

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9

Sermon: "A Big, Big Table"

October 25

Reading: Luke 14:16-39

Sermon: "Room At the Table For You"



Nov 1 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Reading: Hebrews 12:1

Sermon: "Cloud of Witnesses"



Then stick around for Fellowship Hour via Zoom at 11:00
(If you need instructions on how to join in, contact the church office)

- A Christ-centered church with a warm and friendly heart, an open mind, & an adventurous spirit!
- A Progressive, Peace & Justice, Open & Affirming, and Global Ministries Church.
- A successfully aligned congregation of two denominations, the United Church of Christ (UCC) and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) DOC.

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Church of the Foothills is an accepting, caring, open, and affirming Christian congregation that welcomes and includes all people of every ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status or religious background.

"Soul Food"



MINISTERS' MESSAGE



We are so grateful for the opportunity to come alongside Church of the Foothills in this season of endings and beginnings, grief and gratitude, refocusing and renewal. Let's give each other abundant grace and space during our time together, trusting

that this faith community which seeks to offer a Jesus kind of radical hospitality will continue to grow and flourish.

We recognize how hard it is to say goodbye to a pastor whose vision and values shaped who you are as a congregation in the last twenty-three years. We honor that part of your journey.

We come to you as transitional leaders, bringing new gifts and graces. We will work with you to prepare a hearty welcome to another settled pastor whom God will call to serve you, and we will strive for transparency along the way. Please know that this process will take some time, some prayer and a lot of patience and purposeful engagement.

Can we talk a little about worship first? In May 2020 UCC national leaders asked all UCC congregations to "wait until ALL safety concerns have been addressed." Also in May, Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), noted that "Christian congregations across the US decided to cease in-person worship to keep our parishioners and communities safe... **We have never 'closed' the church, just the buildings.**"

Zoom meetings, zoom fellowship and even zoom worship remain good options to stay connected. As we continue to worship online this

fall, we are investigating options for livestream worship on Sundays. We may broadcast live from the sanctuary soon, even though we are not inviting everyone physically into to that space again before all is ready for you.

You may find that some meetings and outdoor events will occur on the property this fall, and we plan to be in the minister's office at various times during the week, allowing face to face visits at church or elsewhere, outdoors with masks and distance for our mutual protection.

Between now and the end of the year in whatever ways we worship and come together, let us get to know and love you, even as we become known to you. We anticipate the many ways we can begin to connect, to hear your stories and to welcome you into this ministry of creative transformation together.

We begin our ministry together with this invitation: **Breathe...Believe...Begin.**

You may contact us for outdoor appointments on:

**Tuesday: 9-Noon; 2-4
Saturday: 10-Noon**

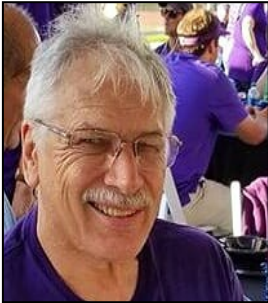
***Email us at: revmary@chotf.org
revbill@chotf.org***

***You may call or text us at:
602-403-1238, Bill
602-478-9273, Mary***

Bill and Mary Jacobs

BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020

*We warmly welcome with open hearts Interim Ministers
Rev. Bill Jacobs and Rev. Mary Jacobs*



Bill Jacobs grew up as a Congregationalist in the Midwest before attending Texas Christian University in Fort Worth where he met and married his wife Mary in the mid-1970's. After three years of seminary together at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, they spent six years at First Christian Church in Vallejo, CA and one semester of ecumenical studies at the World Council of Churches Graduate School at Chateau de Bossey in Switzerland, Bill and Mary found their spiritual home in the Desert Southwest for the next thirty years and return there often..

These days Bill appreciates the natural beauty of regional parks and coastal headlands nearby, and feels at home in the laid-back elegance of Orange County. He also enjoys spending time with daughters Lindsey and Erin who live and work in the area. The Jacobs are always looking for new ways to have fun together as a family, as you can see by the photo.

Bill enjoys drama and music, sports and travel, and often ends up, in sports as in life, cheering for the underdog. This has cultivated in him an inexhaustible sense of hopefulness even in the midst of challenging circumstances. It comes in handy in uncertain times and can be a gift to churches in active transition like this one.



Bill and Mary, pictured here with daughters Erin (left) and Lindsey, (second from left).

Mary Jacobs has exercised her gifts in preaching and leading worship, training church leaders and encouraging women in ministry starting out in her home town of Rowlett, TX and slowly gravitating further west. Recognized as an early advocate for the dignity & integrity of LGBTQIA Persons in the church and a champion of diversity, she served a two-year term as Vice-Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada and a four-year term as President of the International Disciples Women's Ministry where the focus was on bringing an end to the scourge of human trafficking.



After six previous interim ministries in local congregations, regions and general units of the church, Mary is grateful for the opportunity to walk the transition journey again and is ready to hear your stories and imagine new possibilities for Church of the Foothills.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY - NEWS & EVENTS

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY...

KEL'S KORNER

During this past month the question of, "are we having our annual Pumpkin Patch" has been asked by many people and has been discussed thoroughly by church leadership. In September, after a lengthy discussion the Cabinet decided to cancel the Pumpkin Patch due to Covid-19 related health concerns, primarily safely unloading the pumpkins off the truck.

This decision was entirely motivated by the desire to be good public health stewards and not from lack of desire to have the Patch. Church leadership recognizes that in addition to being a fundraiser, the Pumpkin Patch has become an important and anticipated event for both the church and the community. In wanting to continue a beloved tradition the Cabinet has approved a proposal to self-fund and **"Adopt our Pumpkin Patch."**

This year, instead of the Navajos in Farmington providing us with 1,200-1,500 pumpkins to offload and sell, we will be purchasing approximately 500 pumpkins from Tanaka Farms in Irvine. The Farm will deliver the pumpkins in boxes on pallets and the farm's delivery crew will unload them off the truck. We would then need to unpack the boxes of pumpkins and arrange them in the

patch. The order will cost approximately \$2,500. This price includes a 20% discount for nonprofits and a delivery fee of \$150.

We are asking the Church of the Foothills family to help "Adopt our Pumpkin Patch" with a donation of \$25 or more. We are already feeling the love for the Patch with 2 church members already committed to a donation of \$500. If you are interested in supporting the Patch by making a donation, please contact Pastor Kel or the church office.

I agree with the sentiment that the Pumpkin Patch has become a loved and valued tradition. I am thrilled that we once again making the neighborhood feel like fall by providing a very need light and life for both the church and the neighborhood....time to break out the orange hair dye.

***Blessings,
Pastor Kel***



Hello Church Family,

As we begin to take our first steps along the new path of our church's journey, I wanted to reach out and say that the staff at Church of the Foothills are all ready and excited to share in this adventure. Kathy's welcoming voice will be here to greet callers and her stellar office work will go on as always. Tina will continue producing the quality service we see on Sunday morning and work with John, Jeff and other church members to bring beautiful music to our worship. Robbie will still be a positive presence for our youth by hosting Zoom meetings and sharing thought provoking Children's Moments. I will continue to be here to offer Pastoral leadership, care and programming.

During this transition time, I hope to be providing Pastoral continuity and leadership for the church by continuing to be present in worship and lead Sunday Zoom Fellowship Time. I will still be active in church leadership, attend committee meetings and be available for Pastoral calls and care. I also hope to help bring connection with the congregation and our new interim ministers. I have already spent some time with Pastors Bill & Mary and I am excited to be part of the new energy and visions they will bring to our church.

Let us move forward with joy,
Blessings - Pastor Kel

Please feel free to contact me (Texting is the quickest way to reach me) **714-465-6991**

[**pastorkelhenderson@gmail.com**](mailto:pastorkelhenderson@gmail.com)



CELEBRATIONS!!



October Birthdays



10/01	Sally Coltrin	10/16	Annette Hernandez
10/09	Marcie Brezarich	10/24	Braden Fox
10/09	Maria Pérez	10/25	Sierra Delgado
10/09	Ava Rattanasmay	10/27	Kathy Vail
10/13	Kris Erickson Adams		

October Anniversaries



10/14 Dee Baker & Bob Goodrich
10/31 David Van Dorn &
Cara Waller



If we missed (or "mixed-up") your special day, we're very sorry! Please contact the church office and we will correct our records.

A BIT OF HUMOR FOR THESE HARD TIMES

(Reprinted with permission from the "Joyful Noiseletter")

The coronavirus has been the cause of a lot of sorrow, but it has not defeated Americans' sense of humor, proving again that humor, like faith, is a powerful survival tool. Rev. Harry Mahoney of Dedham, MA, reported that a Jewish friend emailed him the following message: "I posted on Facebook that there are new Seder rules: paint the doorposts (and knobs) with Lysol instead of blood, and only let Elijah the prophet in if he is wearing a facemask and stays at least eight feet from everybody at the table!"

Sign outside the First Baptist Church in Providence, RI, during pandemic: "Had not planned on giving up this much for Lent."

Another sign posted during the quarantine: "Thoughts and prayers going out to all the married men who have spent months telling their wives, 'I'll do that when I have time.'"
"Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine I'd go to a bank teller with a mask on asking for money."

"Returned from the grocery store with the hubby. Took masks off. Turned out it was the wrong hubby! Be attentive!" •

"The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!"

"Quarantine has turned us into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told 'no' if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides."

2019: Stay away from negative people.

2020: Stay away from positive people."

"Home-school, Day 1: Wondering how I can get this kid transferred out of my class."

"Many parents are about to discover the teacher was not the problem."

"I wonder if God got so mad about all of our fighting down here that He sent us to our rooms?"



WONDERING
WHAT I SHOULD WEAR
TO THE COUCH TONIGHT?



CONNECTIONS



The Christian Church Disciples of Christ Tri-Regional Men's Retreat

October 24, 2020
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Via Zoom!

I Am My Brother's Keeper:
Building Connections & Care in an
Increasingly Divided World
Register today at www.doc-west.org



REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  OCTOBER 16-17, 2020

"The New and Living Way"

El Camino Nuevo y Vivo • 새롭고 살아있는 길

—Hebrews 10:20

The 2020 Regional Assembly will be the first ever VIRTUAL assembly for the Pacific Southwest Region. All worship services, business sessions and educational opportunities will be conducted through an online format.

Our theme this year is **"The New and Living Way,"** based on the scripture from Hebrews 10:20. In our time, the idea of something new can seem unrealistic and unreachable. Christ through a new covenant, makes it possible for us to discover and find confidence in the new and living way for us all. This is a time of Regional Assembly, worship, renewal, confidence and faith to endure.

Our **keynote speaker** during worship on Saturday afternoon will be theological professor **Rev. Yolanda Norton**, Ph.D. candidate in Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel and Theology and Practice Fellow at Vanderbilt University.

Register at: <http://www.disciplespswr.org>

ADULT FORUM

On Sunday October 11th, during our 11am Zoom Fellowship Time, Gisela Meier, Vice President for **Voter Services League of Women Voters of Central Orange County** will be joining our call to give us a 30 minute presentation that discusses the "Pros & Cons" of the propositions on this year's ballot. This will be our first Zoom Adult Forum and we hope Gisela is greeted with a well-attended session.

Here is a brief description of her presentation:

There are 12 propositions on the November 3 ballot. What do you need to know to be an informed voter? Members of the League of Women Voters of Central Orange County will present a nonpartisan **Pros & Cons** program on all the measures, with information about what each proposition would change, arguments for and against, who supports and opposes the measure, and how much money is being spent to support or oppose it. Get a head start by going to VotersEdge.org for unbiased information on the candidates and proposition.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF ORANGE COUNTY

CONNECTIONS

MOVING ON

Dear Church Family:

As of September 14, 2020, when Pastor Mike Holland's retirement began, we begin a new phase in the life of our church. For your reference, we offer the following:

A gentle reminder: Please remember that UCC and DOC protocol requires that we refrain from contacting Pastor Mike regarding any church business, church events, or our own personal or spiritual requests and needs. Pastor Mike has pledged to adhere to those expectations and so must we. Let us not force him to say, "No."

Anyone in need of pastoral care, please contact PASTOR KEL

Pastor Kel Henderson will continue to do ministry from home by recording sermons and devotions, participating in regular Zoom meetings with staff and church leaders, and staying in touch with church members through emails, social media, texts and phone calls

Pastor Kel
714-465-6991

pastorkelhenderson@gmail.com

Continued thanks to:

Tina, Robbie and John Douglas who continue to work from home, connecting with various church members and ministries, Pastor Kel and other church leaders for the recording of weekly Sunday worship videos.

A very special thanks to Tina who compiles, edits and prepares the Sunday videos for publication!

Office Manager Kathy Vail will continue to work remotely. She can access emails, phone messages, and even the church office computer from her home. To reach her, call 714-544-1319 or send an email to: churchoffice@chotf.org.

Treasurer Maureen Rosenquist comes in to the church office weekly to check on mail, and to deposit and write checks. Please address any questions about pledges, gifts or request for funds to her at: maureenandjim77@gmail.com.

If you have any announcements, prayer concerns, suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to call the church office at 714-544-1319 and leave your message or send an e-mail to churchoffice@chotf.org.

Dan Griset, President
Keni Brayton Cox, Vice President

PANDEMIC PUMPKIN PATCH

"ADOPT OUR PUMPKIN PATCH"

See Kel's Korner, page 4, for adoption details!



CONNECTIONS



Action Update - September 29

Sharing the Bread: World Communion Sunday and Our Global Presence

In the days following the tragic warehouse explosion in Beirut, local bakeries were baking and sharing free bread by the truckload. Even before the blast, life was difficult in Lebanon. Political unrest, an ongoing financial crisis, and the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic all contributed to a seemingly impossible situation. Then, the explosion killed more than 190 people; injured more than 6,500; and left an estimated 300,000 homeless in the Greater Beirut area. The number of injured people and damaged medical facilities put a further strain on the already over-burdened healthcare system. Hospital overcrowding contributed to an escalated spread of disease.

In this challenging time, long-standing denominational partners in Lebanon and the region are working to adapt and meet a wide range of needs. With many refugees in the area from nearby Syria and Palestine, our network of partners have a long history of serving some of the most vulnerable. Now, they are expanding their reach to serve people in need of housing as a result of the explosion; those without access to food or water; as well as those who were injured or lost loved ones. The comprehensive response addresses housing needs, food security, health and hygiene, as well as access to education and employment.

In many ways, the needs seem overwhelming. But **Global Ministries Global Mission** Intern Leda Zakarison notes all the ways in which people reached out to help their neighbors in the days following the explosion- from donating blood and supplies, to welcoming strangers into their homes and sharing bread.

As Christians from many denominations and traditions prepare to celebrate **World Communion Sunday on October 4**, the image of sharing bread together in the wake of a crisis is particularly powerful. As Disciples of Christ, communion reminds us that we are part of a larger body; a movement transcending time and space. At the center of this celebration, the table symbolizes our shared faith, which overcomes all kinds of barriers- cultural, geographical, and otherwise.

Peter Makari of Global Ministries shares that some of our partners sustained damage to their own facilities, which they must address while continuing to meet the needs of those affected by the explosion, the financial crisis, and the ongoing pandemic. But, he says, they remain committed to engaging the community and serving those in need, even as they deal with their own challenges. He says it's a reminder that "a sense of community transcends sectarian lines, and goes beyond helping out only one's own." He says that people are truly coming together, working not just to meet immediate needs, but to address the broader, systemic issues that led to the compound disasters in the first place.

This year on **World Communion Sunday**, more than ever, we are aware of how interconnected this Body is. A global pandemic has shown us that what affects one part affects all of its members; and when one part of our human family suffers, we all suffer. Our interdependence is key to common thriving. In this season of great need, the communion table becomes more than a symbol. Just as we share in the abundance of God, so we are called to share with our whole human family in tangible ways, regardless of barriers.

Through **Week of Compassion**, your compassion is at work in Lebanon, and in many other places around the world where people are in need. Your support shares the bread of life in many ways, in many places. It is a true communion that gives life, extending the welcome of our table around the world. What better way to celebrate the compassionate way of Christ: on World Communion Sunday, or any day of the year.

Note: You may mail your donation to the church office or donate through our website: churchofthefoothills.org.
Thank you for your generosity!