



Foothills Christian Church

2019

# Annual Report

Preparing for baptism in Jordan River

My Dear Friends in the Lord,

Foothills has been active in ministry for over 95 years. 2025 will mark our 100th year of following Jesus and doing ministry in His kingdom.

I have been the lead pastor since January 5th, 1996 when Kim, I and a 1 year old Zac moved to Boise from Wichita, Kansas.

As the church grew, so did our family when we added MaKenzie in the summer of 1996 and then Jake in 2005.

This is the 24th Annual Report that I have been a part of writing. It is a simple snap shot of what happened in ministry over the last year. One thing I have come to understand after 24 years in one place is that Jesus is King. We make plans, we develop goals, we seek objectives. We work towards these things but in the end, we are not in control of the outcome.

So we trust Him more and more every year. We seek His face and His guidance more and more every year. Strategies, plans, methods, and structures come and go but in the end the only thing remains is what Jesus builds.

I hope you see that regardless of what is happening in the world around us, Jesus is at work in our community of faith.

We are quietly growing, discipling, preaching, and serving where Jesus has planted us and it is having an impact.

I pray we can continue to keep Jesus the focal point of our church. We are here to follow Him, to love Him, to serve Him.

As Paul writes:

*“And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”*

Colossians 1:18-20

May we never cease to keep Jesus front and center!

Pastor Doug

# Highs and Lows 2019

## Major Highs:

- ✳ Breaking ground on our food pantry and student ministries addition. This took navigating the government road blocks over a 2 year period. Read more in Appendix.
- ✳ A pilgrimage to Israel. 48 people went on an incredible spiritual journey to the Holy Land. Truly a transformational experience.
- ✳ Addition of a chicken farm in Haiti to feed the orphans. Our sustainable farm is almost fiscally neutral and the chickens produce 200 eggs a day.
- ✳ Remodeling of the Atrium and offices. This was a bigger adventure than anticipated, but now it is complete and the new spaces are wonderful.
- ✳ Growing Online Campus. Our online campus is getting bigger each week. We have discovered that 90% of people who visit check us out online first.



## Major Lows:

- ✳ The government road blocks added considerable cost to the new building. We are approaching it as frugally as possible.
- ✳ The departure of 4 staff members. It was quite a shock and took some time to get back on track. However, it has turned out to be an incredible blessing of God. We started baptizing people into Christ again, the church started growing again, and new staff were added to the team

who are spiritually mature and truly share our core values as a church.

- ✳ Saying good bye too many friends who departed to be with the Lord.

In the end, as it always seems for those who follow the Lord, the highs were a blessing and the lows weren't as bad as they seemed at the time. If you are exceptionally curious about the staff summer transition, you can read about it in the appendix to this report.



## Our Mission:

**“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

**Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20**

Our hope is to engage people in becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

By connecting them first to Jesus in a personal relationship.

Second, by connecting them to Biblical community.

Finally, by connecting them to their mission in life.

# Adult Ministry

## Dayna Mitchell Director

### 2019 Hi-lights

1. 56 active groups
2. 422 group members
3. 87 group leaders and/or co-leaders

### 2019 Group Leader Feedback

"A sweet woman in my most recent study is a brand new believer. It's been such a blessing to see her grow in her faith, begin to read and fall in love with the Word of God. I see her believing in the promises of the Bible, that God loves her completely. She is redeemed and lives in Freedom."

### How have you grown spiritually in the last year:

- \* "We have a stronger support system, through our group we have gotten to know people so when we come to church it feels more like family."
- \* "I feel Closer to our Lord and relationship with him."
- \* "I have a better understanding His Word and the many avenues He supplies his abundant Grace to us."
- \* "I feel more settled in my life. I feel closer to God."
- \* "Seeing the grace and love of Jesus in everyday. Thankfulness."
- \* "Through deeper understanding of the messages through our small group discussions."
- \* "With the better understanding of the Biblical truths and insights my faith has become steadfast. Also, the faith of others has been so inspirational."

### My Favorite Part of Being a Small Group Leader is:

- \* "Seeing change in the students life."
- \* "I like to serve."
- \* "Developing relationships."
- \* "Sharing quality resources that create a hunger for diving into God's works and teach sound biblical theology to the lay person."
- \* "Witnessing people grow in faith and familiarity with the Bible. Life change, freedom and redemption. Seeing people live in confidence of who God made them."

## WHY SMALL GROUPS MATTER: MEMBER FEEDBACK



### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

92% of Group members say they have grown spiritually in the last year. 87% of those say their small group has contributed to their spiritual growth.



### CHURCH ATTENDANCE

82% of group members attend church weekly. This is great, considering the national average states, only 42% attend church weekly.\*



### PRAYER LIFE

84% of Group Members Pray Daily!



### MINISTRY

66% of Foothills Group Members serve regularly in a ministry of the church.



### LEADERSHIP

When asked about their small group leaders, over 80% of group members say they experience high levels of accountability, care, and organization by their small group leader.

\*<https://news.gallup.com/opinion/polling-matters/242015/church-leaders-declining-religious-service-attendance.aspx>

# Youth Ministry

## Steve Botsford Associate Pastor



In the fall of 2019 we started the first of several High School Discipleship Groups. It started with a couple of guys that wanted to grow in their faith and a few others who were looking for some pizza after a long day of school and football practice. After the pizza was all gone and some fun conversations were had, we challenged this group to take the next step in their friendship and more importantly in their faith. We shared that these two guys were starting a small group with the intent to better know and follow Jesus. This group already valued the “brotherhood” they shared in football, but were given a glimpse of what adding Jesus to this brotherhood could do. Instead of some guys that they used to play football with they could have true friends who challenge one another to be better for the purpose of Christ.

This group has been meeting each Monday night since to discuss the culture they live in and how to address these things as a Christ follower. They have learned about putting God first in their lives and how we can depend on one another for support, encouragement and accountability. Some of these guys have strong a faith and others not so much, but God is working in the hearts and hands of each one of them, drawing them closer to who He has called us to be.



- High of 26 students at our Tuesday Night Youth Group (6th-9th) weekly average of 18 attending in the month of December.
- 10 youth leaders.
- 25 average Sunday morning attendance.
- 1 new High School small group.
- Total Involved: 57 Middle Schoolers. 20 High Schoolers.

# Creative Ministry

## Jesse Maher Director

This summer was a big transition when the previous director left. It was amazing to see is the musicians, technicians, vocalists of our church had an outpouring of service and discipleship when they saw the need. We had people who had very little experience rise to the challenge of getting all the equipment operational, teaching themselves and each other how to run them before new staff arrived. It has been amazing to see our church come together even when things aren't perfect to worship and serve together.

**Weekend Services:** Our volunteer base is growing stronger and stronger every month. We have a rotating team of 5 worship leaders, many vocalists, and a strong band that is improving more and more every week. We have added a solid group of hosts that more fully represent our inter generational community. 2020 will see more band members added, monthly classes and small groups.

**Media:** The creative department is training interns to help create graphics and video elements for the church. Our hope is to start creating even more multimedia experiences for services, events and branding. We are installing a new video wall in the atrium to highlight the ministry story of Foothills.

**Production:** The focus of production is to create an opportunity for authentic worship. In 2020 the production control room will move to a larger space. We are focusing on engaging more people in ministry by showing them production is not difficult to learn and can be very rewarding. There will be monthly classes, and we will work with aspiring youth who show interest in learning more about all this equipment and the art of production.

### Stats:

Production Volunteers Needed each week- 8

Worship Volunteers Needed each week- 8

Avg Streaming Numbers- 150-250

# Children's Ministry

**Kate Wilson Director**

Our children are growing in faith!

Some highlights:

- More children bringing their friends to Church.
- Many children connecting to Jesus.
- 75 kids attending VBS. The energy was amazing and we saw many children wanting to dedicate their lives to Jesus. There is nothing more joyous than seeing children make that decision.
- We added new people committing to doing ministry who love kids and want to see them grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- Watching all the children sing and dance every Sunday in worship is so awesome.

Some challenges:

- Some key volunteer leaders transitioned to other things. So we have been rebuilding and re-organizing the ministry team that leads the Children's Ministry.
- We had some long term support staff move on due to life events. We are slowly replacing these roles with excellent people.



## **Fun Facts:**

- **The Children's Ministry has 47 volunteers**
- **We see 140 kids each week**
- **Foothills passed out 4,800 fruit snacks in 2019**
- **We bought 72 boxes of Chex and 24 boxes of Cheerios**



# Operations

## Tiffany Almaraz Director

The Operation's Team mission is to use all available church resources to support each of our ministry areas. This includes facility, communications, social media, printing/publications, and database.

Our team includes: Tiffany Almaraz - Operations Director and Miseda Lilly-Saeland - Office Admin. As well as the 20+ volunteers that aid in our daily operations here at Foothills.

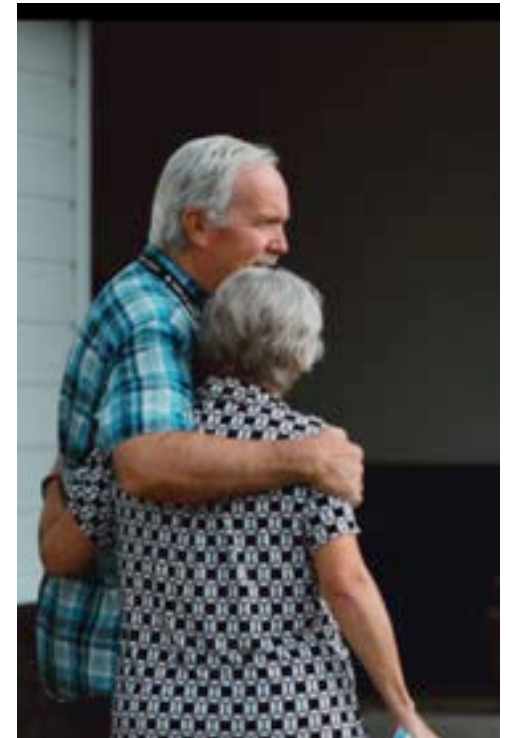
We have reached goals that were set before us to improve the functionality of our database, the way we communicate, and our efficiency as a church. We are so happy to look back at 2019 as a year of change and growth, and are very excited moving into 2020 to accomplish even more!

We could never operate without all of the faithful volunteers at Foothills. Meet Vina Johnston! Vina says she was hurting and hopeless before finding Foothills. She had been searching for a church home for over 5 years. She came to our Tailgate Event and knew she wanted to be a part of the church, but she was so hesitant due to her own feelings of guilt, age, ability, and personal struggles. Vina believes it was divine direction that led her to overcome these challenges. She has been a faithful, wonderful volunteer that we all love dearly. Vina says she is blessed and grateful for everyday she gets to serve here. It's so amazing to see what a difference just one person can make when they open their hearts to where God is leading them.

I hope Vina's story encourages you if you have been struggling with taking the next step in getting involved. Just do it. You won't be sorry. **You belong here!**

### Did you know?

- We had 1,278 events in our building last year.
- We made 70,000 copies on our copy machine.
- We have 3,274 people in our database!



# Hearts and Hands

Cynthia Janoushek Director

**Food Pantry:** Our food pantry brought in **207,611** lbs. of food in 2019 and fed an estimated 33,285 people all over the treasure valley for the year. Approximately **2,500** per month.

**Clothing Boutique:** Our boutique has provided clothing, socks, shoes, gloves, hats and warm coats to over 100 families in 2019.

**Foster Family Support / Respite:** Each month we provide a 4 hour break for Foster Parent in the valley. Foster Parent are able to drop off the Kids each month , with an amazing team of Volunteers while they get the much needed break .

**Benevolence:** We have helped many hard working families that struggle to make their bills, keep their utilities on, gas in their cars, and helped with rent.

**Annual Thanksgiving Dinner:** This special dinner is provided on Thanksgiving Day for our community so they don't celebrate alone. Supported by amazing



volunteers we served over 260 folks Thanksgiving dinner.

**Homeless Outreach:** The needs of the homeless population is so great. We help provide clothing, food and many prayers.

**Divorce Care Ministry:** This 13 week class we hold several times each year provides Biblical guidance, compassion, support and love for those who are experiencing the pain and struggle of Divorce.

**Meals Team:** This amazing team of volunteers help throughout the year to provide homemade meals for many folks in need of a little extra help .

**Annual Toy Drive:** Because of the Generosity of our congregation we are able to provide toys to children in foster care, and other children in our community that may not get presents . This year your generosity brought in over **800** toys, games and several gift cards.

**School Supply drive;** This year we were blessed with **72** backpacks, and several hundred school supplies for many children and schools in our community

# Cross Cultural Missions



**Haiti:** we currently support GVCM ministries in Haiti. This organization includes over 50 local churches, schools that educate an estimated 5,000 students, and orphanage, as well as a sustainable farm to feed the orphans.



**Ecuador.** We currently work with Case de Fe. An orphanage in Ecuador that cares for children with special needs.



**India.** We currently work with John Gabriel, Global Missions International in the Kerala region of India. 40 churches have been established in three India states, Crossroads English School has grown to 2,300 students – K-12th grade – and scores of destitute children in Children's Village have found a safe place since 2003.



**Short Term Missions Trips.** There are many opportunities for short term missions trips in the places we support and serve. Our goal is to see these trips happen on an annual basis. Please pray about joining one of these trips.

# Leaders who joined the staff in 2019!



## Youth Ministry

Steve Botsford  
Associate Pastor



## Pastoral Leadership

Harvey Friesen Pastor



## Worship/Creative Ministry

Jesse Maher Director

**We are amazed how the Lord has brought us staff who are a real blessing to our church.  
We look forward to how the Lord is going to move through them in 2020 for a strong and healthy ministry.**

# 2019 Financial Report

Foothills Christian Church

PROFIT AND LOSS COMPARISON

January - December 2019

	TOTAL	
	JAN - DEC 2019	JAN - DEC 2018 (PY)
Income		
40000 Contributions Income	1,032,975.27	1,111,177.23
41000	5,168.00	
45000 Miscellaneous Income	37,146.22	1,180.00
Interest Earned	968.37	3,565.78
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,076,257.86</b>	<b>\$1,115,923.01</b>
GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$1,076,257.86</b>	<b>\$1,115,923.01</b>
Expenses		
61000 Ministry Center	180,284.17	161,424.69
62000 Administration	152,164.71	131,706.69
63000 Worship Ministry	18,635.30	103,022.86
63900 Creative Arts Ministry	10,190.12	
64000 Youth Ministry	8,941.65	10,084.22
65000 Childrens Ministry	35,231.23	42,456.29
66000 Connect Ministries	21,421.85	30,887.39
67000 Ministry Personnel	423,983.46	379,665.03
69000 Missions & Benevolence	112,793.66	122,327.89
77777 Uncategorized Expense	681.08	0.00
Children's Ministry	160.03	
Loan Fees	11,419.00	
Payroll Expenses	1,888.57	0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$977,794.83</b>	<b>\$981,575.06</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$98,463.03</b>	<b>\$134,347.95</b>



In 2018 the total giving (gross profit) was:  
**\$1,115,923.01**



In 2019 the total giving (gross profit) was:  
**\$1,076,257.86 + \$7,000 in capital gifts =**  
**\$1,083,257.86. A difference of 2.7%**



In 2019 we spent \$228,056 on new construction and remodels. This was out of cash reserves from previous year giving.



In 2019 we received \$3,548 income at White Light Coffee bar and had \$3,250 in expenses. So we did not make much to give away this year to fight Human trafficking.



Foothills is a member of the Evangelical Churches for Financial Accountability (ECFA). One of only 2 churches in Idaho. You can see our financial reports online at: <https://www.ecfa.church>



## Appendix C - Summer Staff Transitions

### Appendix A - New Building

We have completed all excavation and foundation. The next step is to erect the building and this will start as soon as weather permits. We hope to have it dried in by March and begin on interior work. Once the building shell has been erected the following steps will need to take place:

- Internal framing.
- Install HVAC, Electrical, and plumbing.
- Install wainscot, window and door covers.
- Painting, finish work.
- Landscaping.

Once this is done, we will also need to begin working on the side walk on the front of the building. We have also purchased a forklift for the food pantry.

### Appendix B - Sport Field Update

If you haven't noticed there was some major vandalism to our new sports field. Someone drove thru it, got stuck, and then called a friend with a giant 4x4 to pull them out. We are trying to get the person's insurance to pay for the repairs estimated at \$10,000.

Transitions in a church staff are similar to transitions in families, they are never easy. We have had our fair share of transitions over the years.

This past year saw a larger than usual staff transition. Our church is always seeking the Lord through the scriptures in order to understand our identity and mission in the Treasure Valley. When it became clear that our executive pastor felt called to a different vision for ministry, we worked to encourage him to find his place in the kingdom that would line up with his vision. Subsequently, three of the staff members he hired who aligned with his vision left as well.

We have prayed for God's leading over them as we continue to fulfill our mission to share Jesus with the people in the Treasure Valley.