

FOUNDRY FORGE

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead



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Getting to Know Foundry – in Unexpected Ways



S. MAX BREWSTER

“In recent years I had fallen back in my spiritual journey, and after my brother committed suicide last January, I’ve found so much solace just walking in the door at Foundry. I have had the pleasure of taking two courses so far and look forward to my spiritual journey to come here at Foundry”

These are the words I had prepared to introduce myself to you at the baptism ceremony scheduled for Sunday morning, March 14 at Foundry. But sometimes God wants you to see a story in a whole different way.

March 14 was the first day that large group meetings were restricted and so, it was the day of Foundry’s first live-stream only worship service.

In the two months since that day, I have participated in more church functions than ever before in my life (and I was raised Southern Baptist!). During this time of isolation, Foundry has enabled me, a newcomer, to meet and connect with more different members of the Foundry family than I would have in years of physically attending services.

Creating a spiritual space for worship has been particularly helpful for me during this "virtual" journey. While I did like to watch the service on the big screen TV, moving from that living room/office that I’m in all night and day, to worship in another space in my home has really made a difference.

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Getting to Know Foundry – in Unexpected Ways

S. MAX BREWSTER

I know that God is with us at all time and in all ways. This was demonstrated in the most magical way this past week. I told some friends how through therapy I have been focusing daily on three things for which I am grateful. The very next day Pastor Ginger's live Facebook post was about grief and gratitude. That was followed by an email from work on "Wellness Wednesday" about gratitude, noting the importance of writing down each morning three things for which we were grateful!

I am grateful for my new Foundry family and I look forward to meeting you all in person as a member of this amazing congregation. Until then -- see you on Zoom, and the other virtual channels we use. For now, #thisishowifoundry.



S. Max Brewster moved to DC ten years ago to work for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. He grew up in Mississippi and north Alabama where he still has family. Brought up Southern Baptist, his Methodist connection is also a long one: his mother was the pianist at the Iuka, Mississippi UMC for 40 years.

Did You Know...

That you can connect with Foundry clergy every weekday on Facebook Live?



MONDAYS AT NOON

"Good Noon" with Pastor K.C.

THURSDAYS AT TEN

"Midday with PK" with Pastor Kelly

TUESDAYS AT TEN

"Wandering Toward Wonder" with Pastor Will

FRIDAYS AT TEN

"Ben at Ten" with Pastor Ben

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

"Ponderings from the Purple Parlor" with Pastor Ginger



Little Acts of Love

REV. GINGER E. GAINES-CIRELLI



“*Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten in God’s sight. But even the hairs of your head are all counted. Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

- Jesus (Luke 12:6-7)

During this stay-at-home season, I’ve spent a good amount of time on our front porch. The view has been lovely as different waves of perennials bloom on our little patch of earth. Further, last year we made our yard a destination for birds with the addition of a bird bath. And this year, a new feeder has added a star to our spa rating in the *Ornithological Times*. We’ve had robins, cardinals, mockingbirds, blue jays, red-bellied woodpeckers, house finches and tufted titmice, along with grackles, starlings, and crows.

The flowers and the birds that sing, splash, and feast feet away from where I sit have been a valuable part of my self-care and encouragement through these long weeks. In the midst of this difficult time, with no clear end in sight and only the assurance that much will never be the same, anxiety is understandably increasing — even in those who may not usually succumb to worry and fear.

The words of Jesus remind us that God is with us in this frightening time, seeing us and valuing us. If God knows each sparrow at the Gaines-Cirelli spa along with all sparrows, how much more tenderly and carefully does God attend to you and me?

The teachings of Jesus do not assume that things we need will magically appear as if from a genie in a bottle. Instead, the Kin-dom is manifest when open hearts and hands, moved by the power of the loving Spirit, do what they can to support, to care for, to offer what they can to us.

The birds could find water and food other places -- and many do. But our little acts of hospitality and sustenance on our little corner play a part in God’s care of the sparrow, the woodpecker, the iris, and rose.

May we all continue to do little acts for the sake of love, so that we might participate in sustaining those who suffer most, so that our hands might be part of God’s mending.

In peace,

Ginger E. Gaines-Cirelli
Senior Pastor

Foundry Forward

JUNE ACTION ITEMS

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28

Tune into Worship

Don't miss our Sunday morning worship service at 11:15 am today and every Sunday. Check out your options for connecting above – and if you wish, join a breakout room via Zoom for coffee hour after the service. It's a great way to visit with Foundry friends!

Practice Spirituality

You are invited to come together every Sunday at 10:10 am with members of the Practicing Spirituality Class via Zoom. It is an opportunity to check in, share prayer, and hear a lesson led by a class member. Together, you will reflect on the blessings of the day and look at ways we can be Christ for those in need. For information, visit foundryumc.org/event/calendar.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 10, 17, 24

Begin with Prayer

Start your day at 7:30 am with prayers with Pastor Kelly Grimes and members of the Care Ministry Team. Join us at foundryumc.org/event/calendar.

Worship at this Waypoint

Gather with us via Zoom (zoom.us/j/94321117517) from 6:15 -7 pm for prayer, song, and intentional conversation about Scripture, a time to rest and draw new strength for the discipleship journey.

Foundry will continue holding one online worship service at 11:15 am each Sunday throughout the summer months. Our building will remain closed to the general public. You can participate in all worship services online using the links at foundryumc.org. You can take part in many other events using Zoom.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 11, 18, 25

Senior Pastor's Bible Study "This Sunday's Scripture"

Join Pastor Ginger at 6 pm for a bible study session in which she will explore the history and context of the scripture she'll be preaching on each week. Register at foundryumc.org/event/calendar.

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 22, 29, JULY 6, 13

Post-Cana: Relationships in the Age of Pandemic

This workshop is designed to equip couples and those in intimate relationships to manage conflict and excessive emotions during the pandemic and beyond. Join us on Zoom from 5:30 – 7 pm for five sessions for couples of every age and stage who want to build relational resiliency. Register at foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/426895.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

Foundry Board Meeting

The Foundry Board will meet virtually at 7 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Members of the congregation interested in observing the meeting can email Amanda Beadle amandabeadle1@gmail.com for details on how to do so.