



The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

**Lamentations 3:22-23** 

#### **Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!**

Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided— **Great is Thy faithfulness,** Lord unto me.

## LETTER FROM PASTOR GINGER



BELOVED,

Over the years, one of the hymns that has carried generations of

believers is "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Its refrain proclaims the mercies of God including, "Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside." These words are the frame for both our annual stewardship campaign and for our new strategic vision.

Each day we rely on God's faithfulness to give us strength — strength to face challenges, to persevere through uncertainty, and to live with courage and compassion. At the same time, we are called to look beyond today with bright hope for tomorrow. Hope that God is at work in our world. Hope that our church will continue to be a beacon of welcome, justice, and love. Hope that, together, we will shape a future that reflects God's kindom here on earth.

Your generosity makes that vision possible. Every prayer offered, every hour volunteered, every gift given becomes a testimony to God's faithfulness and a seed of hope planted for the future. Through you, our church has been able to provide government IDs for more than 2,000 people over the past year, to support a historic civil rights pilgrimage with Asbury UMC and John Wesley AMEZ, to provide care and support for members and neighbors who are hurting, grieving, or harmed by cruel policies, to nurture Foundry children and youth in the knowledge and love of God, and to offer transcendent worship to encourage and lift the spirits of those who gather at 16th and P and join online.

As we enter this stewardship season, I invite you to prayerfully consider how you will share your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. In the coming weeks, we'll

hear testimonies from members of our community and reflect on scriptures that remind us of God's steadfast love.

On Commitment Sunday, October 26, we will make commitments — not only financial, but also commitments of prayer, presence, and service — as an act of worship and hope. Our goal this year is to receive \$2.6M to support the vision for mission and ministry that we've discerned together. Thank you in advance for the blessing of your gifts!

I am deeply grateful for the many ways you embody God's faithfulness here and now. Together, may we find strength for today and live into bright hope for tomorrow.

With gratitude and joy,

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### OPERATIONS AND IMPACT

The Operations Team is at the core of Foundry's radical hospitality, striving to foster inclusion, supporting ministry events and programs, setting up spaces, and creating welcoming experiences for our congregation and guests.

"Without the building open with clean and safe spaces, welcoming rooms, and friendly staff, we would not be able to reach as many people or make such a difference." Gyorgyi Szabo-Fountaine, Operations Manager

In 2025, the Operations Team supported multiple summer camps, where children and young adults created core memories.

On Sundays, our special Café de Rosa is the heart of community life. Friends and neighbors come together to reflect on the events of our world, catch up, make new friends, or share the • comfort of a cup of coffee and a slice of cake.



Every week, the Operations daily lives of people in our extended community.









The Operations Teams also:

- Provides a space and livelihood for small businesses like Holiday Thyme. Our kitchen also offers the opportunity to prepare 1,000 sandwiches a night for those in need.
- Makes it possible to host JAF Pilgrimage events, where heartfelt participation takes place and has a huge impact.
- Provides space for weddings, bringing joy to newlyweds, and for memorials, offering comfort and peace to those who have lost loved ones.

Team accommodates sup- Every inch of Foundry matters: the Sanctuary, the Commons, classport groups in the evenings rooms, the kitchen, storage for clothing drives, and more. The Operathat gather at Foundry, mak- tions team is proud to provide a safe, clean, friendly, and welcoming ing a real difference in the environment that enables Foundry's mission and ministry to thrive.

Rev. Kealani Nunes Willbanks

Associate Pastor and Executive Director of Operations and Impact



AT FOUNDRY, we offer a transcendent worship experience that welcomes everyone, whether attending in person or online. Our rituals blend tradition with innovation, aiming to connect with worshipers both near and far and enhance everyone's spiritual journey. Your generous support enables us to benefit from our Senior Pastor's inspiring preaching and leadership, the dedicated efforts of our clergy and staff, and a variety of exceptional guest preachers. We are fortunate to enjoy glorious special music events and weekly performances by our choir, soloists, and orchestra, all guided by our beloved maestro.



Your gifts allow these powerful experiences to occur, spreading strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow!

Stanley Thurston

**Director of Music and Worship Arts** 



AT FOUNDRY, we create a nurturing and loving environment that fosters the spiritual growth of families, children, and youth. Our worship services feature a special children's message and a dedicated experiential space designed to engage and inspire young minds, helping them deepen their understanding and faith in God.

 Foundry's Youth Ministry provides opportunities for youth in grades 6-12 to have fun, grow in their faith, serve their community, and be invited into leadership.

- Foundry Parents Ministries offers enriching spaces for small group gatherings, learning opportunities, and the sharing of valuable resources, all while fostering a supportive community.
- At Foundry, many of our cherished traditions celebrate the beauty of family life. These events, from Foundry Camp to the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) and the Easter Egg Hunt at Stead Park and Youth Local Missions, highlight the joy and love shared among family members.

In the spring and summer months at Foundry," explains Natalie Harvey, Director of Music and Worship Arts, "Family Ministries has been a vessel for the congregation and community of Foundry Church to bear witness to "the goodness of God in the living" (Ps 27:13) through growth and abundance in every corner of our programming towards our children and youth and their families.

 We find strength for today in moments such as Youth Sunday on June 16th, when over 29 children and youth helped lead worship, 9 third



- graders received their Bibles, and we celebrated 3 high school graduates and 4 college graduates stepping into new chapters of their journeys.
- We also find strength in the growing joy of rebranded Camp Foundry, which welcomed 149 participants over Labor Day weekend—more than doubling our attendance from just two years ago. The harvest is indeed plentiful in Family Ministries. To meet this abundance, we've expanded leadership and volunteering across every sub-department. New layleader Coordinators are serving as program leaders, strengthening our pool of Safe Sanctuary-certified volunteers, and helping us structure Family Ministries around the core
- values of the church and our strategic vision.
- This program year, four students are participating in Confirmation, courageously exploring their faith and what it means to follow Christ. Hope also looks like the creation of the new Firewalker Kids Sunday School class, designed for children with neurodiversity and intellectual disabilities, along with their peers. This ministry is led by dedicated volunteers and leaders who give their time and hearts to ensure every child has a place in God's story.

We see hope in the new partnerships forming with the DC Jewish
Community Center, located on 16th
& Q Street, opening doors for joint interfaith youth programming. This year our plans to join multi-church youth gatherings within our United Methodist HUB within the Baltimore-Washington Conference. These relationships promise to deepen connection, broaden their sense of community beyond church and religious walls, and offer our young people new ways to encounter kindon building.

Your gifts allow Foundry to nurture and support the spiritual growth of families, children, and youth, spreading strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow!

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Natalie Harvey **Director of Family Ministries** 



**FOUNDRY'S** social justice ministries are focused on both meeting the immediate physical needs of our neighbors and community and justice — organizing, advocating, and providing education that affects systematic change. With the support of your gifts, Foundry can engage directly with community partners and initiatives here in DC and worldwide.

We put our mission into action by showing up and advocating for justice for God's kin-dom.

For over 20 years, ID Ministry has been helping people acquire social security cards, birth certificates, and photo identification. The team serves over 2,000 people per year.

 "When I started planning for retirement," says Dianne Young, a Foundry member, "I knew that participating in the ID Ministry was something I wanted to explore. I'd heard about it for years, had always admired the work, and was proud that Foundry supported vulnerable people in this way. I've now been volunteering for five months; each Wednesday morning brings me deep satisfaction and hope that I have concretely helped improve someone's circumstances. When someone leaves with a plan to get their DC birth certificate with a \$23.00 check from Foundry to cover the cost. I am thankful Foundry supported their need. I hear "thank-you" and "God bless you" far more often than I ever expected, reminding me of the goodness in all of God's children. My fellow volunteers, most of whom are not Foundry members, who have been volunteering for many years, demonstrate their respect and desire to find solutions for each person they serve. The Foundry ID Ministry brings light and optimism to those seeking our assistance.



Another volunteer said, "Volunteering at the Foundry Methodist Church gives me hope for tomorrow because there are some problems we can actually help fix. Good information given with time and attention, along with a small amount of money, can change a person's life for the better."

Foundry maintains an active social justice oriented presence on social media and has plans to expand beyond Facebook and Instagram to other social media platforms.

#### In addition:

- Our Sacred Resistance Team educates, organizes, and empowers the Foundry community for advocacy and public witness addressing various social justice issues we are facing at both the local and national levels. Our team partners regularly with The Washington Interfaith Network, The Way Home Campaign, and Congregation Action Network.
- Our Religion and Racial Justice Board Committee works to support and help equip the Foundry community to build

- awareness around racial inequalities and opt into active dialogue and action towards racial justice.
- Foundry's LGBTQIA+ Advocacy team has been a tireless leader within the United Methodist Church for the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons in the life and ministry of the church.
- We have Cooking Ministry Teams that work both at Foundry and in the community to prepare meals for neighbors in need.
- Foundry offers volunteer-led English as a Second Language (ESL) classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:45-8:30 p.m. These classes are free and open to students 17 years and older.
- Founded in 1999, DC Books to Prisons is a volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides free books to individual prisoners and supports prison libraries.
- Foundry works with literacy programs such as Project
   Transformation to build partnerships within our community
   and help local children advance their reading skills, especially
   over the summer.



 In the Fall, we engage in a Green Day of Service, partnering in the past with Casey Trees, Rock Creek Conservancy and the Potomac Conservancy to help remove invasive plants, plant native ones, and clean up the Potomac River.

Your gifts support Foundry's vital social justice programs, spreading strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow!

Jackie Wright
Social Justice Programs Manager

Rev. Ben Roberts

Associate Pastor and Executive Director of Programs and Justice Ministries



**AT FOUNDRY,** we believe that loving one another is one of the highest expressions of our love for God. We honor both humanity and divinity by actively addressing the needs within our congregation.

"This year, starting in Lent," shares Jackie Wright, Social Justice Programs Manager, "we began offering a weekday meditation on zoom to help Foundry members start the day grounded in community. As Lent drew to a close, the group members asked for it to continue

indefinitely as they were finding it so helpful. Now, 6 months later, it is still going strong. Every weekday at 8 a.m. a group shows up on Zoom to pray and meditate and share prayer concerns. It is a hopeful and beautiful example of the power of community and the need for a space of stillness and instancy with the divine. We need this grounding to continue to do the work that we are being called to in this difficult moment."

Foundry member Josiane Blackman shares that "through the daily discipline of meditating with the Sacred Pause Group, I have developed a greater awareness of my body. When I get overwhelmed or stressed, I now have the tools to settle my body fairly easily. However, a real gift of meditating with the group is that I am becoming less anxious, and am now more peaceful. It has been a transformative experience for me."



• NC retired elder Bret Cogan and his wife Mary Jac Brennan also participate: "Each morning joining the Sacred Pause group provides a foundation to build our day upon. This group has been an experience of feeling God's love, even though we have not met most participants in person, we feel the love and care from and for this group. The practice of being still each weekday morning with this group has served to reinforce our connection with God and the Holy Spirit. It is like a breath of fresh air, a refreshing thirst-quenching drink, a ray of sunshine for the soul."

From our dedicated Care and Prayer teams to the Stephen Ministry, we are committed to meaningful connections at every stage of life.

- Our Care Team works closely with our clergy to support those in need, whether they are battling illness, requiring meals, needing visits, or facing transitions. The Prayer Team provides ongoing prayer support both throughout the week and during our Sunday services.
- Stephen Ministers offers one-onone, Christ-centered care to those facing life challenges.
- Foundry hosts a Smart Recovery meeting and support groups for those dealing with depression, loss, and transition.

 Our care team keeps contact with home-bound members, assists in times of need, and extends compassion throughout the Foundry Family.

Your gifts support the care and sustenance of our community, spreading strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow!



**DISCIPLESHIP** at Foundry offers a rich journey of spiritual growth, inviting you to deepen your faith, build lasting connections, and experience transformation. With a wide range of both short-term and long- term classes, we explore topics from in-depth Bible studies to contemporary issues.

Recent lay-led groups included I'm Black, I'm Christian, I'm Methodist; Queering Wesley; and Rest is Resistance and Bad Theology Kills. This season, join us for engaging classes like The Jesus Challenge, Comics X Theology, and Harry Potter & Theology (in development).

Rev. Jonathan Brown, Associate Pastor of Discipleship, celebrates the strength and hope found in our "all ages learning together" approach at Foundry.

 In Star Wars & Theology, a middleschooler's take on courage sat alongside a grandparent's story about fear and faith; both reshaped the other.

A teen unpacked "found family"

while a retiree recalled seeing the original trilogy in theaters; their insights braided together into gospel talk about belonging Midway through the series, an 8-year-old announced: "I want to lead a class next—Harry Potter & Theology."

During our small-group visioning night, youth and adults added leaves to the same "Seeds of Community" tree—naming where they see growth and what they're praying for next. People weren't just in the same room; they were forming each other.



#### At Foundry:

- Disciple Bible Studies cohorts are thriving. The most frequent feedback isn't about content; it's about companionship and courage.
- Small groups organized by location or topic meet regularly for theological reflection, prayer, service, and fellowship. Whether engaging in deep discussions or supporting one another through life's challenges, these groups offer a space for spiritual connection and growth.
- Fellowship activities such as Sunday Potlucks and our Chili Cookoff bring the community together, fostering relationships through shared meals, friendly competition, and fun.
- Our retreat opportunities, such as Camp Foundry, range from half-day to weekend-long events and provide the time and space to dive deeper into your spiritual journey.
- We also offer numerous opportunities to serve our congregation, community, and the world. Whether through volunteering or participating in various initiatives, your contributions make a real, tangible difference.

Your generosity plants seeds of discipleship and compassion that will bear fruit for generations. Together, we are building a church that leads with courage and hope into God's future.

Jonathan Brown

**Director and Discipleship Ministries** 

# WHY MAKE AN ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTION FOR 2026?

YEARLY	AMOUNT	15%	10%(TITHING)	8%	5%	2%
INCOME	GIVEN	15%	10%(THRING)	6%	3%	2%
\$10,000	WEEK	\$29	\$19	\$15	\$10	\$4
	монтн	\$125	\$83	\$67	\$42	\$17
	YEAR	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$800	\$500	\$200
\$20,000	WEEK	\$58	\$38	\$31	\$19	\$8
	монтн	\$250	\$167	\$133	\$83	\$33
	YEAR	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,600	\$1,000	\$400
\$40,000	WEEK	\$115	\$77	\$62	\$38	\$15
	монтн	\$500	\$333	\$267	\$167	\$67
	YEAR	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$3,200	\$2,000	\$800
\$60,000	WEEK	\$173	\$115	\$92	\$58	\$23
	монтн	\$750	\$500	\$400	\$250	\$100
	YEAR	\$9,000	\$6,000	\$4,800	\$3,000	\$1,200
\$80,000	WEEK	\$231	\$154	\$123	\$77	\$31
	монтн	\$1,000	\$667	\$533	\$333	\$133
	YEAR	\$12,000	\$8,000	\$6,400	\$4,000	\$1,600
\$100,000	WEEK	\$288	\$192	\$154	\$66	\$38
	монтн	\$1,250	\$833	\$607	\$417	\$167
	YEAR	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$2,000
\$150,000	WEEK	\$433	\$288	\$231	\$144	\$58
	монтн	\$1,875	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$625	\$250
	YEAR	\$22,500	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$7,500	\$3,000
\$200,000	WEEK	\$577	\$385	\$308	\$192	\$77
	монтн	\$2,500	\$1,667	\$1,333	\$833	\$333
	YEAR	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$16,000	\$10,000	\$4,000

AT FOUNDRY, our single most important source of funding for our ministries comes from the estimated giving contributions during our annual stewardship campaign. Unlike some churches, we receive virtually no funds from an endowment. We are deeply grateful for the faithfulness of our congregation, as we have consistently received, at a minimum — a 90 percent fulfillment rate for all promised commitments. These commitments provide us with a forecast on which we can build our expense budget for the coming year. We acknowledge each gift to be as unique as the individual giver, and we strive to be exceptional stewards of the resources entrusted to us. This year, help us create and sustain community by estimating an annual gift that is both responsible and significant based on what God is calling you to give.

Our goal this year is to receive \$2.6M to support the vision for mission and ministry that we've discerned together. Thank you in advance for the blessing of your gifts!

Submit your Estimate of Giving Here



