

OCTOBER 2024



Foundry Forge

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead

Beauty – A Divine Encounter

We are all drawn to beauty, wherever we encounter it. Indeed, God uses beauty to draw us closer to what is holy, to what is sacred, to God's own heart.

As we move through the seasons, we encounter God in the changing beauty of nature — skies, waters, trees and flowers of every hue, not to mention the creatures that delight and accompany us.

We draw closer to God in the beauty of community, as we serve, worship, study and play, dance and sing and support each other in good times and challenging ones.

We are drawn to God through the beauty of personal relationships, those special moments with our children, our parents, the ease of being with friends old and new, the smiles of those dearest to us.

Sometimes the most powerful beauty is found not in what we see, but in what we sense or feel. We encounter God when we discover the beauty of growth and transformation in our lives and the lives of others, in the powerful beauty of deep listening and forgiveness, the peace on the other side of a breakthrough, the wonder of discovering our own strength or seeing a dear one discover theirs.

Through those experiences, God draws us closer to a life that is true, meaningful, a life that makes a difference. Foundry Church — our shared life, our mission, our advocacy, our worship, our teaching, our witness — conveys to others the beauty of God's peace, the freedom and power God gives us to participate in mending the world, and the good news of God's love and saving grace.



When we support Foundry through our financial gifts and through sharing our time and talents, we strengthen our beloved church to share the good news of God's love, peace, justice, and grace with people near and far. Your support is what makes everything we do and all that we are possible. Thank you in advance for the blessing of your gifts!

And may God bless all of us so that others will see our lives and our shared life and be led to say...how beautiful!

Peace, ginger+

The Joy of Giving

Gwen Williamson

I remember the first financial contribution I made to Foundry.

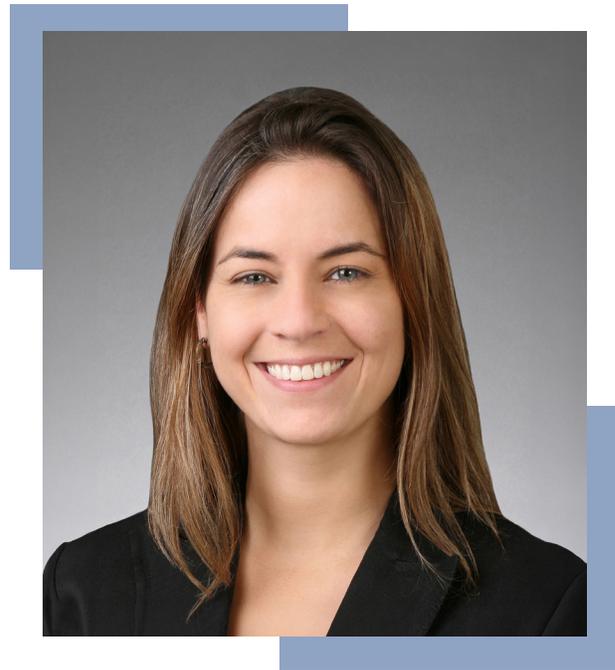
I'd been to the Sunday service a couple of times and the offering plate came around. Back then, before QR codes and the Church Center app, the plate was passed all the way down each row and was often overflowing by the time it got to the back of the sanctuary. Overflowing with money and checks!

I was pleased to be able to drop in a little cash.

I was even more pleased a few weeks later when I remembered to bring my check book with me on Sunday morning. I began to enjoy the ritual of writing out the check each week and popping it in the plate. I eventually made an annual pledge of giving, which I think I did before I officially joined the church. I was getting so much from Foundry and it was a joy to commit to giving back. It made me feel a part of the Foundry family to help support the wide-reaching mission and ministries of Foundry as well as the daily operations of the church.

While I don't know when I last wrote a check, Eleanor and I continue to find joy in making and meeting our annual financial pledge to Foundry. We were married at Foundry. It is our church home that connects us to where we came from and grounds us in where we are going. It is a joy to be able to help support Foundry's financial health.

From the transcendent music and message we are blessed with each week, to small groups, ministry teams and special events like our recent Homecoming Potluck, there are so many beautiful ways that Foundry shows up in our lives. Isn't it beautiful that we have the opportunity to show up for Foundry in return?



Please join me in committing to support Foundry with your financial gifts in the coming year. It will be beautiful!

Gwen grew up in the southeast and has spent most of her adult life in practicing law in DC. She was drawn to Foundry in 2009 by a sermon about faith and Darwinism and married her wife, Eleanor Mayer, at Foundry in 2017. She is the co-chair, with Cara Crumpler, of Foundry's Stewardship Campaign this year.

Foundry Scholarship Awards – 2024-2025

The Scholarship Ministry Team is pleased to announce that seven members of the Foundry family have been awarded scholarships for higher education during the 2024-2025 academic year.

Foundry UMC offers two types of scholarships which are funded through endowments — the Alida Smith Memorial Scholarship for undergraduate or graduate students at any institution and the Edward W. Bauman Scholarship for those intending to enter Christian ministry upon graduation from seminary. Here are the Foundry scholarship winners for this year:



Hailey Baker — Hailey is a sophomore at Fordham University, where she has been participating in Model United Nations and campus ministry along with her studies.



Owen Crumpler — Owen is a first-year student at James Madison University where he plans to study biomedical engineering.



Emily Farnell — Emily is in her final year at Yale Divinity School. She is pursuing commissioning as a provisional Elder in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference in summer 2025, appearing before the Board of Ordained Ministry in January 2025.



Naomi Johnson — Naomi is a senior at Spelman College, majoring in English with a concentration in Film and Visual Culture Studies and minoring in Documentary Filmmaking.



Micah Kim — Micah is working toward her doctorate in nursing at Marymount University planning to be a psychiatric nurse practitioner



John Krause-Steinrauf — John is starting Medical School at the University of Chicago. He aspires to be a primary care physician specializing in HIV.



Jackie Wright — Jackie is beginning her studies at Wesley Theological Seminary with plans to continue work in social justice.

Scholarship Ministry Team: Henry Curry; Parker Low; Margie McKelvey, chair; Ling O'Donoghue; Cathy O'Sullivan; Victoria Sanchez; Rachel Venator; Steve Zagami (ex officio – Director of Family Ministries Natalie Harvey)

If you* are in Junior High School, READ THIS!

There's a brand-new weekly program at Foundry just for you – every Sunday morning from 10:10 to 11:30 in Room 208.

We're bringing all the fun, games, discussions and food from "Youth at Night" to Sunday morning!

There will be continental breakfast, time to talk and connect with each other, and you'll be done in time to join your family in the sanctuary for the sermon, hang out in the Youth Room, or head home.

Come and check it out this coming Sunday!

*** or someone you love**

If you* are in Senior High School, READ THIS!

During the summer, especially during the Appalachian Service Project, many of you wanted more time to gather and connect with each other.....so now Foundry has a program just for you called **Upperclassmen!**

This special once-a-month gathering is time to reconnect after summer, chill, talk together, build friendships, find support and just have fun.

When: the second Sunday each month from 10:10 to 11:30 a.m.

Where: backstage in the Norman and Frances Prince Fellowship Hall

What to expect: continental breakfast, time with friends, and a devotional discussion to kick off each month with purpose.

It's a great opportunity – watch for the announcement of our first gathering – we'll see you there!!

*** or someone you love**

Foundry Forward

OCTOBER 2024 ACTION ITEMS

Sunday, October 6

World Communion Sunday

As we begin our stewardship sermon series "How Beautiful," Pastor Ginger will preach on the topic "A Beautiful Gathering," on this World Communion Sunday, an appropriate day to remind that we are a part of the whole people of God, the Body of Christ. Her texts are Ezekiel 36:24-28 and Luke 14:12-24

Tuesday, October 8

Is the Past Prologue?

David Worthington, United Methodist Global Ambassador of Methodist Heritage Sites, will speak from 7-8 p.m. tonight at Foundry on "Wisdom from the Past, Hope for the Future: A Story of Methodist Heritage."

Sunday, October 13

Beautiful Justice

Drawing on Amos: 5:6-7, 10-15 and Mark 10:17-31, Pastor Ginger's sermon will focus on economic justice, and how to make that a reality for us all, including those who currently have far less than many of us.

Saturday, October 19

Great Day of Service

Join us today between 8 a.m. and noon for our great green day of service! We are partnering with the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), Rock Creek Conservancy and Langdon Park to help remove invasive plants, do trash pickup and learn about (and do!) nitrogen dioxide detection in Foundry's own neighborhood. If working outdoors isn't your thing, you can volunteer to help with the kick-off breakfast for volunteers at Foundry! Families and friends: volunteer together! More information, email jackie@foundryumc.org

Sunday, October 20

Beautiful Responsibility

Can we do a better at taking responsibility for our words, our anger, our witness, our relationships? Pastor Ginger's sermon today is based on the texts of James 1:19-27 and Matthew 5:38-48.

And after the 11:15 a.m. service, anyone interested in learning more about infant or adult baptism in the United Methodist Church, is invited to an information session from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. More information can be obtained from Natalie Harvey, Director of Family Ministries, at nharvey@foundryumc.org

Tuesday, October 22

Foundry Board Meeting

Foundry's Board convenes its monthly meeting at 7 pm. If you are interested in attending, use this Zoom link. foundryumc.org/board-meeting

Sunday, October 27

And On We Go....

Today, our own Guy Cecil, former chair of the Foundry Board and active Foundry member, will preach the final sermon in our stewardship series, **How Beautiful!** Don't miss this service!

Visit the Foundry Library!

We're now more accessible in Room 201, and we're updating the library collection. Note a few of the latest additions:

Used by the Reconciling Ministry Network: *I'm Black, I'm Christian, I'm Methodist*, by Jeyon Caldwell-Gross, et al. Abingdon, 2020

My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies, by Resmaa Menakem. Central Recovery Press, 2017.

Our Unfinished March: The Violent Past and Imperiled Future of the Vote, by Eric Holder. This book is part of the "Pages for Progress" series from the UMC General Board of Church and Society.

To print a copy of this issue of the Forge, go to foundryumc.org/forge.

Share your thoughts and ideas by emailing ForgeNewsletter@foundryumc.org.