

FOUNDRY FORGE

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead



In This Issue:

Making Mission Work	1
A Step Toward Reopening	2
Connectivity and Connection	3
Foundry Forward	4

Making Mission Work in the Time of Coronavirus

KATHLEEN CARR

Psalm 136:25. He gives food to every creature. His love endures forever.

For decades, Sandwich 1000 volunteers have gathered twice a month in the Foundry kitchen to make bologna and cheese sandwiches. Martha's Table picks up most of these sandwiches for use in their food programs, and the remaining sandwiches go to Foundry's ID ministry.

When Foundry closed its building in March due to COVID-19, our mission began looking for creative ways to continue to serve our community and be in fellowship through common purpose even though we could no longer gather at the church. We learned that the ID ministry is on hiatus during this time, but that Martha's Table was still accepting food donations (many donating organizations are now closed, so their need is even greater). We also confirmed with Pastor Ben that there are no DC Government restrictions on donating prepared food.

Where there's a will, there's a way. Starting in April, we changed our process and sandwiches are now made in volunteers' homes once a month. Each month, seven or eight volunteer households make 100 to 200 sandwiches each, totaling 1000 sandwiches.



Continued on Page 2

Sandwich 'kits' of bread, bologna, cheese, sandwich bags, and food prep gloves are delivered to each volunteer household's doorstep. Sandwiches are assembled on kitchen counters, dining room tables or coffee tables. Finished sandwiches are then picked up from each home's doorstep and delivered to Martha's Table. This system is made possible by the extraordinary drive and dedication of one of our volunteers, Warren Randolph (Randy), who faithfully does all the drop-off and pick-up work.

Our volunteers agree that continuing our mission in this way has been extremely rewarding and worthwhile. As one of them said recently, "It felt good to be able to do something kind and valuable for others in COVID times." We plan to continue 'sandwich making from home' for as long as needed and are happy to have new volunteers. Anyone interested should just email me at sandwich1k@foundryumc.org.

Kathy Carr is the leader of the Sandwich 1000 mission which evolved from Foundry's oldest ongoing mission group, the Community Mission, founded in 1979. The Community Mission began making sandwiches for the homeless in 1982, starting with 250 sandwiches a month. It has now grown over the years to preparing 1000 sandwiches twice a month - 24,000 sandwiches a year.

Many thanks to Warren Randolph and all and those who have volunteered for or assisted with 'sandwich making at home': Brad Scarborough, Ken Nesper, Chris Matthews, Charlotte Hakikson, Pascal Masuba, Ivone Guillen, Roy Morter, Blake Huffman, Jack Van Cleve IV, Michael Bray, Emily Kane-Lee, Allison Kramer, April Young, Beth White, Antonio Mayorga, Jeff Springer, Brad Howard, Bill Tucker, Marty Tatman, David Wells, Ben Roberts, Jackie Wright-Martin, Jasper Travis, Lani Willbanks, Andrea Johnson, and Michael Stevens.



A Step Toward Reopening Foundry

On Sunday, July 19, Foundry took a step toward reopening. In weeks to come, you will learn more about worship events of ten or fewer people, hosted on our plaza or in other outdoor spaces, including weddings, funerals, and baptisms. Foundry leadership continues to act with caution and compassion, assessing potential community impacts before implementing any new activities.

For more details on Foundry's phased-in reopening plan, visit bit.ly/FoundryReopening. And if you are looking for ways to help others during these difficult times, you will find a helpful list of opportunities at bit.ly/FoundryOpportunities.

Connectivity and Connection



REV. GINGER E. GAINES-CIRELLI

Connectivity is much on my mind these days. With so much of our lives now shared online, the need to use various platforms and programs has been a brave new world. With ethernet cables running between various spaces in my house that have become production studios for Sunday morning worship, weekly Facebook Live reflections and Zoom Bible Study, I have my fair share of connectivity adventures.

Amid all this, I am grateful for old-fashioned phone calls and other ways that help us connect with one another. We can remain spiritually connected even as we are physically distant.

But as weeks turn to months of physical separation, it is a good time to reflect on our “connectivity.”

- How are your connections with the people who mean the most to you? Do you take time regularly to catch up and laugh, giving and receiving energy from those who feed your spirit? If it's been a while, why not send a message or make a call? Have you told your partner or spouse what you love and appreciate about them this week?
- How is your connection with yourself? Are you paying attention to how you are feeling in body, mind, and spirit? Are you prioritizing practices to nurture your well-being?
- How is your connection with Foundry? Are you availing yourself of the opportunities for worship, inspiration, encouragement and service that are shared almost daily? Do you connect in a small group or a class? If you need prayer, have you reached out to Pastor Kelly or others to come alongside?
- How is your connection with God? How are you making yourself available to God? Is your relationship with God feeling alive and strong?

At this middle point of a very difficult 2020, why not check in and assure that these connections remain healthy. No cables or online platforms are needed to maintain a strong connection with God. Spirit is as near as our own breath. All we have to do is show up and receive God's love, mercy, and grace. That connection makes all the difference.

In peace,


Ginger E. Gaines-Cirelli
Senior Pastor

Foundry Forward

AUGUST ACTION ITEMS

Foundry's virtual Sunday worship service is at 11:15 am. Participate using the links at foundryumc.org. For more information about events, and to register, go to: foundryumc.org/event/calendar.

SUNDAYS, AUGUST 2,9,16,23,30

We Worship Together

Don't miss Sunday morning worship at 11:15 am. Use any of the links you find at foundryumc.org. And after the service, join coffee hour via Zoom!

MONDAYS AT NOON

Good Noon

Take a mid-day break and share the thoughts of Foundry's Director of Family Ministries, Pastor K.C. Attabier on Facebook Live.

TUESDAYS AT TEN

Wandering toward Wonder

Join Pastor Will Green, Foundry's Director of Discipleship, on Facebook Live to reflect on the challenges of these days.

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 5,12,19,26

We Pray Together

Start your day at 7:30 am sharing prayer with Pastor Kelly and Care Ministry Team members.

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Ponderings from the Purple Parlor

Pause at mid-week to hear the thoughts of Foundry Senior Pastor Ginger Gaines-Cirelli on Facebook Live.

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 19 - SEPTEMBER 23

The Cultivated Caregiver

Register now to join these six Wednesday night sessions from 6:30 - 8pm. They provide meaningful and practical support for all caregivers. Registration is required.

THURSDAYS AT TEN

Midday with PK!

Tune into Facebook Live at 10 am with Foundry's Pastor Kelly Grimes, Director of Hospitality and Congregational Care.

THURSDAYS, AUGUST 6,13,20,27

We Study the Bible Together

Join Pastor Ginger Gaines-Cirelli from 6-7 pm each week to explore the history and context of the scripture she will preach on the following Sunday.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

We Imagine the Future Together

Join the Sacred Resistance team and Washington Interfaith Network on one or both evenings from 6:45 - 8:15pm to imagine what a just recovery would look like and how congregations can work together to make that happen. Sign up to get call details.

FRIDAYS AT TEN

Ben at Ten

At mid-morning, join Foundry's Director of Social Justice, Pastor Ben Roberts on Facebook Live to share his thoughts on our fast-moving world.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Foundry Board

The Foundry Board meets at 7 pm. Anyone interested in observing can email amandabeadle1@gmail.com for how to do so via Zoom. To learn more, go to foundryumc.churchcenter.com, choose Groups / Management Board, then Committees / Foundry Board Information.