

FOUNDRY FORGE

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead

Thinking Back, Moving Forward

We begin 2021 sharing the reflections of Alex and Philip, two of Foundry's youngest new members, on their experience of confirmation in the challenging year we now leave behind.

Alex



Confirmation is a peculiar process of learning and growing. We explored what faith and life and many other things mean to us.

This odd experience was compounded by an odd time, this global pandemic. But for me, Foundry was the best possible church to do this wonderful intellectual process in.

Foundry Church was supportive, helpful, and kind. The individuals, and the community, were all mentors, strolling down a quiet lane with me, helping me figure out who I am and what I believe.

It was also quite a novel experience, and I'd like to say thank you. It has been a unique time and unique experience, and one I am glad to have.

Being an adult member of the church is quite a great thing to be.

Philip



Going through confirmation during a pandemic was complicated but meaningful. I learned a lot about Christian beliefs, like treating others the same way we want to be treated and working for social justice.

I appreciate how Foundry -- especially Ms. Beadle and Pastor K.C -- helped us move through this process even during hard circumstances.

It also helped to do confirmation with friends. I recommend it for anyone thinking about confirmation. And after the pandemic is over, you may get even more out of the experience.

I'm thankful to be part of the Foundry family!

The Beautiful Promise

The message of Christmas is hope. That is what our tradition offers us and that is what we most need to carry with us into this new year.

In 2021 -- as in 2020 -- hope is a radical leap of faith, an act of sacred resistance.

Click here (bit.ly/ponderings) to listen to a portion of this “Pondering from the Purple Parlor” in which Pastor Ginger Gaines-Cirelli considers how that promise can sustain and inspire us -- and how we can practice hope.



Foundry Forward

JANUARY ACTION ITEMS

Sunday, January 3

Festival of Light

Celebrate Epiphany Sunday at 11:15 am and remember the Magi, who followed the light of a star and found Jesus, the light of the world.

Today and every Sunday, you can attend using Facebook Live, Vimeo, YouTube and the Foundry website, www.foundryumc.org. You can also attend 10 am services each Sunday at our sibling congregations, John Wesley AME Zion (www.jwdc.org – choose ‘watch online’) and Asbury UMC (<https://www.asburyumcdc.org/>).

Wednesday, January 6, 13, 20, 27

Let Us Pray

Join Pastor Kelly at <https://www.foundryumc.org/event/calendar/979> at 8:30 am to begin your day with prayer.

To print a copy of this issue of the Forge, go to <https://www.foundryumc.org/forge>

Sunday, January 10

Tired Feet, Rested Souls

With our 11:15 am worship service of baptismal renewal, we will begin a worship series “Tired Feet, Rested Souls.” Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s *Letter from Birmingham City Jail*, we will explore the specific actions we are called upon to take as we strive to become an anti-racist, fully inclusive congregation.

Before the service, you have the opportunity at 10 am to learn about

- Foundry’s ministries by attending the Pastor’s Coffee ([click here](#))
- Making the most of dark times by taking part in this six-week course using Barbara Brown Taylor’s book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Tuesdays, January 12 - February 23

Practical Mysticism

Learn how mystics see the world and how this practice might play a part in your spiritual journey. Using Richard Rohr’s book *The Naked Now*, this six-week introduction to practical mysticism will meet virtually at 7 pm. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

For more information or to register, go to <https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations>

Share your thoughts with
ForgeNewsletter@Foundryumc.org

Sunday, January 17

Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.

As we observe Human Rights Sunday during our 11:15 am worship, we honor the memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and gain more insight into what we can do today to realize his vision of the beloved community.

And today at 10 am, we begin a new **Disciple’s Path** course for everyone interested in discovering more about what it means to be a member of Foundry UMC. More information [here](#).

Tuesday, January 26

Foundry Board Meeting

Foundry’s Board convenes its first meeting of the new year at 7 PM via Zoom. If you are interested in attending, email amandabeadle1@gmail.com for the link.

Wednesday, January 27

Help Count the Homeless

Be part of the Foundry team taking part in the Point-in-Time Count, the ‘census’ of homeless persons in DC, which provides policy makers and funders the information they need on homelessness in DC. At least eight Foundry households are needed. For more information, email kbcoventry@yahoo.com.