

JUNE 2025



Foundry Forge

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead

The Power of Shared Service

Every year Foundry partners with Rise Against Hunger to pack meals for communities experiencing food insecurity around the globe. This work is more important than ever as foreign aid providing life-saving food has been cut. As of now, Foundry has packed more than 200,000 meals that have been sent to Vietnam, Timor-Leste, and Madagascar, just to name a few.

This year, it was especially good to be together to do direct service on our Spring Great Day of Service, Sunday, May 4. More than 90 Foundry members of every age measured and weighed rice, dehydrated vegetables and protein powder, sealed bags, packed boxes — and hit the gong every 1,000 meals.

During this time when the weight of problems in our city and country is overwhelming, it feels good to be able to do something tangible. Serving together reminds us that we have beloved community that can lift our spirits and strengthen us for the work ahead — work that we don't have to do alone.

The story of the Last Supper in the Gospel of John begins with an act of service, Jesus washing the disciples' feet. We found it fitting to have our Spring Great Day of Service on a communion Sunday when we also engaged in acts of service involving food.

Likewise, as the story of loaves and fishes multiplies what's available to feed the masses, our shared gifts have a larger impact when we use them to serve.



And it's not only important that we seek to serve by meeting the physical needs of others, but to also continue advocating meaningful policies to address root causes of hunger and poverty. As part of our Great Day of Service, we also contacted elected leaders to emphasize the [importance of foreign aid](#) and the [protection of nutrition programs](#) at home and abroad.

As we continue our work, you can find opportunities to serve and advocate in our monthly Social Justice Ministries Newsletter. You can sign up [here](#) to receive it regularly.

Pastor Ben

Associate Pastor and Director of Discipleship

Making More Than Music

ALLEN HAYWOOD

In 2010, I volunteered to help with Foundry children's choir. I played piano while Pam Lanford led the singing. In one memorable visit to The Methodist Home, Pam was rehearsing Amazing Grace with the kids. Focusing on consonants, Pam tangled up the "h" and the "f" in the line, "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear." I think we skipped that verse in that performance, and for several years afterward.

Children's music is now part of Children's Worship. Natalie leads a program that includes elements of the service, such as the traditional greeting and response, "The Lord be with you. And also with you." We ask the children for prayer requests, which is their chance to share what they did the past week or what they are looking forward to or worried about in the week ahead: birthday parties, tests, visits with grandparents, and finer points of Minecraft are frequent topics.

We then come to my favorite part, time for singing at the piano. Recently, we've been working on For the *Beauty of the Earth* as we've been talking about Earth Day. *Jaya Ho* is a perennial favorite. High school senior James Iveson found that one about 10 years ago in the red hymnal (478) and the kids have been singing it ever since. We also sing Christmas songs throughout the year. Singing is followed by a lesson, then a game or activity.

I have met so many fun kids and their parents, wonderful people I would not have met otherwise. I now know elementary schoolchildren, teenagers, college students and their parents, who range from my age to decades younger. One former Foundry kid now sings with a Yale glee club, and I was able to go to their recent performance in Chevy Chase. Whenever we have a new baby in Foundry, I start a mental count down until the day they can join us upstairs.



There is always room for more volunteers, and it's an easy role to fill. Just the presence of more grown-ups can help calm the children down and guide them in focusing on our activities. Contact Natalie Harvey, our Director of Family Ministries, nharvey@foundryumc.org

About Allan: I came to Foundry in the mid-1990's at the suggestion of a friend. At first I sat in the balcony and left immediately after the service. Then I began staying for "coffee hour" and I got to know more people. I joined in 2000.

Foundry Recognized for Fair Trade Participation

Sales of fairly traded coffee, tea, chocolate, dried fruits, and olive oil during the Advent season is a longstanding mission effort started by the former Peace and Justice Mission. Fair Trade is a way of doing business that ultimately aims to do justice — to advance economic, social, and environmental goals such as raising/stabilizing the incomes of small-scale farmers, farm workers, and artisans, and promoting safe and sustainable farming methods and working conditions.

Foundry works with Equal Exchange, a cooperative that works directly with small farmers' groups to ensure that the farmers get a fair price for their products and that the products are of high quality. Equal Exchange recently notified us that Foundry was among the top 100 congregations purchasing fairly-traded products in 2024.



Equal Exchange works with faith-based groups that get wholesale prices and generally free shipping — savings that are passed on Foundry folk. During the COVID crisis, we formed an informal "coffee club" to buy more or less quarterly, combining people's orders to be able to buy at wholesale prices and encouraging us to buy fairly-traded products year round. Anyone interested in being on the "coffee club" mailing list can contact Margie McKelvey at margaret_mckelvey@yahoo.com

Come and Vote - Sunday, June 22!

The slates of Foundry members nominated to serve, beginning July 1, as members of Foundry's Board and Nominating Committee and those who will represent Foundry at the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference will be voted upon at a Church Conference **SUNDAY, JUNE 22, AT 10:15 IN THE SANCTUARY**. All members of Foundry are invited to attend and professing members are encouraged to come and cast their votes.

The Board slate includes Guy Cecil and Cathy O'Sullivan for a second 3-year term and Celeste Carr, Anne Hardin and Shelley Jessee for their first 3-year term.

The Nominating Committee class of 2027 slate includes Heather Bateman, Audrey Miller Hallett and Rob Pierce, each for a 3-year term.

Photos and short biographies of all these persons are available at foundryumc.org/board-slate

Foundry Forward

JUNE 2025 ACTION ITEMS

Sunday, June 1

“What Are We Saved For?”

How we answer that question is the theme of Pastor Ginger's sermon, using as her text Acts 16, the story of Paul in prison and the earthquake which freed Paul and all his fellow prisoners.

Also today, our drop-in friendly, intergenerational **Harry Potter and Christianity** course continues today and next Sunday at 10:10 in B2. And after the services there will be a presentation at 12:30 about a DC bill to help clean up DC by reducing plastic waste.

Tuesday, June 3

Interfaith Pride Service

We are all invited to the 42nd annual Pride Interfaith Service at 7 p.m. All Souls Church Unitarian, 1500 Harvard Street NW.

Saturday, June 7

Pride Parade

Come help serve us lemonade to participants in this year's Pride Parade! You can join our lemonade stand along the parade route at John Wesley AME Zion (14th and Corcoran Streets NW) or pass out lemonade at 16th and P. Email Jackie Wright, jackie@foundryumc.org with questions and sign up for an hour-long shift at <https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2916875>

Sunday, June 8

Pentecost and Pride

Preacher Ginger preaches today, which is both Pentecost and Pride Sunday on the question “Does the Church Matter?” Her text is Acts 2: 1-21. We are celebrating Pride Sunday at both the 9 a.m and 11:15 services.

Sunday, June 15

Youth Sunday

Today we will celebrate our young Foundry folk at one service at 10 a.m. Pastor Ginger's theme for her sermon is “Play, Delight, Hope!” and her text is Proverbs 8:1-4 and 22-31, and Romans 5:1-5.

Our youth and children will lead the service, which will be followed by a cake-and-ice cream social in Community Commons. Sign up to participate at foundryumc.org/youth-Sunday.

We are also honoring milestones in the lives of our youth. If your child is finishing 3rd grade, we will include them in our 3rd Grade Bible Litany. Just email their name, favorite school subject and dream future occupation to Natalie Harvey, Director of Family Ministries, nharvey@foundryumc.org.

And if your young person is graduating from high school, trade school, college or graduate school, send their name, graduation photo and date, school name and any future plans to Natalie Harvey, nharvey@foundryumc.org

To top it off we will commission the youth and adults who leave this Saturday on their ASP mission – and bless Foundry members leaving Monday, June 16 on the Civil Rights Pilgrimage with members of our sibling congregations Asbury UMC and John Wesley AME Zion.

Saturday, June 21

ASP Mission Begins

Our 2025 Appalachian Service Project Team leaves today for their week of mission work in Nicholas County, WV. They will be working as three teams to make needed repairs to the homes of the county's residents. Keep them in your prayers.

<https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2752240>

Sunday, June 22

Peace with Justice Sunday

We are in a time when this topic is particularly relevant, and we are privileged to welcome Foundry member Guy Cecil to preach this morning at both services. Don't miss his message!

Tuesday, June 24

Foundry Board Meeting

Foundry's Board will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Interested Foundry members may attend via Zoom using this link: <http://foundryumc.org/board-meeting>

Thursday, June 26

Project Transformation

Today Foundry volunteers (as young as 14) will begin reading to elementary-aged students on Thursdays through August 7. Foundry will help coordinate transportation to Emory Fellowship UMC (6100 Georgia Avenue NW, 20011). The hours of the project are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Learn more and register here:

<https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2928441>

Sunday, June 29

Welcome New Members!

Today we will welcome new members into the Foundry family, and Foundry member Ed Crump will preach.