

FOUNDRY FORGE

Inspiration and Information for the Weeks Ahead

Give Up Denial for Lent?

We Americans have a historic habit of denial.

How often have you heard -- or said -- "this is not who we are" in response to an unpleasant event? History includes many situations in which we denied the reality of prejudice and injustice, refusing to confront the damage they have done and continue to do.

In this [video](#), Pastor Ginger examines our habit of denial, and challenges us now, during Lent, to break it, confront reality, and follow our call to transform the world.



Stewardship A Shared Responsibility



BILL ELLETT

Several years ago, a dear friend invited me to come hear the music on a special Sunday. I returned, drawn to this community that truly welcomes all. I joined Foundry because here I found a place that helped me to connect with God in a way that I hadn't been able to for years.

Now I am grateful to be able give back to our church by serving on the Foundry Board as Treasurer for the 2020-2021 year.

2020 was tough. We faced challenges personally, as a nation, and a faith community. I am happy to report that our church weathered 2020 well despite the economic downturn resulting from the pandemic. We accomplished this because you faithfully paid your pledges in an exceedingly difficult year. As a result, Foundry ended 2020 with a surplus.

Your gifts are vital, and the board is dedicated to being good stewards of the resources you provide. Last year the board adopted guiding principles including a commitment to a balanced budget, replenishing reserves, and continuing to invest in important ministries.

Because of your pledged gifts and these principles, the Board was able to adopt a balanced budget for 2021. This budget should ensure that our finances remain strong as we move toward 2022 when we start using general revenues to make loan payments which have, since 2015, been paid from funds contributed to Mission Possible.

In addition, the board has moved to ensure that you have access to information about Foundry's finances and board activities. The audited financial statements and budget summaries can be found on

the website at Foundry <https://www.foundryumc.org/give>. More information about both can be found at the Foundry Board Information Group on the churchcenter app. Everyone with a profile in the Foundry database is a member of this group. If you haven't already signed up with churchcenter, I encourage you to do so now.* It is a great way to connect to all things Foundry!

I am hopeful that we will connect in person again in 2021. I can't wait to be back together on Sunday mornings for worship and to get a warm hug from Rosa. Until then, stay safe and be well.

Bill Ellett has been attending Foundry since 2015 and joined in 2016. He currently serves as Treasurer of the Foundry Board and the Finance Committee. He previously served as Chair of the Audit Committee.

* Go to <https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com> and click on the menu in the upper right corner, log in, and create a profile if you need one. After that, you should have access to the information available on churchcenter.com

Foundry Forward

MARCH ACTION ITEMS

Wednesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Lenten Prayer and Praise

Begin and end each Wednesday with prayer. Join Pastor Kelly's morning prayer group at 8:30, using this link <https://www.foundryumc.org/event/calendar/514>.

And in the evening at 6, gather with us to practice the spiritual disciplines highlighted in our Lenten Devotional. To join, go to <http://bit.ly/FoundryLent2021>

Sunday, March 7

Learning about Lament

After our 11:15 worship service, come at 12:30 to explore the topic "Grief Born of Injustice, Disenfranchised Grief, and Chronic Sorrow in the Laments" with Dr. Denise Dombkowski Hopkins of Wesley Theological Seminary. Find the Zoom link at <http://bit.ly/FoundryLent2021>

Sunday, March 14

Lament and Racial Justice

After worship, join Foundry's own Dr. Izetta Autumn Mobley at 12:30 to examine the role of lament in the work of racial justice. To join, go to <http://bit.ly/FoundryLent2021>

Saturday, March 20

PreCana Retreat

Thinking about or planning marriage? This one-day virtual retreat with Foundry clergy will focus on the challenges and opportunities of building a lifelong partnership. More information and to register, go here <https://foundryumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/690825>

Sunday, March 21

The Music of Lament

Our 11:15 worship service will feature special Lenten music, and after the service at 12:30, Foundry's Director of Music Ministries Stanley Thurston will deliver this week's Lament Lecture and help us understand the role of lament in sacred music. For the link, go to <http://bit.ly/FoundryLent2021>

Tuesday, March 23

Foundry Board Meeting

Foundry's Board convenes its monthly meeting at 7 pm via Zoom. If you are interested in attending, email amandabeadle1@gmail.com for the link.

Sunday, March 28

Palm Sunday

Begin Holy Week with our Palm Sunday service at 11:15, followed by the final Lament Lecture, delivered by Bishop Karen Oliveto on the topic, "Lament and the Pursuit of LGBTQ+ Justice." You'll find more information and the link at <http://bit.ly/FoundryLent2021>

Connect with Foundry Clergy Every Weekday – on Facebook Live

MONDAYS AT NOON**TUESDAYS AT TEN****WEDNESDAYS AT NOON****THURSDAYS AT TEN****FRIDAYS AT TEN**

"Good Noon" with Pastor K.C.

"Wandering Toward Wonder" with Pastor Will

"Ponderings from the Purple Parlor" with Pastor Ginger

"Midday with PK" with Pastor Kelly

"Ben at Ten" with Pastor Ben



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