

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

# Foundry United Methodist Church





Summer 2024

Celebrationg the Spirit of Foundry

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#### A Message From Your Pastor

#### "Holy Spirit, We Welcome You"

Mary Leeds and I attended 242nd Session of the *Virginia Annual Conference* June 20 through 22. Its theme was "A Conference in Three Movements (vaumc.org/ac2024)":

- 1. The theological movements from prevenient grace to sanctification which is the movement of the Holy Spirit in human heart.
- 2. The historical movement of Methodism. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the church.
- 3. The missional movement which is the movement of the Holy Spirit in community.

Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson, in her sermon at the opening worship emphasized spiritual disciplines to notice God's presence in and among us. She talked about Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3). Her insights impressed me. Since Moses stuck around the burning bush, he noticed that the bush was burning but not consumed. When he walked closer to the burning bush, he experienced God's presence. She said that since we did not pay close attention to the movement of the Holy Spirit, we do not notice God's presence.

For the last two month in May and June, we have sung "Holy Spirit, We Welcome You" as a Choral Introit

of our worship:

Holy Spirit, we welcome you
Holy Spirit, we welcome you
Move amongst us with holy fire
As we lay aside all earthly desire
Hands reach out and hearts aspire
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
we welcome you.

(by Christopher Alan Bowater and Paul Leddington Wright)



I want us to continue to welcome the Holy Spirit in and among us and listen to its movement more attentively so that we know where God's vision for the Foundry is. I also invite all of you to pray with me in our sanctuary at 8 a.m. for 20 days, Tuesday through Thursday from August 6 until September 6.

#### Our focus prayers are below:

- 1. Holy Spirit, fill the church, the pastor, leaders, staff, and the congregation enough to know God's vision for our church. Give us the courage to go beyond our comfort zone.
- 2. Send children, youth, and young leaders and increase our worship attendance to 80.
- 3. Bless our current and new ministries.
- 4. Bless our annual stewardship plan. Bless our congregation's body, mind, soul, and generosity.
- 5. Send a preschool renter.
- 6. Multiply our outreach missions to give light to the community.
- 7. Bless our city, Virginia Beach. Pray for city leaders, schools, churches, hospitals, food pantries and banks, JCOC, homeless people, those who suffer from addictions and mental illnesses.
- 8. Pray for the peace and justice of the nation and the world.

God has a plan for us not to harm us but to bless us with hope and future. Let us join our hands and hearts and pray together. Holy Spirit, we welcome you!

Grace and Peace



**Stewardship Campaign:** I've been talking to you about Stewardship the past couple months.

I said a definition I like centers around being a caretaker – the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. One part of being a caretaker does include finances.

And one part of finances includes monetary giving.

Earlier this year, our church leadership decided to have a formal Stewardship Campaign with messages during October and celebrated afterwards on Consecration Sunday. The theme for our campaign is "Fishing for Abundant Living" and is based on the scripture John 21:6.

More details about this exciting event will be shared over the next few months.

Watkins Bracey 757-408-9533 watkins.bracey@gmail.com



#### A Message from your Finance Chairperson

Dear Foundry Family and Friends,

Most importantly, a sincere thanks for your generosity and continued support of Foundry's ministries. Each of you support our church in your own way – time, talents, services, prayers and financial gifts. Every type is vital and important to our ministries. Giving is a personal and spiritual choice but one our Lord spoke about extensively in the Bible. I pray you feel a special satisfaction and connection in offering yourselves in servicour Lord in any of these ways.

A summary of our General Operating fund for the five months ended May 31 is below. We were blessed with a special donation in May that put our balance back into a positive position. Currently we have a need for monetary donations to the Food Pantry, Vacation Bible School and Building repairs. More details will be provided later but you can designate any special donation accordingly.

Finance Update Jan thru May 2024:	Actual
General Fund Offerings & Receipts	\$107,000
General Fund Expenditures	\$105,516
Excess Receipts	\$1,484
Dedicated Fund Offerings	\$16,412

Watkins Bracey 757-408-9533 (cell) watkins.bracey@gmail.com







## Wings of Caring Continues to Provide Medical Evacuations in Road-Challenged Congo

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, we were honored to receive a visit from our missionary, Jacques Akasa Umembudi of Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry. For many years, Jacques has piloted a small propeller-driven airplane over the width and breadth of the Democratic Republic of Congo to transport sick or injured people from rural areas to population centers to receive urgent medical care. Jacques presented a slide show illustrating the challenges of all kinds of transportation in Congo: a country three times the size of Texas, it only has 1100 miles of paved roads. Air travel is the quickest and most reliable way to get people to the medical help they need.

Jacques highlighted the problems with continuing to fly a piston-driven aircraft. Aviation fuel is expensive and difficult to obtain in Congo. He often has to expend two barrels of fuel in order to pick up a single barrel across the border in Zambia. This is obviously time- and money-wasting, but there is no other option at this time. Jacques expressed a wish to raise enough funds to purchase a turbine-engine plane, which would solve the fuel problem.

Even though Jacques officially retired in 2016, Wings of Caring has been unable to find a pilot to replace him. The experience and qualifications for bush piloting are rigorous and no one has come forward to claim his position. He is hopeful that an an adventurous and dedicated young pilot will come forward to take on this ministry, even if only for a couple of years.

Foundry provides annual support to Wings of Caring through the United Methodist Church's Board of Global Ministries, in the company of other churches and donors. We ask that you consider providing additional financial support to move this ministry closer to its goal of obtaining a more fuel-efficient aircraft. You may make contributions by checks made out to Foundry UMC, with "Wings of Caring" on the memo line. *Please place your donation in a pew envelope*.



## Food Pantry Goes Onboard with Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia

Our Food Pantry is moving closer to full "onboard" status with the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia. We have been busy fulfilling requirements for participation, including obtaining food handlers certificates, rearranging our food storage area, and receiving training to place our food orders online.

We met with Beth Brooker, Partner Relations Manager for Foodbank, for a full rundown and we will begin ordering food from them in June.

Will anything change? We will continue to partner with Operation Blessing, which means we will continue to have our monthly Operation Blessing Blitz days. A team of authorized "shoppers" will make regular pickups from the Foodbank after placing our order online - this will save Jean Walmsley and Tom Brabrand the many hours they spend every week shopping in grocery stores for the Food Pantry.

Please be on the lookout for calls for volunteers to help with picking food up from the Foodbank, offloading, and storing, just as we do for our Operation Blessing shipments.

We will continue to need your devoted support in terms of both financial and food donations - we feed 100 or more men, women, and children a week and we can't let the cupboard go bare!

Thank you for everything you do to make this a vibrant and successful ministry! And - if you haven't tried helping out on Blitz (and now Foodbank) days, give it a try! The camaraderie, funny experiences, teamwork, and shared purpose are all food for the soul.



# @PERATION BLESSING

# June 4, 2024 Warehouse Pick Up





Operations Blessing - Blitz

Volunteers Needed 11:00 am Unloading and Repackaging

2:00 pm Unloading Pre-Packaged Bags



JCOC DINNER -June 7, 2024



Foundry's Mission Spirit



Special Thanks to Sarah Kyler
Who Created Our New
Foundry Family & Friends
Name Tag Board







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NATIONAL DAY OF



#### **National Day of Prayer**

Our Sanctuary Will Be
Open For Personal Prayer
Thursday, May 2, 2024
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Prayer Reflections Slide Show

#### GOVERNMENT

Justice, Lawgiver, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Ancient of Days, we lift up the Word and light up local, state, and federal Government praying that:

- There will be faithfulness, justice, and righteousness in every law established, practiced, and upheld.
- Salvation, strength, and service would define every public servant, and they would operate with holy wisdom, humility, and integrity.
- There would be no darkness nor deception in them; all they think, say, and do would be brought to and bathed in the light of the Lord.
- Every employee would act with integrity serving the people of the city, county, district, and state recognizing this as a calling from God not a career, called to serve and not be served.
- Their families would be shielded from harm, hate, and lies and their homes would be filled with love and light as God commands.

Scriptures to reflect on:

Psalm 2: 10-11: "Now therefore, O kings, show discennment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with tremblion."

Romans 13:1, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Psalm 119:101

#### ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & MEDIA

Creator, Author of our Days, the Word, Potter who designs, defines, and delivers us; You bestow the skill and stir the heart to perform. We lift up the Word and light up Arts, Entertainment, and Media, praying that:

- Everyone in these industries dedicates their lives to being a light, not seeking the spotlight. May their scripts be filled with the light of Scripture, not the deception of darkness.
- Their reputation be filled with God's glory and fame through His great name, not shame, nor as victims of gossip or greed.
- All would stand in faith with fruitfulness, not fear, and speak truth, drawing others out of darkness into the everlasting hope and love of the Lord.
- They would know their eternal heavenly value from the Lord and never compromise themselves or diminish their God-given worth for applause, awards, or any earthly accomplishment.
- They would know Jesus as the Author of their days, the writer of their story and destiny, the source of their talents, and let Him direct their steps and produce fruit in their lives.

Scriptures to reflect on:

John 1:1-5: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him, nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." Exodus 36:2, Ephesians 5:6, Psalm 101:7

#### 2024 NATIONAL PRAYER

Jesus, we profess our faith in You. You are the Light of the world, and in You there is no darkness. For you are our lamp, O LORD, and our God who lights our darkness. Forgive us for fearing and focusing on the darkness around us instead of being filled with faith and shining like the city on a hill You have called us to be.

Forgive us for the times when we have been the absence of light, allowing darkness to dwell in America. Lead us forward to dispel the darkness and bring light throughout the Church, Family, Education, Business, Military, Government, and Arts, Entertainment, and Media.

We are saved by grace through faith, released from the darkness that once held us captive and now free to walk in the newness of life in You. Light dispels darkness and exposes what is hidden and wicked, so we commit to rise and shine! For by You, Lord, we can take courage to run against the enemy, and by our God we can fight the good fight and keep the faith as living lampstands in our communities and country. We fear no evil for You are with us.

Lord, Your way is perfect, You lead us on paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Your Word is Truth, instructing and inspiring us to live in the abundant life You gave when You saved us from the death and destruction of the enemy. Fill us with Truth as we read, study, and live Your Word.

God, You are a shield for all those who take refuge in You. As we abide in You and Your Word abides in us, we take up our shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God and run boldly into the darkness to **Lift Up the Word and Light Up the World!** In the Mighty name of Jesus we pray, Amen!

> The National Day of Payer Task Fierre a a recognish organization with a SOS(EE) state. We sely on individual elementoria, foundation support, and resource sales for our funding Copyright © 2019. All Rights Reserved. International copyright secured.



# National Day of Prayer May2nd

Celebrating Foundry United Methodist Church 64<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary Dedication Service Sunday, May 19, 2024



This new chapel (called the *Chapel in the Pines*) was built during the spring of 1960, and Mother's Day, May 15<sup>th</sup> of that year, marked the formal organization of Foundry Church as an accredited connectional Methodist Church with 79 Charter Members.



In honor of Florence Boyce's legacy as a charter member of Foundry UMC







### STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY Wednesday JUNE 5, 2024 Princess Anne High School Students



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Thank You Students & Foundry Mentors!



















May 1-May 31

#### Spare Change Collection

The United Women In Faith (UMW) are collecting spare change to support 2024 UMCOR Disaster Hygiene Kits



Thank you to all who contributed!











United Methodist Women

## United Methodist Men



The Men's group has provided donations of \$8,128 at this time from last year's Christmas tree sales.

More donations are expected during the second half of this year. We have also

ordered 250 trees for this year's Christmas season.

More details on how to help with sales will be shared in November.





#### Thank You UMM !!!!!!!

Katherine thanks the UMM for her new office air conditioner with a yummy surprise breakfast at their June 1st meeting."











June 25, 2024

















**The blood drive** was successful with 32 signups, producing 29 productive products which surpassed our goal of 25.

Thanks to all our volunteers and of course Judy Brabrand who gave blood and produced her wonderful baked goods along with chocolate covered strawberries!! Our next drive is scheduled for January 8, 2025.





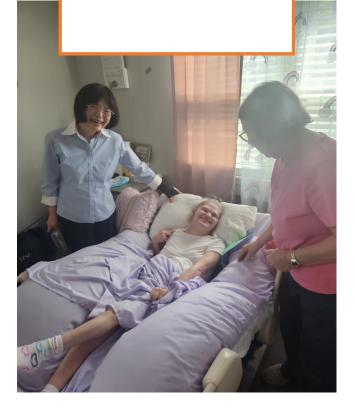




Celebrating The Foundry Spirit



#### Ann Marie Crosby is settled into her new place!





6.15.2024



# Celebrating Foundry Ministry





# In Loving Memory

Teddy Wallace Harris October 2, 1935 - May 27, 2024



# In Loving Memory

Linda Ann Way

May 19, 1937 - June 10, 2024



We've Lost a Friend



In Loving Memory Florence Boyce

September 20, 1929 - June 21, 2024