

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 12, 2017 • 11:00 AM • ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME TO YOU!

WELCOME TO ALL COMING TO WORSHIP!

Everyone, including children of all ages, is invited to full participation in the engaging worship and outreaching mission and ministry of the church.

Personal hearing devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.

We strongly encourage all persons to sing the gender nouns and pronouns they prefer in referring to God. The congregation's responses are printed in **bold type**.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS - The Faith We Sing Hymnal

SEEDS - Seeds Upon The Wind

TIME OF PREPARATION

Enter the sanctuary quietly, respecting the meditation of others and opening to the presence of God.

CENTERING THOUGHT

I stand most humbly
Before man's wisdom,
Knowing we are not
Really wise:
If we were
We'd open up the kingdom
And make earth happy
As the dreamed of skies.
Langston Hughes

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Carillon Prelude *For Valentines Day* Janet Tebbel

Where is your Heart (from 'Moulin Rouge')

George's Auric, arr. E. Chamberlain

Theme from 'Love Story' Francis Lai, arr. J. Lawson

From 'Phantom of the Opera'

Andrew Lloyd Webber, arr. A-K Christiansen

All I Ask of You

The Music of the Night

What a Wonderful World George Weiss, arr. S. Magassy

Theme from 'Titanic' James Horner, arr. Christiansen

If David Gates, arr. G. White

Always Irving Berlin, arr. S. S. Warner

Welcome and Announcements

Please pass the maroon folders.

Call to Worship

Standing with body and spirit

This is God's world! To us is given a vision of nations and races, lands and people, joined together in love.

Praise be to God, the Creator, in whose image we are created.

We come to celebrate and renew that vision, opening ourselves to the One who is its source and its living fire.

We affirm in Christ that we can be, and are, one world and One family, working together to manifest God's rule in the lives of all people!

Opening Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 96 "Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above"

Morning Prayer (For Boy & Girl Scout Sunday)

O God, your will is that all your children should grow into fullness of life.

We lift to you the ministry of scouting.

**We offer you thanks for camping,
to teach us that the world is our great home;
for study and work, to build character;
for service, to see our responsibility to those in need;
for encouragement, to live in vitality of faithfulness.**

Bless the work of scouting, in this place and around the world, that, through its efforts, the young may, like our Lord, increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with you and all people. Amen.

Passing the Peace

When we think of peace we think of the hymn, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me." In

his sermon on the mount, Jesus preached, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.” Peace and nonviolence are disciplines Jesus lived by and called us to live by. Come, let us exchange signs of peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you, always.

And also with you.

Everyone is invited to exchange a greeting or word of peace as a sign of reconciliation and community.

Recognition of Boy Scouts and their Leaders

Procession of Scouts

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Contemporary Reading John O’Donohue
“For Citizenship”
From *“To Bless the Space Between Us”*

Anthem FUMCOG Chancel Choir
“I Choose Love” -Mark Miller

Gospel Lesson Matthew 20:26-28 read by Isiq Williams

Sermon John Bickel
“Agape Love and Servant Leadership”

Hymn of Response *Standing with body and spirit*
TFWS 2222 *“The Servant Song”*

Gathered Prayer Ann Perrone and the
Scouts of Troop 1719

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

a Litany on B-E-P-R-E-P-A-R-E-D *(See insert)*

Beginning in silence; persons are invited to participate in the Gathered Prayer by kneeling at the altar rail.

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Mother-Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,**

**and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive
those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Offering /Offertory FUMCOG Chancel Choir
Everything Possible -Fred Small
arr. for SATB choir, Justin Gonzalez

Offertory Response *Standing with body and spirit*
UMH 94 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Offertory Prayer

We offer these gifts, O God, not because you require them, but because we want to express our gratitude. They are not meant to impress, but to accomplish some good in the world. With them we commit ourselves to justice, kindness, and a humble walk with our Creator. Teach us to give without counting the cost, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
UMW 97 *“For the Fruits of This Creation”*

Benediction

Postlude *Toccata on Kumbayah*

✿ ✿ ✿ ✿ ✿

The flowers on the altar are donated by Elaine Longenecker in loving memory of her husband, Bob.

Liturgist: Bill Tkacs

Ushers: Bonni H. Zetick, Rodney Chonka, Gail Lozenski, Jeffrey Matthews, Bill Tkacs, & Nancy Tkacs

Audio: Willie Little

Linger Lunch:

✿ ✿ ✿ ✿ ✿

WELCOME VISITORS!!!

Thanks for finding your way to FUMCOG! We are glad you have come! Take the opportunity to register your attendance in the maroon folders passed along the pews. Your sharing of contact information will allow us to be in touch. A variety of church information is available on the church website. Also, members of the staff and congregation are eager to greet you at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the service. You are cordially invited to join us for Meet & Mingle in Pilling Hall.

ADULTS AT FUMCOG: Various small groups and work areas function for participants to get to know one another, to work toward a goal they are passionate about, or to learn more about themselves and their journeys of faith. These groups meet at various times during the week. For more detailed information, speak to the church staff.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT FUMCOG

Children and youth are welcome in worship at FUMCOG. Periodic “family-friendly” worship services are scheduled and are geared to the worship needs of all ages.

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, September to mid-June: Classes are available for each age group, from nursery through senior high. Classes for infants through 8th graders meet in the Loder Education Building.

A professionally staffed nursery is open each Sunday morning in Room 106 from 9:30 am through the end of the worship service. From 11:00-12:15 the nursery serves all children through grade 2.

PreK -- 12th Grade Educational Programs: Classes meet at 9:45 am. **Classes from PreK through 6th grade** follow the “*Deep Blue Kids*” curriculum which integrates Bible stories with worship and social justice issues. **Grades**

7-8 will be spending the year exploring the world’s religions. **Grades 9-12** [the Senior High Group] meet on Sunday mornings for discussion, informal fellowship, and reflection. FUMCOG’s youth also take part in special activities and events, including trips, parties, cultural events, and retreats. **Classes meet in the following locations:** Infants-preschool in room 106, K-3rd grade in room 207, 4th-6th grade in room 207A, 7th-8th grade in room 214F, and 9th-12th grades in the “old choir robing room” [ask an usher for directions].

During the Worship Service: Older children and youth [3rd grade and older] are invited to attend church with their families. Younger children, pre-K through 2nd grade, have two options. For children who wish to remain in worship service with their families, Busy Bags are available from the ushers. Or, young children may participate in professionally supervised child care which is available in room 102. Also, a room at the top of the balcony stairs is available for parents who wish to attend to their children’s needs while still hearing the service. Just ask an usher or greeter for assistance in finding your way.

FUMCOG Staff and Email Addresses

<i>Lead Pastor</i> Rev. Bob Coombe	coombe@fumcog.org
<i>Director of Music</i> Kevin O’Malia	omalia@fumcog.org
<i>Director of Youth Ministry</i> Laura Taddie	ltaddie@ltsps.edu
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<i>Facility Caretakers</i> Shamir Radcliffe & Raphael Zappala	
<i>Tidings/Bulletin</i> Bruce McNeel	publications@fumcog.org
<i>Website Announcements</i>	webmaster@fumcog.org
<i>E-Give</i>	egive@fumcog.org
Altar Flowers - call the church office @215-438-3677	



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- **Lead Pastor:** Rev. Robert G. Coombe • **Director of Music:** Kevin O’Malia
- **Director of Youth Ministry:** Laura Taddie • **Office Administrator:** Wanda Fuller
- **Director of Publications:** Bruce McNeel • **Facility Caretakers:** Shamir Radcliffe & Raphael Zappala

The spirit is there in every boy;
it has to be discovered
and brought to light.

Sir Robert Baden Powell, founder of Boy Scouting



meneel

Loving, growing, scouting!

Today's pieces feature the idea of unconditional love, complementing the speaker and participation of Boy Scout Troop 1719.

Mark Miller serves as Assistant Professor of Church Music at Drew Theological School and is a Lecturer in the Practice of Sacred Music at Yale University. He also is the Minister of Music of Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey. Since 1999 Mark has led music for United Methodists and others around the country, including directing music for the 2008 General Conference. His choral anthems are best sellers for Abingdon Press and Choristers Guild and his hymns are published in "Worship& Song", "Sing! Prayer and Praise", "Zion Still Sings", "Amazing Abundance", "The Faith We Sing", and others. Mark received his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Yale University and his Master of Music in Organ Performance from Juilliard. Mark is a lifelong United Methodist. He is the grandson, son, brother, uncle, and cousin to United Methodist clergy. As a lay delegate to the 2000 and 2004 and 2012 General Conferences, Mark was a witness to Christ's mission of breaking down the dividing walls of hostility and fear in the United Methodist Church. Today, we sing his hymn/anthem "I Choose Love" which was composed in memory of those lost in the tragic shooting at Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston in 2015.

Singer/songwriter Fred Small's debut album, *Love's Gonna Carry Us* (1981), featured Small singing and accompanying himself on guitar. As his fame and success increased, so too did the production level of his albums, as he included more instrumentation, and appearances by other artists, including instrumental and vocal backing by popular New England folk artists. Famous fiddlers, guitarists, and mandolin players alike became a part of Small's discography and helped Small increase his popularity. After graduating from Harvard Divinity School, he became the minister of First Church Unitarian in Littleton, Massachusetts in 1996. On April 20, 2008, he was called as Senior Minister at First Parish in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Small resigned in September 2015 to devote his energies to climate advocacy. He is currently Minister for Climate Justice at Arlington Street Church, Boston, and Director of Faith Outreach for Climate XChange, which advocates for carbon pricing legislation in Massachusetts.

Small's song "Everything Possible" speaks of unconditional love, told through a warm and plain folk style. It was arranged for SATB choir by our former section leader, Justin Gonzalez. Here is the text:

We have cleared off the table, the leftovers saved,
Washed the dishes and put them away
I have told you a story and tucked you in tight
At the end of your knockabout day
As the moon sets its sails to carry you to sleep
Over the midnight sea
I will sing you a song no one sang to me
May it keep you good company.

You can be anybody you want to be,
You can love whomever you will
You can travel any country where your heart leads
And know I will love you still
You can live by yourself, you can gather friends around,
You can choose one special one
And the only measure of your words and your deeds
Will be the love you leave behind when you're done.

There are girls who grow up strong and bold
There are boys quiet and kind
Some race on ahead, some follow behind
Some go in their own way and time
Some women love women, some men love men
Some raise children, some never do
You can dream all the day never reaching the end
Of everything possible for you.

Don't be rattled by names, by taunts, by games
But seek out spirits true
If you give your friends the best part of yourself
They will give the same back to you.

Oh, you can be anybody you want to be...



February 12, 2017 *What's happening at* FUMCOG

Please Keep in Prayer...

Gladys Shaw has improved enough to move to a rehab center. Though she will need much more time to heal, she is moving in a good direction. Please continue to pray for her recovery... Family and friends of **Chris Collins**, noted HIV/AIDS activist, who died on January 3, age 37. Chris was the uncle of Henry "Tre" Martin, a member of Troop 1719... **Eustace Kangaju**, who suffered a stroke in December. He was in the hospital for several weeks, returned home recently, and is making a slow recovery... **Joan Farnsworth**, whose daughter, **Susan Phuong Dung Dean** died on Christmas morning in California... Former FUMCOG member **Wilson Kratz**, who is in hospice care at home... **John Kofa**, Sayondee Kumorteh's uncle, who is in Abington Hospital... **Barbara Mitchell's nephew, Jeff Scott**, who has a brain tumor... **John O'Malia**, father of Kevin O'Malia, who is having a continuing struggle with cancer...

Gladys Shaw's address is:

Gladys Shaw. c/o Fernhill Estates, 5737 NE 37th Ave
Room #26, Portland, OR 97211 (*note room# change*)

Joan Farnsworth's address is:

7901 Henry Avenue, Apt. D508, Philadelphia, PA 19128

Dolores Broberg's NEW address is:

3500 West Chester Pike, F208 Newtown Square, Pa 19073

Wilson Kratz's address is:

181 Deerfield Dr., Souderton, PA 18964. 215-279-8654.
Cards and phone calls are appreciated.

Thank you to my FUMCOG family for your cards, prayers, visits, flowers, altar flowers, meals, well wishes, books, phone calls, healing hugs, and warm welcome last Sunday. I felt the love, and it's much appreciated. **Stan Krall**.

Our women's restroom is located through the fellowship hall from the sanctuary. Signs for restrooms for both genders are located at the end of the hallways in the education building. **Our gender neutral/unisex bathroom** has been repaired and is now serviceable. It is located at the end of the hallway behind the stage in our fellowship hall.

Sunday, February 12, 2017

9:45 am Sunday School

Adult Academy

John Riggan - Back from Africa

Child care is available during worship

• 11 am worship

Boy Scout Sunday

John Bickel preaching

Development Director

Cradle of Liberty Council, Boy Scouts of America

Linger Lunch

Wed. Feb. 15, 7:30 pm Trustees mtg.

Sunday, February 19, 2017

9:45 am Sunday School

Adult Academy

Supporting Healthy Race Conversations

Ali Michael, PhD. Racial identity development
and how those structures can assist us with
having healthy conversations about race

Child care is available during worship

• 11 am worship

Bob Coombe preaching

Conversations on Race

Linger Lunch

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:30 pm Admin Council Meeting

Sunday, February 26, 2017

9:45 am Sunday School

Adult Academy

To be announced

Bob Coombe preaching

Linger Lunch

Boy Scout Sunday preacher: John Bickel



John Bickel is a lifelong churchgoer and member of the Board of Deacons at Central Schwenkfelder Church in Lansdale. Having been involved in Scouting as a youth, he earned the rank of Eagle Scout and was elected to serve as the local youth leader of Scouting's honor society, the Order of the Arrow. Upon graduating from Temple University in 2016, John began his career in Scouting and has served us here locally in Germantown, helping to start Troop 1719 here at FUMCOG, as well as managing local camps, and now serves as a Development Director.

John has a passion for helping others as he believes we are called to do through the words of Jesus, and enjoys giving back through his youth group at his home church, as well as volunteering with the Scouts.

Lower Merion Symphony Performances!

The Lower Merion Symphony has three members of FUMCOG who ride together weekly with much camaraderie, Nancy Hale (violin), Bill Norton (violin), and Ruth Thornton (flute). Please mark your calendars for our next two concerts:

Sunday, March 5, at 3pm at Harriton High School. Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto #2 (you'll love it!), Korsakov, Russian Easter Festival, and Tchaikovsky, Francesca da Rimini.

Sunday, April 30, at 3 pm at Welsh Valley Middle School, an all Brahms program.

For questions, call Ruth Thornton at 215-280-2686.

Upcoming in Adult Academy

February 19 at 9:45 in the Parlor

Supporting Healthy Race Conversations

Ali Michael, PhD. will join us to talk about racial identity development and how those structures can assist us with having healthy conversations about race. In her presentations Ali often shares that she is a person who did not grow up talking about race. She believes racial competence is a skill to be learned. Ali is the Director of P-12 Consulting and Professional Development at the Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the co-founder of Race Institute for K-12 Educators, the author of *Raising Race Questions* and co-editor of *Everyday White People Confront Racial and Social Injustice: 15 Stories*.

Let Our Light Shine

A committee is convening to discuss ways to let people know about FUMCOG- and the many wonderful events we host here. If you are interested in exploring ways we can use advertising and other forms of media to let our Light shine a bit brighter- please let me know. I will try to schedule a convenient time when we can discuss a plan. many thanks, Celeste Zappala. 215 248 5384 czappala1@yahoo.com

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? USE THOSE HEARING ASSIST DEVICES in the sanctuary

Several types are available for those who have trouble hearing during worship services. Just ask an usher or go to the sound console near the rear on the right side of the sanctuary, and they will be glad to help you. It's better to hear what is being said, no matter where you sit, than to miss the message.

Peace, from your Hearing Disability Task Force

Bible Study with Bob Coombe continues on Wednesday mornings at 7 o'clock at the Trolley Car Diner.

No registration, just show up at the Trolley Car Diner on any Wednesday, We will be in the back room.

FUMCOG seeking proposals for Easter Offering

The Community Needs Committee of the First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) is again seeking proposals from the local community for projects that promote social justice or community empowerment, especially (but not exclusively) in Northwest Philadelphia.

The proposals selected will benefit from the Church's special Easter Offering. All proposals are welcome and are reviewed by a committee of church members. Selection criteria include the size of the population to be served, the nature of the services provided, and expected benefits to the community.

FUMCOG expects to make several awards of several hundred to a few thousand dollars.

Grants from previous Easter and Christmas collections have been awarded on a nondenominational basis to a diverse group of applicants for a wide variety of causes. Contributions to last Christmas' offering were used to help the legal clinic operated by an agency that serves homeless Germantowners, a newly forming Cub Scout pack, an interfaith coalition against gun violence, and a "church without walls" that serves homeless persons along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

Application forms are available by calling the office of First United Methodist Church of Germantown at (215) 438-3677, or downloading a form online at www.fumcog.org.

Completed proposals must be returned to the church office at 6001 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144 no later than Monday, March 6. A copy of the applicant's 501(c)(3) certification, if any, should be included with the application. Selected recipients will be notified of their selection by April 1.

Dr. Valerie Smith was our speaker on MLK Sunday

Copies of her address are available on the literature tables or from the church office.



FUMCOG Book Discussion Group is reading the following two books this early spring.

On Tuesday, Feb. 21, we'll discuss *My Family and Other Animals*, by Gerald Durrell. Based on Gerald's life, when the Durrells could no longer endure the gray English climate, they relocated to the sun-soaked Greek island of Corfu. Ten-year-old Gerald pursued his interest in natural history and explored the island's fauna, with hilarious mishaps. This book is the inspiration for *The Durrells in Corfu*, a Masterpiece production on public television. Join us at the home of Bill Ewing. Call Ruth at 215-280-2686 with questions.

In late March or early April, we'll be discussing *America's First Daughter: Martha Jefferson Randolph*, by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie. In a richly researched novel, the authors tell the story of Thomas Jefferson's eldest daughter "Patsy." After her Mother's death, Patsy travels with her father to Paris. Amidst the glittering court and the first tumultuous days of revolution, 15-year-old Patsy learns of her father's troubling liaison with Sally Hemings, a slave girl her age. All the complexities and conflicts of the Early Republic are mirrored in Patsy's story, as she sacrifices to protect her father's reputation, in the process defining not just his political legacy, but that of the nation he helped to found. Suggestion: Begin reading early as it is a long book! Time and place TBA.

MATTHEW 20:26-28

26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

FOR CITIZENSHIP *John O'Donohue*
From *“To Bless the Space Between Us”*

In these times when anger
Is turned into anxiety
And someone has stolen
The horizons and mountains,

Our small emperors on parade
Never expect our indifference
To disturb their nakedness.

They keep their heads down
And their eyes gleam with reflection
From aluminum economic ground,

The media wraps everything
In a cellophane of sound,
And the ghost surface of the virtual
Overlays the breathing earth.

The industry of distraction
Makes us forget
That we live in a universe.

We have become converts
To the religion of stress
And its deity of progress;

That we may have courage
To turn aside from it all
And come to kneel down before the poor,
To discover what we must do,
How to turn anxiety
Back into anger,
How to find our way home.

Thoughts from Abroad, from Luz Morales

My heart hurts right now. I can't sleep. I keep reading about what's happening in the US and I don't know what to do or say. Being so far away makes it harder. I spent this weekend with other fellow Americans who feel just as distraught as I do. I could say being with them made me hopeful but I am not quite there yet...

If you've read this far, I will ask that you read for a few more minutes.

Throughout my life, I have been referred to in various ways: refugee, immigrant, citizen but, above all, I am human. A human who seeks a happy life, who tries to do her best, and wants peace for the world. This is why, despite my despair, I will once again share my story.

I have been telling this story since I was four years old. It is exhausting! I've told it in classrooms, at peace rallies, to senators and to the folks who detained me as a mere 5 year old. (Yet, I was smart enough to demand a lawyer. Children really do learn from what is said around them.) Yet, here I go again...

I came to the USA as a refugee, fleeing the Guatemalan civil war and genocide. The town I was born in no longer exists. An entire village destroyed. (Over 300 other villages were eradicated.) I don't want to tell you how many family members were killed during the war, some of them disappeared never to be found.

I came to France as an immigrant. Sure, you can call me an expat. The term immigrant tends to be used for people that look like me yet expat is used for those with white-collar jobs like mine. It is all the same to me because don't we all move for the same reasons? The opportunity for a better life.

My life isn't perfect, I still have much to learn and I have many flaws. Yet, here I stand as proof of what can become of an innocent child who is given a chance. All of the refugees fleeing and the immigrants seeking to move just want a chance to live.

You don't have to be religious to understand the story of the Good Samaritan. Right now, we are all called to be that person. So, please call, write, protest, donate, speak out however you feel comfortable doing so. But, please do something.

Don't you dare let fear stand in the way of helping someone just like me.

a Litany on B-E-P-R-E-P-A-R-E-D by Ann Perrone

B is for Boys.

Loud raucous boys, silent shy boys, real skateboarders and video game ones. Boys who stay and help and boys who run outside to play. Climbing boys, jumping boys, splashing muddy daring boys. Crafty boys, drawing boys, sitting beside mama's bedside boys.

Thank you, Lord of all creation, for Boys.

E is for Everyone.

Challenged by poverty or distracted by wealth. Coming a long distance, on the bus, on a bike and from just around the corner. Ready or not, open to learning and leading and helping and achieving. Gay, straight or trans...ready for adventure. We celebrate inclusion. Thank you, Jesus with arms open wide, for Everyone.

P is for Paperwork.

Forms, permission slips, sign ups, flyers, pages in the handbooks. For notes taken while interviewing others, notes going home as reminders, lists of food for potlucks, merit badge cards scrunched into pockets. Packing lists, Tour Plans, and maybe even passports. Certificates of achievement. Eagle Scout congratulatory letters. Thank you Spirit of inspiration, for Paperwork.

R is for "RE" just "RE".

That suffix that means to do it again, to build again, to try again, to turn again, think and heat and use again. To repeat the words until they become part of you: The Eight Steps of First Aid, the Scout Oath and Law, the Three "Rs" of Personal Safety. The memory in your hands that tie the knots, use just a small dab of glue, stay out of the fire, and scrape the egg pan. Thank you Lord of second chances, for "RE".

E is for Environment.

Getting dirty and wet, touching bugs, finding spider-webs. No virtual field trip equals the sound and smell and feel of the real field. For Environmental pledges and the Outdoor Code. For washing machines trying to get some environment out of a pair of uniform pants. Thank you, Spirit of the wilderness, for the Environment.

P is for Plans

That never survive first contact with reality. Flat tires, stomach bugs, confused GPS directions, rain, snow, overbooked campsites, missing drivers, I-thought-YOU-were-bringing-it, spilled food, and lost flashlights. It's also for Preparing to be flexible, to improvise, to embrace the disaster and wrestle it two falls out of three and come up victoriously tired. Thank you, God who knows all paths, for Plans.

A is for Angels

Without whom the adventure would falter. Some are named "Angel" or "Angela" but other angels are named "Tom", "Courtney", "George", "Olga", "Tracey", "Fran", "Ann", "Nicole", "Alonzo", "Sonte", "Shawn", "Kate", "Gary", Pastor Bob, the FUMCOG Congregation, The Community Needs Committee, and nameless passers-by who drop a five into the donation box or email a link to an opportunity. Thank you, Lord of Hosts, for Angels.

R is for Rest.

That falling into bed, or splayed out on the living room floor, or the couch after a task that has consumed your whole being. That rest that turns "I. Will. Never. Do. That. Again!" to "Can we do that next year?" Rest that makes you appreciate fans, and heaters, and showers, and soap, and Wawa hoagies. Thank you Jesus, who says "Come unto me and I will give you Rest".

E is for Energy.

The boys have it, the leaders need it. Thank you tireless Holy Spirit, for Energy

D is for Daring and Doing.

Daring to sleep in a tent in winter, daring to stand up for what is right and true, daring to dream and doing the work that makes it come true. Doing the hard work of citizenship and service, doing things their classmates wouldn't dare. Thank you, God of all adventures, for Daring and Doing.