

## Weekly Calendar

Sun, Aug 17	10:00am	Sunday Worship Service - Pastor Alisa preaching
	11:30am	Lemonade Lull
	3:00pm	Back to School Event
Mon, Aug 18		FUMCOG Office Closed
	9:00am	Walking Women
Sun, Aug 24	10:00am	Sunday Worship Service - Darren Hagood preaching
	11:30am	Lemonade Lull

### Guest Preacher Darren Hagood

Next week, on August 24<sup>th</sup> Darren Hagood from HealYourLovePeriod will share from the FUMCOG pulpit.

Darren Lavell Hagood is a wellness practitioner, author of *The Christ Breath: Rediscovering the Power of Breath in Christian Faith*, and co-founder of HealYourLovePeriod, alongside his wife Gloria. Together, they lead breathwork and sound healing experiences that calm the body, clear the mind, and expand emotional and self-awareness. Darren weaves scripture, history, and embodied practice to invite people into deeper connection with God, themselves, and one another.

The next Black Meditation led by HealYourLovePeriod will be on Saturday, August 30 at 9:30 am.



*The Fire Inside* by Hannah Garrity

AUGUST 17, 2025 • 10 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

*Permission to podcast or stream the music in this service was obtained from CCLI via License #2983492.*

*The First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) is a diverse, urban community of faith that seeks to experience and worship God through Jesus' message of love and inclusion and the mystery of grace expressed through his life. We affirm our commitment by working together, taking risks for social justice and peace in our community, our city, our nation, and our world.*

Lead Pastor Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo • Office Administrator Michael Yancey  
Director of Music Adrianna Barnett • Organist/Pianist Jodi Acker Bohr  
Media Specialists Mandonnah Mahallati & Joey Ward



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# First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, August 17, 2025 10:00AM

## Welcome To All Coming To Worship!

All people of all ages are invited to full participation in the engaging worship and outreaching mission and ministry of the church. We strongly encourage all persons to sing the gender nouns and pronouns they prefer in referring to God.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

W&S - Worship & Song

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

## Announcements & Acknowledgements

As a faith congregation, we acknowledge that this is a pivotal moment in American history and that our mission is clearly laid out in the Gospel of Jesus.

We acknowledge our mission to:

- seek justice for black and brown people of all genders and orientations
- dismantle systems of bias and racism
- call out those who protect the power of state-sponsored violence against black and brown bodies,
- and re-center the voices of the marginalized of our community and society.

We acknowledge our part in perpetuating white norms of language, style, worship, behavior, and culture, and, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge the truth that Black Lives Matter.

We acknowledge that this service of worship is being held on the traditional lands of the Lenape people, and we pay respect to elders past and present.

We affirm the sacredness of Native people, their languages, their cultures and their gifts to the church and the world.

Prelude Jodi Acker Bohr

*Be Not Afraid*, by Dan Forrest

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

One: Come, beloved community, not to measure up, but to rise in the light of God's grace.

**All: We come not to compete, but to be complete in God's love.**

One: In a world that compares and ranks, God invites us to a table with room for all.

**All: We will not be defined by systems that diminish or divide.**

One: Like Daniel and his friends, we seek a different nourishment—  
not what the empire offers, but what God's Spirit provides.

**All: We trust that God strengthens us through compassion, wisdom, and faithfulness.**

One: Let us worship the God who sees beyond comparison,  
who chooses the humble, the faithful, the bold.

**All: Let us worship with open hearts, unmeasured and free, in the boundless love of God!**

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*

W&S 3154 - "Draw the Circle Wide"  
by Gordon Light, Mark Miller

Welcome and Passing the Peace

Gathered Prayer Anthony Wailoo

## 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.

## Sung Response

TFWS 2065 - "More Precious than Silver"

## Contemporary Reading

"Fear" by Khalil Gibran  
(see insert for full text)

## Scripture Reading

(see insert for full text) Daniel 1:3-17

## Sermon

Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo  
*Compare and Despair?!?*

## Hymn

*Standing with body and spirit*  
UMH 405 - "Take My Life and Let It Be"

## Connections & Announcements

## Offertory Anthem

Michael Yancey  
*"Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel"*  
arr. by Courtney Carey

## Offering Prayer

God, we know that we are standing on stolen land. We know that we are living in a country that was built on slave labor. We confess these things to you today because we are tired of living this way. Help us to use these offerings for reparations so that we can begin to heal ourselves and the harm we have done to others. Amen.

## Closing Hymn

*Standing with body and spirit*  
"The Blessing" by Chris Brown, Steven Furtick,  
Cody Carnes and Kari Brooke Jobe  
(see screens for lyrics)

## Benediction

## Postlude

Jodi Bohr

*Thank you for joining in worship today. You are invited to remain in your pew during the postlude to quietly «reflect during this final movement of worship or to move peacefully into your afternoon. Lemonade and cookies are available in Pilling Hall following the postlude.*

*And please drop by later today for our annual Back to School event in the FUMCOG parking lot!*

Cover design by Hannah Garrity  
*\*artist notes in insert*

Robert Bauer, liturgist  
Wayne Snover, tech  
Ann Perrone, tech  
John Bustard, tech

Anthony Wailoo, gathered prayer  
Jodi Bohr, piano & organ  
Michael Yancey, soloist



Insert for Sunday, August 17, 2025

Upcoming Dates

- Sunday, Aug 24  
Pastor Darren Hagood preaching, 10am
- Saturday, Aug 30  
HealYourLove. Meditation, 9:30am
- Sunday, Sep 7  
Hymn Sing
- Sunday, Sep 14  
Homecoming Sunday, 11am
- Saturday, Sep 20  
Villanova Day of Service
- Saturday, Sep 27  
Rev. Dick Cox Memorial

KIDS AT FUMCOG

All children are beloved and welcomed here. We offer three ways for your child(ren) to engage:

- \* Join in the new “Nursery Ministry.” All kids 6 and under are invited to join Ms. Lanette in Pilling Hall immediately following the Children’s Message.
- \* Enjoy a “Kid Activity Bag”. Just ask an usher.
- \* Play in the “Children’s Space” in the Sanctuary’s back corner.

We are so glad you and your family are here!

Want to Connect?

Use this QR code to access our link tree. From there, you can follow us on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube, fill out an online connect card or easily reach our website: [www.fumcog.org](http://www.fumcog.org)

If you’re looking to do any of that while you’re here, our wifi info would help!

WIFI: Fumcogsanc

PW: FUMg3rm2020



Staff and Office Information

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday from 9:30am-5pm  
*Pastor Alisa takes her Sabbath on Mondays*

Pastor Alisa .....wailoo@fumcog.org  
Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com  
Joey & Mandonnah....fumcogtech@gmail.com  
Adrianna Barnett.....music@fumcog.org  
Jodi Bohr.....bohrfam@gmail.com  
Michael Yancey.....office@fumcog.org  
Taneal Walker.....pastorsassistant@gmail.com

Help our Immigrant Neighbors

We are still collecting food for members of a local Latina church who are not safe to go to work currently. Pastor Alisa is coordinating with their Pastor for food delivery. There is a box in the entryway, sanctuary as well as Pilling Hall. Any non-perishables are helpful: especially rice, beans, oil, and corn flour. Thank you for your support!



Prayers for FUMCOG Friends and Family

Please know that we are thinking about and praying with you.

- For **Ms. Tina** at Miss Marty's and her family after the passing of her mother this week.

For **Magic**, who is recovering from wrist surgery.

For the many family and friends of Bill Ewing's friend **Ghebre Selassie Mehreteab**, who passed away Wednesday night from heart disease.

For the family of **Ruth E. Chonka**, mother of Rodney, who passed away Friday, August 1, 2025.

For **Julie Cox**, after the passing of her husband, Dick Cox. You can also send cards of love and support to: 806 Foulkeways, Gwynedd, PA 19436. His memorial service will be on Sept 27.

For our **youth and children** that they feel loved and safe and supported. Prayers for educators as they prepare for a new school year.

For the family of **Vicente Castaneda** who passed away. Vicente is the son-in-law of Janet and Lyle Rosenberger.

For the family of **Fred Gaines**, especially **Lilian & Joy**. Fred's memorial service was on Saturday, July 26.

For **Bob Smart** who has returned home from rehab and is continuing to recover from severe infections.

For the **victims of house fires** who've lost their possessions.
- For **Wayne Varnadore** who is improving each day.

For **Nadine Hackman**, dear friend of Celeste Zappala, who continues to recover at the Dresher Hill Nursing Center after a paralyzing fall.

For **Katreise Ruffin**, a scout parent who is recuperating at home from open-heart surgery.

For **Judy Robinson** and her family as she moves into hospice.

For **Jean Young**, Barb Revere's longtime friend, from Omaha, Nebraska, as she's receiving treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

For **Linda & Paul T** as they deal with the challenges of dementia.

For **Larry W** during his rehabilitation.

For **Ken Espejo**, who is recovering at home after his open-heart surgery.

Prayers of healing for **Karima, Nate, Joy, Betty, Allen, & Bridgette**; of clarity for **Skyy, Diane, & the Byrd family**; and of comfort for **Marshall Jones, Connie, Alan, & Geraldine's** family.

For **Corey Walker**, Jean Walker's great nephew, who is recovering from a serious health issue.

For healing for **Patrica Hayward**, Nicole Bull's mother.

Summer Bible Study

When can you join in this summer? Well, we will have a few opportunities to gather and explore the word together until our usual studies kick-off weekly again in the fall. You can log-on to zoom at [tinyurl.com/zoomcog](https://tinyurl.com/zoomcog) on Wednesday, Aug 20 at 1:30pm. Or you can join an in-person study on Tuesday, Aug 26 at 7pm. No need to prep, just come as you are. Ask Pastor Alisa for more details - [wailoo@fumcog.org](mailto:wailoo@fumcog.org)



Scripture Reading

Daniel 1:3-17

3 Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king’s service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— 4 young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king’s palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. 5 The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king’s table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king’s service.

6 Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. 7 The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego. 8 But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. 9 Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, 10 but the official told Daniel, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your[c] food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you.”

11 Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 12 “Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see.” 14 So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

15 At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. 16 So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

17 To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

Contemporary Reading

It is said that before entering the area  
a river trembles with fear.

She looks back at the path she has traveled,  
from the peaks if the mountains,  
the long winding road crossing forests and villages.

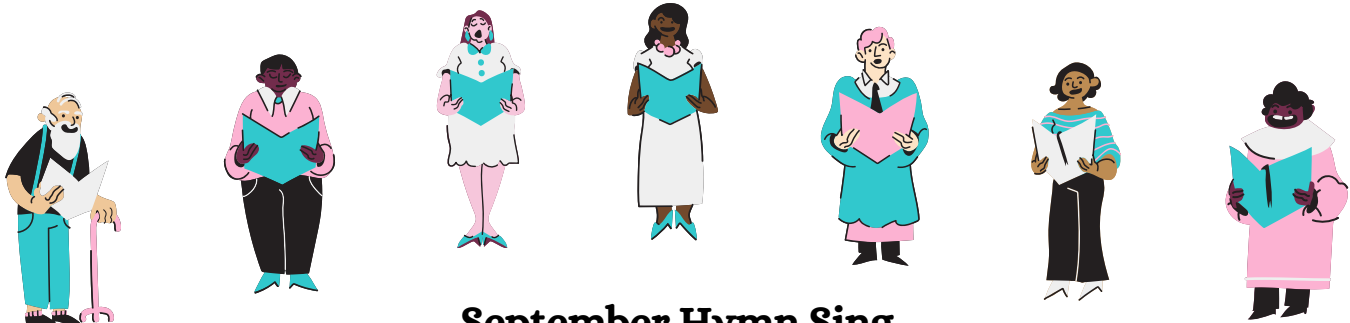
And in front of her,  
she sees an ocean s vast,  
that to enter  
there seems nothing more than o disappear forever.

But there is no other way.  
The river can not go back.

Nobody can go back.  
To go back is impossible in existence.

The river needs to take the risk  
of entering the ocean  
because only then will fear disappear,  
because that’s where the river will know  
it’s not about disappearing into the ocean,  
but of becoming the ocean.

*Fear, by Khalil Gibran*



September Hymn Sing

What is your favorite hymn or praise song? On **Sunday, September 7**, we will share in a special worship service. With the return of our choir, we will sing people’s favorite hymns and learn a bit about their history and meaning. But we need your help to develop the service! Please email Pastor Alisa ([wailoo@fumcog.org](mailto:wailoo@fumcog.org)) a few of your favorite music selections. We will then plan the service with many of the suggestions and especially songs that several people name. Thank you in advance!

The Fire Inside by Hannah Garrity



*Watercolor & graphite on paper  
Inspired by Daniel 3*

“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego exemplified courage as they walked with the presence of God among the flames. Their trust in God overcame the human tendency to fear. This painting portrays the grandeur of God intersecting with the fearfulness of humanity. "Be not afraid" is a notable refrain in the bible. It speaks to the utmost importance of courage and the weighty influence of fear on our actions. In this image I tackle a meeting between God and fear. Each face presents a determined expression in the face of adversity. God's impervious and emboldening courage is represented by a landscape in the background. Panels of translucency hide God's fearlessness from us intermittently. The panels and open spaces represent the struggle with fear and fearlessness that we face as human beings. The faces of determination, faces strengthened by God's courage, emerge in the space where our view of God's strength is blocked. Here, our human struggle with fear is personified in the positive. Even when we cannot clearly see, God's courage is within us.”