

## Weekly Calendar and Upcoming Events

Sun, Mar 17	11:00am <b>Sunday Worship Service</b> - Pastor Gabe preaching 12:15pm <b>Potluck Linger Lunch</b>
Mon, Mar 18	9:00am <b>Walking Group</b>
Wed, Mar 20	1:30pm <b>Visio Divina Bible Study</b> via <a href="https://tinyurl.com/zoomcog">tinyurl.com/zoomcog</a> 7:00pm <b>Lenten Service @ Janes Memorial UMC</b>
Thu, Mar 21	10:00am <b>Holy Trouble</b> 7:00pm <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
Sat, Mar 23	10:00am <b>Sawee Kofa Memorial Service</b>
Sun, Mar 24	9:30am <b>Adult Academy</b> 11:00am <b>Palm Sunday Worship Service</b> - Pastor Alisa preaching 12:15pm <b>Linger Lunch</b> 3:00pm <b>Community Easter Egg Hunt</b>

### Community Easter Egg Hunt

FUMCOG's annual Easter celebration is coming fast! Join us on **March 24th** in the FUMCOG parking lot for games, prizes, and food between 3 and 5 pm. Invite a friend, a neighbor, a family member, a coworker; whoever! Everyone is welcome to celebrate with us!

Flyers are available in the office, sanctuary, and in Hot Topics.



*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 • **Associate Pastor** Rev. Noe Gabriel Lopez

**Director of Music** Daniel Jackson • **Office Administrator** Michael Yancey

**Organist/Pianist** Jodi Acker Bohr • **Media Specialists** Mandonnah Mahallati & Joey Ward



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# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

## SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024 • 11 AM





# First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:00 AM

## 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.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

## Carillon Prelude

*“You’ll Never Walk Alone”* R. Rodgers,  
arr. S. S. Warner

*In memory of Forrest Glass*

## 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

*“A New Commandment”* Anon,  
arr. David Blackwell

## Call to Worship

*Standing with body and spirit*

Why are you here?

**I am seeking God with my whole heart,  
with my entire mind,  
with a fire burning in my bones.**

I see it! You’re in the right place!

This is God’s house. The door is open to you.

## Why are *you* here?

I am seeking God with my whole heart,  
with my entire mind,  
with a fire burning in my bones.

**We see that in you! You’re in the right place.**

**This is God’s house. The door is open to you.**

Let us worship God.

**Let us learn from the Spirit. Amen!**

## Opening Hymn

*Standing with body and spirit*

UMH 558 - “We Are the Church”

## Invitation to Passing the Peace

*All young ones and young at heart are welcome to  
come forward during this time for the children’s  
message.*

## Children’s Message and Morning Prayer

## Sung Response

UMH 400 - “Come Thou Fount” v. 1

## Contemporary Reading

“Teach Me” by Rev. Sarah Speed  
(see insert for full text)

## Scripture Readings

Matthew 18:15-22  
(see insert for full text)

## Sermon

Rev. Noé Gabriel López  
*“Teach Me”*

## Hymn

*Standing with body and spirit*

TFWS 2171 - “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

## Gathered Prayer

## 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.**

## Connections and Offering

## Community Needs Spotlight

Rev. Dr. Michelle Simmons from Why Not Prosper

## Offertory Anthem

FUMCOG Choir

*“Come, Dove of Heaven”* by Mark Miller

## Doxology

*Standing with body and spirit*

UMH 94 - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

## Offering Prayer

**Eternal Provider of abundance, we bring before  
you our offerings with gratitude and reverence,  
acknowledging the immeasurable blessings  
bestowed upon us. May these gifts symbolize  
our commitment to selfless generosity,  
reflecting the love and compassion embedded  
in our hearts. As we present these offerings,  
may they become instruments of hope, joy, and  
support for those in need, echoing the spirit of  
love exemplified in our shared human journey.  
Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

*Standing with body and spirit*

UMC 557 - “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

## Benediction

(see insert)

## Postlude

Handbell Choir

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”*  
by Folliot S. Pierpont & Conrad Kocher,  
arr. Samuel Stokes

Cover design: *Seventy-seven Times*

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22

Digital painting

Robert Bauer, liturgist

Gloria Akers, gathered prayer

Mandonnah Mahallati, tech

John Bustard, tech

Dan Ross, tech

Janet Tebbel, carillon

Jodi Acker Bohr, piano & organ

*The altar flowers this morning are given by David and  
Marion Brown in memory of Marion’s brother,  
David Atwood*





- Mission Link Lenten Service at Janes UMC  
March 20 at 7pm
- Memorial Service for Sawee Kofa  
March 23 at 10am
- Easter Egg Event  
March 24 at 3pm
- Maundy Thursday Service  
March 28 at 5:30pm
- Good Friday Service  
March 29 at 7pm
- Easter Sunday Service  
March 31 at 11am

Pastor Alisa .....wailoo@fumcog.org  
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 Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com  
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Bulletin Insert for Sunday, March 17, 2024

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

Prayers for the family of **Matthew Sharin**, Jean Walker's dear nephew, who died suddenly this week. The family is in shock and appreciates your prayer, especially his wife Wendy and their children.

For the **Kofa Family** on the violent death of Sawee Kofa, nephew of Slewion and Elizabeth Kofa. Prayers for comfort and justice in this tragic time. A memorial service for Sawee will be held at FUMCOG on Saturday, March 23 at 10 am.

For **Larry and Christina Young** as they grieve the passing of Larry's father, Milton Young. We especially lift up his siblings, Cynthia and Jeff, and mother, Lovie, as they prepare for the service in Colorado.

For **Kate Butler**, FUMCOG's beloved bookkeeper, and her brother's Daniel and Paul and extended family as they grieve the passing of their mother Marigene Butler. A 10:30 am memorial service will be held at Foulkeways on Saturday, March 23, 2024.

For **Dave Brown** as he prepares for his surgery on March 21.

For **Holly Jahnke**, Lucy & David Hill's niece, who requires a double hip replacement before receiving her cancer treatment.

Continued prayers for **Lucretia Browning** who is recovering from further complication caused by the flu. If you would like to help, look for her Caring Bridge information in Hot Topics.

## Monthly Food Donations


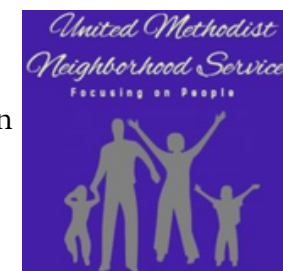
Dear FUMCOGers,

We will take our March food donation to Janes on **Tuesday, March 19**. We will put a box on our Arbutus Street porch on Friday, March 15. If you prefer to bring your donation to church just let us know so we can connect with you.

So many thanks!

Blessings,

Lucy and David Hill

The logo for United Methodist Neighborhood Service is a blue square. At the top, the words "United Methodist" are written in a white, cursive script. Below that, "Neighborhood Service" is written in a larger, white, cursive script. Underneath the main title, the phrase "Focusing on People" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the square is a white silhouette of four people: a large adult figure in the center, a small child to the left, and two other figures (possibly another adult and a child) to the right, all with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy.

## 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)



## REMINDER

There are hearing assistance devices located in the back of the church near our tech crew. If you need one, please ask an usher and they will be more than happy to help you receive one.



Scripture Reading      Matthew 18:15-22

15 “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. 18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” 21 Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Benediction

*Beloved wanderer,  
as you leave this place,  
may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.  
May you look for God in every face.  
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,  
to run to the tomb,  
and to speak of your faith.  
And when the world falls apart,  
may you hear God’s voice deep within,  
saying, “Take heart, it is I, be not afraid.”  
You are called.  
You are blessed.  
In both your ups and your downs,  
you always belong to God.  
Go now in peace.  
Go trusting that good news.  
Amen.*

Contemporary Reading

“Teach Me” by Rev. Sarah Speed

Teach me about the ways of the wind,  
about the ways of the world,  
about the ways of the heart.  
Teach me about the soft crook of my lover’s arm,  
and the way two souls can hold each other close.  
Teach me about forgiveness, about the language of  
I’m sorry  
and the softness of sincerity.  
Teach me about abundance, about seventy-times-seven  
and all the days of my life.  
Teach me about joy, about its contagious weaving  
and its soul-healing.  
Teach me about mercy, about open hands and deep  
breaths.  
Teach me about the dawn of time and the stars in the  
sky.  
Teach me what matters most.  
Teach me what is mine to do.  
Teach this achingly curious heart  
until I run out of questions  
or I run out of days.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
and I will have a life well-lived.

Visio Divina

Join us for a special weekday Bible Study through Lent. We will use specially commissioned artwork for the Sermon Series, "A Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter" to learn the ancient and powerful practice of "Visio Divina" and let the artwork take us deeper into the meaning of the scripture for the week.

**Every Wednesday**, in Lent at 1:30 via Zoom. Reach out to Pastor Alisa ([wailoo@fumcog.org](mailto:wailoo@fumcog.org)) with any questions.



**Right Here, Right Now:  
Studying Mindfulness through a Jesus Lens**

Join Pastor Alisa for a Small Group study of Dr. Amy Oden's book, *Right Here, Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness*. We meet at FUMCOG on **Tuesdays from 7-8pm** to study what we've read, and to learn how to really live into those practices.

**We are skipping this upcoming Tuesday, but will resume our mindful journey together on Tuesday March 26. Even if you have not attended previously, you are invited to join!**

Pastor Alisa loves this book because it reveals the Christian roots of mindfulness and the actual practices that, when reclaimed, deepen the life of faith and the power of our mission of love in the world. When we understand how radical it is to live in God's presence “right here, right now”, our lives are transformed toward mercy, justice and abundant life. RSVP with Pastor Alisa at [wailoo@fumcog.org](mailto:wailoo@fumcog.org) or 267-405-1383.