

Weekly Calendar

Sun, Mar 22	11:00am	Sunday Worship & Social Racial Justice Award presentation
	12:30pm	Potluck Linger Lunch
	12:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal
Mon, Mar 23	9:00am	Walking Women
	11:00am	Stop ICE Vigil at 8th St. and Cherry St.
	11:00am	Community Fridge Cooking
Tue, Mar 24	7:00pm	Christian Mindfulness
Wed, Mar 25	1:30pm	Bible Study
	6:00pm	Mission Link Lenten Dinner
	7:00pm	Mission Link Lenten Service at Green Lane UMC
	7:00pm	Migrants Speak Webinar
Thu, Mar 26	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat, Mar 28	12:00pm	Easter Party
Sun, Mar 29	9:30am	Adult Academy - Lucretia & Jim Browning
	11:00am	Palm Sunday Worship
	12:30pm	Choir Brunch
	12:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal

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 • **Interim Pastor of Spiritual Connection** Rev. Stephen Heilakka
Office Administrator Michael Yancey • **Director of Music** Adrianna Barnett • **Organist/Pianist** Jodi Acker Bohr
Media Specialists Mandonnah Mahallati & Joey Ward • **Exec. Assistant** Tamia Walker



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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026 • 11 AM



First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, March 22, 2026 11:00AM

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.

AAHH - African American Heritage Hymnal

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

Welcome & 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

Renaissance Winds

“Angus Dei” by William Bryd

“Eripe Me” by Orlandon Lassus

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray,

All: Gracious God of all,

One: Morning by morning your mercies we see, even in the shadow of Pilate’s court.

All: Great is your faithfulness, O God of mercy and justice.

One: When the crowd chose judgment and the law condemned the innocent, Christ stood with the suffering.

All: Teach us not to confuse what is legal with what is right.

One: When the leaders chose “moral superiority” over mercy,

Christ’s compassion for others failed not.

All: Fill us with courage to stand with the judged and the forgotten.

One: New every morning is your faithful love.

All: Great is your faithfulness, help us live with the same mercy and justice

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*

UMH 140 - “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Passing the Peace

Please take a moment to share God’s love with one another be that via handshake, high-five, fist-bump, peace sign, or hug. All young ones and young at heart are welcome to come forward during this time for the children’s message: Stories That We Share.

Connections and Announcements

Stories That We Share

Bev & Kristin

Feeding A Crowd

Sung Response

UMH 628 - “Eat This Bread”

Community Needs Spotlight

Curt Himmelberger from Beacon Theatre

Gathered Prayer

written & offered by Tamia Walker

Sung Response

UMH 628 - “Eat This Bread”

Contemporary Reading

excerpt from *Pilgrimage to Non-Violence*
by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
(see insert for full text)

Scripture Reading

John 19:1-16a

(see insert for full text)

Anthem

FUMCOG Choir

“Resignation” Florence Price

Sermon

Love Beyond the Verdict

Invitation to Offering

Offering & Offertory

Renaissance Winds

“O vos omnes” by Tomas Victoria

FUMCOG Social Racial Justice Award

2026 Recipients:

Christine Schafer and Ken Weinstein

Presented by John Chapman, Beverly Lucas, Bill Ewing



Closing Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

Ain’t Gonna Turn Me Around

(see insert)

Benediction

Postlude

Jodi Bohr

Thank you for joining in worship today. You are also invited to Pilling Hall immediately following the postlude for Linger Lunch and a celebratory reception for Christine Schafer and Ken Weinstein.

Cover design by Bruce McNeel

Dale Stahl, liturgist

Beverly Lucas, reader

Kristin Pinder, reader

Geo Andujar, tech

Wayne Snover, tech

Dan Ross, tech

Ken & Titus Espejo, tech

Krista Antenucci - treble cornetto

David Lawrence - tenor dulcian and lizzard

Barbara Stark - alto and tenor sackbut

Karen Schoenewaldt - tenor and bass dulcians

Jodi Bohr - piano & organ



Insert for Sunday, March 22, 2026

Upcoming Dates

- Saturday, Mar 28
 - Community Party, 12pm
- Palm Sunday, Mar 29
- Good Friday, Apr 3
 - 7 Last Words @ Grace UMC, 12pm
 - Tenebrae service, 7pm
- Easter Sunday, Apr 5
 - Morning Worship, 11am
- Friday & Saturday, Apr 17-18
 - “Understanding Harm & Healing” Weekend Sessions, 5pm & 10am
- Sunday, Apr 26
 - Germantown Jazz Festival, 2pm
- Saturday, May 9
 - Roberta Millard memorial service, 2pm
- Saturday, May 23
 - FUMCOG & Voices of Philadelphia concert, 3pm

Staff and Office Information

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday from 9:30am-5pm

Pastor Alisawailoo@fumcog.org
 Rev. Stephen Heilakka.....heilakka@fumcog.org
 Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com
 Joey Ward.....vga.collective@gmail.com
 Mandonnah Mahallati..fumcogtech@gmail.com
 Adrianna Barnett.....music@fumcog.org
 Jodi Bohr.....organ@fumcog.org
 Michael Yancey.....office@fumcog.org
 Tamia Walker.....assistant@fumcog.org

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 *Stories That We Share*.
- * 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



If you’re looking to do any of that while you’re here, you can connect to wifi using the following: **WIFI: Fumcogsanc** **PW: FUMg3rm2020**



Prayers for FUMCOG Friends and Family

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

For **Susan Kensill** who is battling metastatic breast cancer. Susan grew up in Mid-town Parrish UMC, the daughter of Reverend Frank and Winnie Kensill, now living in Kansas.

For our Jordanian daughter **Mira and her family** who have been impacted by the attack on Iran. The whole Middle East is suffering. - Laura Stahl

For **Krista Hansen** and her treatment of new health concerns.

For **Raymond**, the son of Janis Glen.

For **Willie Little** as he continues to heal.

For **Kat Grau’s daughter** as she recovers from ankle and foot surgery.

For **Paul T.**, friend of the Stahls, following the death of his wife, Linda.

For **Thea’s** healing.

For **Betty, Joy, Latasha, Kaira, Nate, Kim, Karima & Bridgette’s** healing.

For **Joy’s family, the Marshall, Redmond, Sameal, & White families’** comfort.

For **Diane and Skyy’s** clarity.

For **Donald Knotts**, who is healing from cancer.

For **Pete Sullivan**, assistant Pastor of Christ Haven Church and Tim Gibson’s friend. Pete’s health has been getting worse.

For Barbara Mitchell's and Ruth Thornton’s niece, **Elaine Crooks**, as she recovers from heart surgery.

For **children, youth, educators and parents** traumatized by ongoing school violence. As community members, may we work to change US laws to limit access to guns of war.

For **Wayne Varnadore** who is improving each day.

For Tim Gibson’s aunt **Selma Cooper** who is sick.

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

THE DRAMA GROUP OF GERMANTOWN PRESENTS

MERELY A DUMB SHOW
 NEW PLAY BY BRANDON BACORN
 DIRECTED BY BECCA BEGNAUD

APRIL 16-18 8PM PAY WHAT YOU WISH
 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

THE CAST

Beatrix	Britt Fauzer
Valencia	Ally Batot
Leonard	Michael Murphy
Evelyn	Christine Sangco
Skyler	Sam Fineman
Petra	Francine Odri
Wyatt	Mikel Wright
Sebastian	Sam Fernandez
Cal	Ryan Mattox
Derrick	Brandon Bowden
Fenton	Jacob Ryan
Maeve	Maria Riillo
Glenn	Ryan Walter



What happens when a writer's strike stops production on a major motion picture? The actors and crew are forced to take refuge in a luxurious Mediterranean hotel, of course! How distressing! Whatever will they do? And how will the local staff manage to keep their sanity? Find out in *Merely A Dumb Show*! This new play, written by Brandon Bacorn and inspired by Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, will have its premiere reading by the Drama Group of Germantown, under the direction of DGG's Technical Director, Becca Begnaud. There will be a talkback with the playwright following the April 16th performance!

Scripture Reading

John 19:1-16a

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, 'Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.' So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!' When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.' The chief priests answered him, 'We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.'

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, 'Where are you from?' But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, 'Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?' Jesus answered him, 'You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.' From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the crowd cried out, 'If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.'

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon.

He said to the crowd, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?'

The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Contemporary Reading

Not until I entered theological seminary, however, did I begin a serious intellectual quest for a method to eliminate social evil.... During this period I had almost despaired of the power of love in solving social problems. The "turn the other cheek" philosophy and the "love your enemies" philosophy are only valid, I felt, when individuals are in conflict with other individuals; when racial groups and nations are in conflict a more realistic approach is necessary. Then I came upon the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. As I read his works I became deeply fascinated by his campaigns of nonviolent resistance. The whole Gandhian concept of satyagraha (satya is truth which equals love, and graha is force; satyagraha thus means truth-force or love-force) was profoundly significant to me. As I delved deeper into the philosophy of Gandhi my skepticism concerning the power of love gradually diminished, and I came to see for the first time that the Christian doctrine of love operating through the Gandhian method of nonviolence was one of the most potent weapons available to oppressed people in their struggle for freedom.

excerpt from Dr. Martin Luther King's essay, "Pilgrimage to Non-Violence"



Troop 1313G Leadership

Ms. Stacey Bryant, long-time Scoutmaster of Troop 1313 (Girls), is stepping aside and handing leadership duties to Steven Reynolds Jr., father of First Class Scout Helena Reynolds. We have been preparing for this transition for several weeks.

For Troop 1313 to go on trips, they require at least one female leader who is trained, over 21, and willing to help bring outstanding programming to these young women. If you or someone you know is eager to work with girls ages 11-17, enjoys outdoor activities, and is willing to teach leadership development, please put them in touch with Beverly Lucas at beverly595@aol.com. The time commitment includes Wednesday nights, 8 weekends per year, and a week of camp during the summer.

Good Friday

A somber, reflective Tenebrae service where we take in Jesus' final acts of love through scripture, song, light, and darkness. Come to the FUMCOG chapel on **April 3 at 7pm.**

Easter Sunday

Come on **April 5** to celebrate the joy of Easter with a holy and joy-filled worship service!

Dirtbaby Farm 2026 CSA
community supported agriculture
JUNE - OCTOBER

20 weeks of vegetables and herbs available for pickup in Germantown at FUMCOG, 6001 Germantown Ave.

We accept SNAP! \$25/week
Sliding scale options \$25-45/week

SIGN UPS NOW OPEN!





Easter Community Needs Offering



At Easter, we celebrate the hope made possible through Christ's passionate love that could ultimately not be defeated by the violence and injustices around him. At a time when so much of what we treasure is under attack, we invite you to give to our Easter Offering that will benefit four community organizations doing essential work to educate, empower, and raise up our children, youth, and entire community. Every dollar offered will go directly to these partners:

The **Beacon Theatre** is a small Northwest Philadelphia-based theater company that spotlights stories of social justice advocates, activists, people of color, and women. By drawing on critical moments from the past, Beacon illuminates pathways toward a more equitable future. To ensure accessibility, they offer "pay as you can" and low-cost performances so that all may experience the power of live theater. In a time when our governmental and educational agencies are being hindered from telling the whole truth, the church must support those who are!

Need in Deed, led by our own Kyra Atterbury, partners with Philadelphia public school teachers to engage students in grades 3–8. Their programs reach at-risk youth and help students connect classroom learning with real-world issues, elevating student voices and lived experiences while strengthening academic skills and civic awareness. As funding for public schools continues to be cut, Need in Deed embodies Christ's call to let the little children come.

PA Youth Vote is a nonpartisan coalition focused on civics education and engagement among public high school students, especially in marginalized communities. Our support will help fund student-led voter registration drives, public issues education, and meaningful civic participation in Northwest Philadelphia high schools. Christ raised up voices from the margins and PA Youth Vote seeks to do the same.

United Methodist Neighborhood Services (UMNS) is already a partner in our ministry, as we contribute food to their food bank through the efforts of Lucy and David Hill. This Easter Offering will further support UMNS in launching Saturday Pop-up Kids' Clubs, where neighborhood children can grow in faith while learning communication, listening, and conflict resolution skills—turning belief into action.

Please participate by **placing your gift in the offering plate** during worship, **mailing a check to the Church Office** (memo: "Easter Offering for Community Needs") or **giving online** at www.fumcog.org –(click on "Giving," enter your amount, and select "Easter Offering for Community Needs" under "Purpose of Gift"). After the total amount of contributions is known, the committee will prayerfully review the allocation to each of these transformative organizations. Thank you in advance!

-The Community Needs Committee

2. Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round

African-American Spiritual; arr. J. David Moore
Minneapolis, MN | 2017

With resolve (♩ = 88)

Leader: 1. Ain't gon-na let no-bod-y turn me 'round, turn me 'round,

SA: Turn me 'round, turn me 'round,

B: Turn me 'round, turn me 'round,

turn me 'round. Ain't gon-na let no-bod-y turn me 'round, I'm gon-na keep on a-walk-in', —

turn me 'round. Turn me 'round, keep on a-walk-in', —

keep on, keep on a-

keep on a-talk-in', — march-ing up to free-dom land. — 2. Ain't gon-na —

keep on a-talk-in', — march-ing up to free-dom land. —

walk-in', keep on a-march-ing up to free-dom land. —

Chords: E, Am, E7, Am, E7, Am/E, Am, Am

Tempo: ♩ = 88

Lyric Suggestions: 2. Ain't gonna let **segregation** (turn me 'round...)
(or make up your own) 3. Ain't gonna let **racism** (turn me 'round...)
4. Ain't gonna let **no hatred** (turn me 'round...)
5. Ain't gonna let **nobody** (turn me 'round...)

Made possible by Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis

Justice Choir Songbook, Volume 1

Always include arranger's name when posting recordings. Link to this PDF: <http://songs.justicechoir.org/AinGonna>
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JUSTICE CHOIR.ORG

STOP ICE RAIDS PRAYER VIGIL

EVERY MONDAY | 11 AM
OUTSIDE OF
ICE FIELD OFFICE

N. 8TH ST. & CHERRY ST.
PHILA., 19106



ICE Raid Hotline

Juntos, a Latine community organizing group, has a community-run rapid response hotline for folks who witness an ICE raid. Please share widely with your friends and neighbors: (814) 205-3293.



Weekly Vigils

The prayer vigils to stop ICE raids is still going strong! Join Pastor Alisa, other clergy, and community leaders at the ICE office on Mondays at **11 am**. Pastor Alisa is glad to help with rides to ICE Philadelphia Field Office, 114 North 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Call her for more information (267-405-1383).

The weekly BlackLivesMatter and Stand with Ukraine vigils reconvene this week, after their winter hiatus. We'll meet as usual in front of the Unitarian Church on Lincoln Drive. Both begin at **4 pm** with BLM being on Tuesdays and Ukraine support on Fridays.



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 coordinates 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!

"Understanding Harm & Healing" April Weekend Sessions

FUMCOG members are cordially invited to a weekend session with Niyonu Spann, our current beloved antiracism consultant. April's session is entitled *Understanding Harm and Healing within the context of systemic oppression*.

Niyonu Spann began leading diversity workshops in about 1990. Her work has evolved, and she now refers to it as "social justice with a focus on liberation," moving beyond the too-familiar cycle of "either encourag[ing] traditionally oppressed groups to tell their story of victimization or [bringing] the groups who have been the primary oppressors to the brink of tears and shame." She says, "for training to be most effective, we must seek to include the whole of who we are. Therefore, my approach includes not only the intellect or mind but also the body and spiritual aspects."

The sessions will take place at FUMCOG on Friday, **April 17 from 5:00pm - 9:00pm** and Saturday, **April 18 from 10:00am - 4:00pm**. It is important to attend both sessions. Dinner will be served on Friday evening. Lunch will be provided on Saturday, along with beverages and snacks for the day.

We encourage you to mark your calendars. This is an opportunity you will not want to miss. More details will be forthcoming. If you are ready to sign up now, please do so using the registration link found in Hot Topics. If you have any questions, please email Lisa Chapman at (lisanchapman@comcast.net) or (lisanchapman82@gmail.com).

Resisting the Border Closure: Migrants Speak Webinar

Immigration Law & Justice Network

RESISTING THE BORDER CLOSURE: MIGRANTS SPEAK
WEBINAR

DATE: 25 MAR. 2026 | TIME: 07 PM ET

FLORENCE IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE RIGHTS PROJECT | SBCC | United Women in Faith | Immigration Law & Justice of Northern Illinois

Since January 20, 2025, the administration has moved aggressively to destroy the U.S. asylum system. By declaring an "invasion" at the southern border, shutting down the CBP One app, targeting already-approved refugees for deportation, and canceling thousands of long-awaited asylum appointments, the administration has systematically closed pathways to safety. These are deliberate mechanisms designed to deter and exclude people seeking protection. The right to seek asylum is a humanitarian protection recognized by the United Nations to safeguard refugees who cannot remain in their home countries due to persecution. Instead, many are forced to wait in third countries where their lives remain in danger and where they have little to no protection. We invite you to come, listen, learn, and stand with those whose lives are being directly impacted. Together, we can push back and resist the closure of the border to those seeking safety.

Look to Hot Topics for the registration link.

Wednesday, March 25, 2026
7 p.m. ET / 4 p.m. PT