

Weekly Calendar

Sun, Apr 26	11:00am	Sunday Morning Worship
	12:15pm	Linger Lunch
	12:30pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	5:00pm	Germantown Jazz Festival
	7:00pm	FUMCOG Crafting Group
Mon, Apr 27	9:00am	Walking Women
	11:00am	Stop ICE Vigil at 8th St. and Cherry St.
	11:00am	Community Fridge Cooking
Tue, Apr 28	5:00pm	BLM Vigil at Unitarian Society of Germantown
	6:00pm	Monthly Christian Mindfulness
Wed, Apr 29	1:30pm	Bible Study
Thu, Apr 30	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Fri, May 1	4:00pm	Worker's Rights Rally at City Hall
	5:00pm	Ukraine Vigil at Unitarian Society of Germantown
	7:30pm	Beacon Theatre Presents: <i>The Bookstore</i>
Sun, May 3	9:30am	Adult Academy with Sen. Art Haywood
	11:00pm	Sunday Morning Worship with Communion
	12:15pm	Linger Lunch
	12:30pm	New Member Class
	1:00pm	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 • **Exec. Assistant** Tamia Walker
Director of Music Adrianna Barnett • **Organist/Pianist** Jodi Acker Bohr
Media Specialists Mandonnah Mahallati & Joey Ward • **Tech Specialist** Geovanni Andujar



First United Methodist Church of Germantown
6001 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144
215.438.3677 • fumcog1@gmail.com • www.fumcog.org



*--from the Salvadoran poet Julia Esquivel, *Threatened by Resurrection**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 • 11 AM



First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, April 26, 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.

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

JSC - Justice Choir Songbook

AAHH - African American Heritage 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.

Invitation to Worship

Prelude

Jodi Bohr

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

One: Though we are bound in midnight's hour,
All: God is awake among us.

One: When chains rattle and hope feels small,
All: His eye is on the sparrow, and we know God watches us.

One: We sing, even in the dark,
All: And God shakes the foundations.

One: Do not be afraid—life is still here,
All: So we sing because, in God, we are free.

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*

TFWS 2144 "Why We Sing"

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.

Stories That We Share

Beverly Lucas & Kristen Pinder

Sung Response

UMH 496 - "Sweet Hour of Prayer" verse 1

Gathered Prayer

written and offered by Celeste Zappala

The Lord's Prayer

Sung Response

UMH 496 - "Sweet Hour of Prayer" verse 3

Contemporary Reading

The Velvet Sanctuary, author unknown
(see insert for full text)

Scripture Reading

Acts 16:16-34

(see insert for full text)

Hymn

Standing with body and spirit
JCS #9 - "Hold On"
(see insert)

Sermon

Pastor Alisa

Worship in the Dark

Silent Reflection

Connections and Announcements

Anthem & Offering

"Sanctus" from *Mass in Blue* by Will Todd

Doxology

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 94 - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Offering Prayer

Holy God, receive these gifts as an act of our worship. Shake us free through open hearts and lives, and use all we offer to bring healing and liberation. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

AAHH 478 - "What a Mighty God We Serve"
(see insert)

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.

Immediately following the postlude, Rev. Steph will move to the baptismal font. If you feel the need for prayer, he will be available to pray with you or for you. Please respect the privacy of those in prayer by maintaining a respectful distance.

Linger Lunch is available in Pilling Hall today, for all to catch up with old friends or make new connections over a meal.

Cover design by Bruce McNeel

Faye Ross, liturgist

Geo Andujar, tech

John Bustard, tech

Barbara Revere, tech

Amani Reed, saxophone



Upcoming Dates

- Friday, May 1
 - Beacon Theatre: *The Bookstore*, 7:30pm
- Sunday, May 3
 - Adult Academy with Sen. Art Haywood
- Monday, May 4
 - Admin Council Meeting, 7pm
- Saturday, May 9
 - Roberta Millard’s Memorial Service, 2pm
- Saturday, May 16
 - Neighbors Table, 12pm
- Saturday, May 23
 - FUMCOG & Voices of Philadelphia *Music for All of America concert*, 3pm
- Saturday, May 30
 - C. Gloria Akers’ Memorial Service, 11am

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 our “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**



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

For **Ray Torres and Eileen Gilkenson** as they begin a healing journey for Ray.

For **Ms. Que**, who is recovering from a dislocated hip after a fall on April 11.

Marilyn and Larry Moyer are delighted to welcome a new granddaughter, **Rylan Gillette Landrey** who arrived on March 28th. Her mothers, Amanda and Corinne Landrey, are sharing their joy with the big sister, Ellis.

For the friends and family of **Susan Kensill** who passed away on April 16 from metastatic breast cancer.

For the family of **Harry Morgan**, father of Laura Stahl, who passed away on March 29.

For **Elizabeth Ellis**, friend of Ruth Thornton & Barbara Mitchell at Simpson House. She recently broke her ankle, but can heal with PT and TLC.

For **Chanelle Spearman and her son Kyle**. Thanksgiving that they survived a house fire, and prayers for them in this time of transition.

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

For **Jean Walker** who will have knee replacement surgery on May 11, and is facing other health issues making it difficult to come to church.

For **Rob Lasater**, father and grandfather to Alisa, Chris, Anthony, & Andrew.

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

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

For **Betty, Joy, Karima, Kim, Robin, Nate, Allen, Bridgette, Michelle, Latasha, Thea, Buleuh, Carmettea, & Camela’s** healing.

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

For **Diane and Skyy’s** clarity of mind.

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

For **Wayne Varnadore** as he continues to recover.

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

The flowers today are given by Michael Sheadel in memory of his brother, James B. Sheadel.



Contemporary Reading

The Velvet Sanctuary

No candles lit, no rafters ring,
 No voice but mine to softly sing.
 The world outside is sharp and loud,
 But here I find a quiet shroud.
 Oh, dark is not a fearsome place,
 When wrapped within the Shepherd’s grace.
 In silent gloom, my soul can see,
 The One who sits in light with me.
 Let others chase the noon-day Sun,
 I sing until the night is done;
 For in the dark, the veil is thin,
 And I am free to let Him in.

Scripture Reading

Acts 16:16-34

16 Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. 17 She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” 18 She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

19 When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. 20 They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar 21 by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

Scripture Reading

(continued)

22 The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. 23 After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. 24 When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

31 They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Easter Offering Last Call

Thank you to our members and friends who have contributed \$10,025 through Monday April 20 for the benefit of United Methodist Neighborhood Services, PA Youth Vote, Need in Deed and Beacon Theatre. In case you overlooked our appeal or feel inspired to make an additional contribution, the appeal will remain open through Monday, April 27. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Family Promise
of Philadelphia

Diaper Drive

Help support local families experiencing housing insecurity

How to Help:
 Any contribution, small or big, would make a great difference for the families we serve.
 All sizes and brands are welcome!

Drop-Off Location:
 Family Promise of Philadelphia
 7047 Germantown Ave
 Philadelphia, PA 19119



**Beacon Theatre Presents:
*The Bookstore***

Come see the 2026 Beacon Award Winner and Pulitzer-Prize nominated play *The Bookstore* by Nancy Marie, directed by Zuhairah McGill, and presented by Beacon Theatre Productions. The staged reading is about how a young man’s attempt to fulfill his dream of meeting Malcolm X leads him to a bookstore in Harlem. Three years later, he returns as an unwilling participant in the COINTELPRO operation launched against it by J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. *The Bookstore* is loosely based on and written in memory of Sister Una Mulzac and the Liberation Bookstore.

Friday, May 1st, 2026 at 7:30pm at FUMCOG

Saturday, May 2nd, 2026 at 1:00pm at Parkway Central Library (2nd Floor, Literature Dept), 1901 Vine St, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Reserved your FREE tickets at www.beacontheatreproductions.org!

Education at FUMCOG

Adult Academy

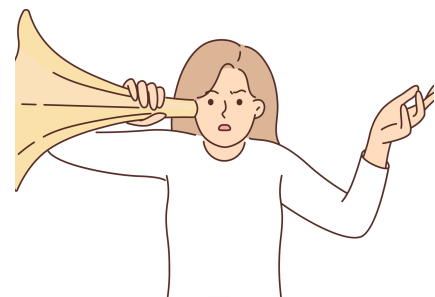
Every Sunday morning at 9:30am we gather to learn from one another and leaders in the community about a wonderfully diverse set of subjects, from ways to work for justice to how to move through the aging process. We would love for you to join us any week in the parlor or online at tinyurl.com/zoomcog. Here is April's line-up:



May 3: Senator Art Haywood, the state senator of the 4th district, will spend his time at Adult Academy addressing the question "Where is Jesus?" Senator Haywood is a Moorehouse and Michigan Law grad who spent his career working for housing justice. Now in his 12th year as our neighborhood's representative, he consistently works on and for issues that insure dignity for all. Specifically, this past year, he has partnered with Pastor Alisa and an Interfaith Clergy Collective to be on vigil at the ICE Headquarters every Monday. We hope you can join us for this time of reflection.

ICE Response Training

What should your church do if ICE shows up? Join us for an important and timely training led by Rev. Mark Salvacion on **Thursday, May 7 at 6:30 PM**. This session will cover practical steps for preparedness, provide updates on current immigration policies, and offer space for your questions. Register using the link in Hot Topics



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.



Bible Study

Want a mid-week reboot? Join us for Bible Study with Pastor Alisa this and every (or at least most!) Wednesday at 1:30pm online. We chat, pray and explore the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. No matter if you are a biblical scholar or totally new to the Bible, your thoughts will be a gift to others. Simply email wailoo@fumcog.org to be added to the group email and join the FUMCOG zoom at 1:30 pm on Wednesdays.

Music at FUMCOG

- ORRIN EVANS AND THE CAPTAIN BLACK BIG BAND
- JOSH LEE AND THE EXTENDED FAMILY
- THE PHILLY POPS BIG BAND

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Sunday | 5:00 pm

First United Methodist Church of Germantown
6001 Germantown Ave.

- LATE NIGHT JAZZ JAM HOSTED BY LOVETT HINES, SR.
- ADMISSION \$15.00, ALL MUSICIANS WELCOME

26

Sunday | 8:00 pm

THE NILE CAFE
6008 GERMANTOWN AVE.



PRINCIPAL COMMUNITY PARTNER



July 2026

GERMANTOWN GEMS AND CARILLON RECITALS




Monday July 6
6:30 - **Revolutions at Wyck**
7:30 - **Amy Hamburg-Mead**
Bloomington, IN

Monday July 13
6:30 - **Carillon Talk and Tower Tour (FUMCOG Sanctuary)**
7:30 - **Keiran Cantilena**
Cleveland, OH

Monday July 20
6:30 - **Native Plants in Wyck's Garden**
7:30 - **Michelle Lam**
Washington, DC

Monday July 27
6:30 - **Wyck's Landscape Through the Ages**
7:30 - **Carol Anne Taylor**
Dallas, TX

First United Methodist Church of Germantown
6001 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
215-438-3677

Listen from the garden of Wyck House, across Germantown Avenue from the church. Gates open at 6:30.

More information at fumcog.org or GCNA.org



Summer Music @ FUMCOG:

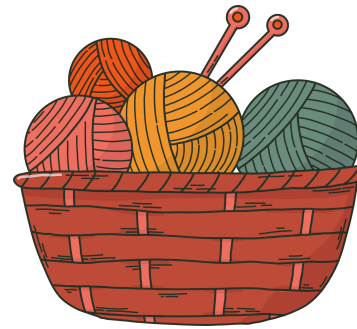
Now it's YOUR Turn!

Do YOU sing or play an instrument? We would love for you to share your gift this summer while the FUMCOG choir is on its summer break. It can be any type of music and at any skill level. God works with whatever we offer. Also, if you have a child in your life who likes to sing, act or play an instrument, we would love to invite them to share their gift as well. Simply reach out to our music director, Adrianna, at music@fumcog.org

Connection Opportunities

FUMCOG Crafting Group

Interested in knitting or crocheting? If you want to learn, we are prepared to assist you! All levels are welcome! The crafting group gathers to create prayer shawls and/or baby blankets for church members and outreach. Our next meeting is **7PM TONIGHT, April 26th** at a home in Mt. Airy just off Lincoln Drive. If interested, contact Lucy Hill at phillyhills512@yahoo.com or Susan Tomlinson at susanStomlinson@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



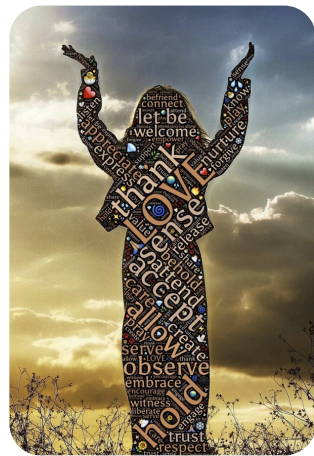
Monthly Christian Mindfulness

Need a time to re-center your heart, mind, and soul?

Do you ever struggle to pray alone?

Want to expand your prayer and meditation practices?

If you answered “yes” to any of these, please join us on April 28th at 6:00pm for an hour of Christian Mindfulness; there is no need to RSVP or come to every session. Just drop in when your soul needs it or you feel led to pray with and for our beloved community. Questions? Ask Pastor Alisa at wailoo@fumcog.org or 267-405-1383.



Community Fridge Cooking

Germantown Community Fridges are a 24/7 mutual aid resource that helps combat food insecurity and food waste in Philadelphia. FUMCOG is blessed to host a fridge under our High St. porch and cook together. All are welcome - with or without culinary expertise, so come on **Mondays at 11am** to help us make delicious meals for our neighbors!



Newish to FUMCOG?

We joyfully invite you to attend our New Members Class. This class will meet on Sundays from 12:30-1:30 on May 3, 17, and 31. It provides an opportunity to connect with fellow FUMCOGers, learn more about Methodist and FUMCOG history and beliefs, and explore ways to grow in faith and service here. Whether you are new or simply looking to become more engaged, we encourage you to come and share in this meaningful time of fellowship, learning, and growth. Contact Pastor Alisa with questions or to RSVP at wailoo@fumcog.org

Work and Witness for Social and Racial Justice



URDC April Work Days

How can YOU immediately help neighbors in Germantown? Join us for a series of URDC (Urban Resources Development Corporation) work days. There is still time to help toward getting a single mom of 4 back into her home after a house fire.

Each work day runs from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM with supplies provided and lunch if necessary. There is a way for volunteers to help out every day **between now and May 1**. RSVP to Karen at schoenewaldt@gmail.com to sign up!

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.



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!

Weekly Vigils

The weekly BlackLivesMatter and Stand with Ukraine vigils will meet as usual in front of the Unitarian Church on Lincoln Drive. Both begin at 5 pm with BLM being on Tuesdays and Ukraine support on Fridays.

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).

Workers' Rights Rally

This International Workers' Day, POWER INTERFAITH invites us to come together with the Philadelphia AFL-CIO and more than 20 labor unions and community partners to take a stand against unsafe, exploitative conditions - and to fight for the dignity of every worker.

Together, we'll lift up a bold vision for Pennsylvania where working families come before billionaire profits. But in order to demand a city budget and an economy rooted in justice, dignity, and shared prosperity, we need all the volunteers we can get.

Workers Over Billionaires MayDay Rally
Friday, May 1, 2026, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Philadelphia City Hall

