Weekly Calendar

Sun, Oct 25	11:00am	**Morning Worship Service** - Pastor Alisa preaching
	12:15pm	**Linger Lunch**
	12:15pm	**Men's Ministry**
Mon, Oct 26	9:00am	**Walking Women**
	11:00am	**Stop ICE Vigil** at 8th St. and Cherry St.
	11:00am	**Community Fridge Cooking**
Tue, Oct 27	5:00pm	**BLM Vigil** - Unitarian Society of Germantown
	6:00pm	**Monthly Christian Mindfulness**
Wed, Oct 28	1:30pm	**Bible Study** via Zoom
	6:00pm	**Sisters in Strength** - at Pastor Alisa's house
Thu, Oct 29	7:00pm	**Choir Rehearsal**
Fri, Oct 30	5:00pm	**Ukraine Vigil** - Unitarian Society of Germantown
Sun, Nov 1	9:30am	**Adult Academy** with Dale Acker
	11:00am	**All Saints Morning Worship Service** - Deacon Nikki preaching
	12:15pm	**Linger Lunch**

Call for Memorial Volunteers on November 7th

Beloveds, we've been asked to host the memorial service for attorney & social welfare activist **Yvonne B. Haskins.** She specifically requested FUMCOG in large part due to our church's reputation for social justice work, and we are honored to uphold that request.

Are you available on **Saturday, November 7** to greet, usher, or just tell people where the restrooms are? If you can offer any amount of time between 10am and 1pm, please email office@fumcog.org or call the church office at (215) 438-3677. The service begins at 11am.

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 • **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
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

FUMCOG STEWARDSHIP 2026



OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

Week 4: Give

October 25, 2026 • 11 AM

First United Methodist Church of Germantown

First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, October 25, 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.
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

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 & Announcements

Prelude Michael Sheadel
Navajo Vocable for Piano No. 4, by Connor Chee

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

One: God has opened the way.
God has welcomed us with grace.
God has loved us beyond measure.
All: We respond to God's love with grateful hearts!

One: We pray, we serve, we give—not to earn God's love, but because we have received it.
All: We respond to God's love with grateful hearts!

One: So lift your hands, lift your voices, lift your hearts in praise!
All: We respond to God's love with grateful hearts!

One: Come, let us worship God!
All: God, in this hour, help us respond to you!

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
In the Sanctuary by Kurt Carr
(see screens)

Passing the Peace & Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Baptism
(follow along in UMH 33-39 or on screens)
Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Wallace Freedom Horton with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his trust of God, and be found faithful in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Sung Response
UMH 611 - *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*
verses 1, 4

Contemporary Reading
"For Holiness of Heart" by Howard Thurman
(see insert or UMH 401 for full text)

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 26:1-12
(see insert for full text)

Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
UMH 344 - *Tú Has Venido a la Orilla*
verses 1 (Spanish), 1-3 (English)

Sermon Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo

Silent Reflection

Stewardship Moment Clarita Krall

Invitation to Offering & Pledge

Offertory Anthem FUMCOG Choir
"*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*"
by Ken Medema

Prayer for Pledging

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
Total Praise, by Richard Smallwood

Benediction

Postlude Michael Sheadel
With a Heart of Thanksgiving, by Howard Helvey

In heart's memory, for beloved Emily.
Dad, Mom, Josh.



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 so led, he will be available to pray with you or for you.

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

Cover design by Julia Jack-Scott
Dwight Woolford, liturgist
Tamia Walker, speaker
Amina Loder, speaker
Geo Andujar, tech
Ken Espejo, tech
Barbara Revere, tech
Michael Sheadel, piano
Tatiyanna Hayward, soloist

Insert for Sunday, October 25, 2026

Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, October 27
  - Monthly Christian Mindfulness
- Wednesday, October 28
  - Sisters in Strength, 6pm
- Tuesday, November 3
  - Election Day
- Friday, November 6
  - Beacon Theatre Short Play Festival, 7:30pm
- Saturday, November 7
  - Yvonne Haskins memorial, 11am
  - Charge Conference, 2pm
- Sunday, November 8
  - Being Human in the Age of AI sermon series
- Friday, November 13
  - Opening Night of *Aristophanes: Medea*, 7pm
- Wednesday, November 25
  - Das Good Community Thanksgiving

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.

Staff and Office Information

Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday from 9:30am-5pm

Pastor Alisa .....wailoo@fumcog.org
Rev. Stephen Heilakka.....sheilakka@gmail.com
Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com
Geo Andujar.....fumcogtech@gmail.com
Adrianna Barnett.....music@fumcog.org
Jodi Bohr.....organ@fumcog.org
Michael Yancey.....office@fumcog.org
Tamia Walker...pastorsassistantfumcog@gmail.com

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**

Prayers for FUMCOG Friends and Family

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

For **Kristen Ruff** & her daughter **Frankie** as they continue to grief the passing of Amanda Bruton, their wife & mother respectively. A link to her celebration of life is in Hot Topics.

For **Jean Walker** who is recovering from a broken hip.

For the family and friends of **Wayne Warnecke** who passed away earlier this month.

For **Karen Hermanson** who is battling stage 3 ovarian cancer.

For **Karen Ramsey** who has early-stage Parkinsons.

For **Luz Morales**, who is recuperating at home in Leiden following her stroke. She continues to go to outpatient therapy every day. She appreciates everyone's prayers.

For **Phyllis Strock**, who recently fell and broke her leg. She is home from the rehabilitation center!

For **Sylvia Bolden**, who wants to share that she recently experienced profound healing of severe pain in her right hip, which was unrelenting for years. She expresses gratitude for the healing, and your continued presence in her life. Visitors to her at Simpson House are very welcome!

For **Willie Little** who is improving daily.

Ray and Eileen are grateful for all the love and support from the FUMCOG family. A caring bridges site is in Hot Topics.

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

For **Jennings Sims** who has been diagnosed with a terminal genetic disease.

For Troop parents **Antonio McCall**, **Cheryl Greene, Cary Smith & Edna Smith**, for the health and recovery of their family members.

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

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

Here is a place you can go to throughout the service and write down what you're left with. What is your prayer today?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Readings for October 25, 2026

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 26:1-12

Firstfruits and Tithes
26 When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, 2 take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name 3 and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4 The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. 5 Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. 6 But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. 7 Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. 8 So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. 9 He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; 10 and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. 11 Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household.

12 When you have finished setting aside a tenth of all your produce in the third year, the year of the tithe, you shall give it to the Levite, the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that they may eat in your towns and be satisfied.

Contemporary Reading

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
Here is the citadel of all my desiring,
where my hopes are born and all the deep resolutions of my spirit take wings.

In the center, my fears are nourished,
and all my hates are nurtured.
Here my loves are cherished,
and all the deep hungers of my spirit are honored without quivering and without shock.

In my heart, above all else,
let love and integrity envelop me
until my love is perfected and the last vestige of my desiring is no longer in conflict with thy Spirit.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. **Amen.**

For Holiness of Heart, by Howard Thurman

Submissions Please!

Social Racial Justice Award 2027 Nominations

At FUMCOG, we recognize the centrality of the Gospel to issues of justice in our society. The words of the prophet Amos proclaiming, "Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream," call us to action in response to this challenge. It is our tradition each year, on Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, to recognize a FUMCOG or Community Member with the Social and Racial Justice Award. This award is given in recognition of the work of an individual making a significant contribution toward the resolution of issues of injustice and motivating others to engage in this work.

- A committee formed of previous award recipients will consider each application and make the final decision.
- Please use the nominating form at **tinyurl.com/FUMCOGSRJ2027** to nominate someone for this award.
- The deadline for the 2027 Award submission is **November 23, 2026**



Names for All Saints

Every year on All Saints Sunday, we pause to give God thanks for the saints in our lives that have passed away the previous year. At FUMCOG, we name and celebrate members of our church that have died, as well as family members and loved ones of FUMCOGers. So, if someone you love passed away this year and you would like to hear that saint named and a candle lit in their memory on Sunday, please let us know. Simply email wailoo@fumcog.org and/or office@fumcog.org with your loved one's full name before **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28**. It is a sacred honor to journey with you in life, death and life after death through Christ.

Christmas Offering Proposals Open

The FUMCOG **Community Needs** Committee invites proposals for local projects that promote social justice and community empowerment, especially in Northwest Philadelphia. Funded by our special Christmas Offering, recent grants have ranged from $500 to $4,150.

- **Eligibility & Review:** Decisions are based on the population size served, the nature of services, and community impact.
- **Applications:** Available at www.fumcog.org, in Hot Topics, or by calling the church office at (215) 438-3677.
- **Deadline:** Return completed forms and 501(c)(3) documentation (if any) to office@fumcog.org or to the church office at 6001 Germantown Ave. by **Monday, November 9**.
- **Timeline:** Selected recipients notified by December 1; funds disbursed in January 2027.

United Women in Faith Annual Meeting

Come **Thursday, October 29th at 12 noon** for a buffet lunch and with discussion of disbursements for the Helen Arthur Fund to follow. We'll gather at Faye Ross's apartment H408 at Cathedral Village, 600 East Cathedral Road, Philadelphia. Please let Faye know if you are coming: 215-984-8968, fayezross@verizon.net. This is an important annual event and also a good time to connect with other FUMCOG women. Please join us! Open to all FUMCOG women.

🙏 Invitation to Men's Ministry 🙏

Come join us **TODAY** for a time of fellowship, socializing, and building meaningful relationships with other men in our community. Together, we'll connect, share, and learn about the lives and lessons of men in the Bible while growing in faith and encouraging one another.
All men are welcome, whether you've attended before or this will be your first time. We would love to have you join us in a warm, welcoming, and nonjudgmental environment where everyone is valued. So come as you are and bring a friend!
We look forward to seeing you there! 🙌🏽

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 at 7pm on **Sunday, November 1st** 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. We hope to see you there!

Adult Academy: Sundays at 9:30AM

Nov 1 - Dale Acker

Dale Acker (Jodi's mom) will talk about her experience as a military child. After WWII, her family was sent to live in Japan during the beginning of Allied Occupation, when the US sent people to Japan to rebuild the relationship with Japan.



Sisters in Strength Women's Group

Ladies, you're invited to join us on **Wednesday, October 28 at 6pm** for an evening of fellowship, encouragement, and connection! This Women's gathering will be held at Pastor Alisa's home, giving us a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a warm and welcoming setting while spending time together.

Come as you are on —there's no need to bring anything but yourself! Together, we will:
✨ Socialize and strengthen our friendships
✨ Learn about the strong and faithful women of the Bible
✨ Share life experiences in a supportive and caring space
✨ Take time to release the burdens on our hearts and minds

Whether you've attended before or this will be your first time, we would love to have you join us for an uplifting evening of sisterhood, and faith.
Questions? Text Pastor Alisa at 267-405-1383.
Sisters in Strength —
Growing together in faith, fellowship, and strength.

FUMCOG Small Groups

Yard Sign Blitz for Scouting

If you have a yard or fence in Germantown, East Germantown East or West Mt. Airy, Chestnut Hill East Falls, or West Oak Lane, please take one or more Yard Signs to display for the month of October. Help grow Scouting at FUMCOG!



Women's Walking Group

Love to walk? Do you connect best while surrounded by all of God's creation? All women are invited to join our Monday morning walking group in the Wissahickon. We meet at 9:00am at Northwestern Ave. and Forbidden Drive. Please contact Cara Herold (267-257-5984) if you have any questions.

Wednesday 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.

Ongoing 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 also continue in front of the Unitarian Church on Lincoln Drive. Both begin at **5 pm** with BLM being on Tuesdays and Ukraine support on Fridays.

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 Pastor Alisa on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm for an hour of "Prayer and Christian Mindfulness Practices." The next session is this Tuesday, October 27. No need to RSVP or come to every session. Just drop into the FUMCOG parlor 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.



Adult Academy, Reparations, and Linger Lunch & Learn

The FUMCOG Reparations Task Force will be hosting three upcoming Adult Academy sessions with encore Linger Lunch and Learn sessions to share highlights about what we have learned from Anthony Smith and Lucy Duncan of reparationWorks, the consultant team that has been walking with us on our journey. These opportunities will provide the larger congregation essential knowledge and tools that will support all of us in grappling with our faithful call to reparations.

On each of these following dates, both Adult Academy and encore Linger Lunch and Learn sessions will be held. Adult Academy takes place in the Parlor from 9:30am -10:30 am. For those who are unable to attend Adult Academy, the same material will be shared and discussed again during Linger Lunch and Learn for 45 minutes to 1 hour. After worship, grab your Linger Lunch and bring it to the Parlor to engage in what was shared and discussed in Adult Academy that morning.

*Note: The Linger Lunch and Learn for the December 13 Adult Academy session will be held on December 6 due to the Candlelight Service on December 13.

Oct 25 - Foundational Aspects of Reparations

Using pieces of the educational materials that were shared with the congregation in June for the Juneteenth to Justice: 30 Days of Reparations Learning challenge, this session will focus on some of the core aspects of reparations: definitions, historical and modern examples, spiritual underpinnings, and how to put reparations into action. We will review some of the Juneteenth to Justice material, which is linked here, and will also be available in hard copy on October 25, consider questions, and join in discussion.

Dec 13, 2026 - The Posture of Repair

Engaging in reparations calls us into community relationships. What do these relationships look like, sound like and feel like? We will learn about and discuss accompaniment and co-conspiratorship.

Jan 17, 2027 - Reparations in Action

This session will provide an update on FUMCOG's current reparation partnerships.

Followup - Exploring the Breadth of Stewardship w/ Laura Stahl

On October 18 Adult Academy focused on using our spiritual gifts, talents and skills to serve God through FUMCOG and in the world. You can take a free spiritual gifts assessment and receive your personal results at www.spiritualgiftsassessment.org.

If after receiving your results, I invite you to speak with me or Pastor Alisa about how you might use those gifts to serve God.

Fun & Food at FUMCOG

Beacon Theatre's Short Play Festival

Beacon Theatre Productions (who previously brought the plays Hatshepsut, When The Truth Comes Out, and The Bookstore to FUMCOG) is excited to announce a Short Play Festival. We had a call for local playwrights to submit plays that were less than 15 minutes in length and we received an overwhelming response.



Our four winning plays and playwrights are:
Bodega Cat by Dina Zhanybekova
McNally's Alley by Ivy Staten-Minor
Look Through My Window by Andrea Spruill
Warning Shot by Dan West

You can reserve your tickets now using the link in Hot Topics!
When: Friday, Nov. 6th at 7:30pm
Where: First United Methodist Church of Germantown
How much: **FREE**
What: Four 15-minute new plays written by four Philadelphia playwrights

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. Come **Mondays at 11am** to help us make delicious meals for our neighbors!



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!

Annual Charge Conference

Our Annual Charge Conference will be on **Saturday, November 7 at 2pm**. The meeting will take place at FUMCOG and ONLY be in person. All are invited to come for our annual church business meeting. Questions? Email Pastor Alisa: wailoo@fumcog.org.