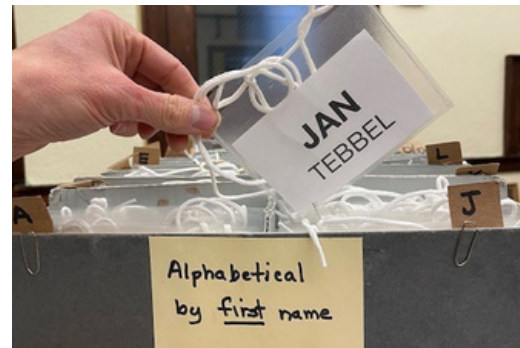


Weekly Calendar and Upcoming Events

- Sun, Apr 21** 11:00am **Sunday Worship Service** - Pastor Gabe preaching
12:15pm **Linger Lunch**
12:30pm **New-ish to FUMCOG?** - join us in the Gribbel Room
12:45pm **Handbell rehearsal**
3:00pm **Drama Group** - The Importance of Being Earnest
- Mon, Apr 22** 9:00am **Walking Group**
- Tues, Apr 23** **General Conference Begins**
- Wed, Apr 24** 1:30pm **Weekly Bible Study** via tinyurl.com/zoomcog
- Thu, Apr 25** 10:00am **Holy Trouble**
7:00pm **Choir Rehearsal**
- Sun, Apr 28** 9:30am **Adult Academy**
11:00am **Sunday Worship Service** - Pastor Alisa preaching
12:15pm **Linger Lunch**
12:30pm **New-ish to FUMCOG?** - join us in the Gribbel Room
12:45pm **Handbell rehearsal**
-

Get Your Name Tags, Please!

Beloveds, it is so wonderful to have new faces and see familiar ones. One way we can support our growing community is to wear a name tag on Sundays. It both helps our new friends as well as those of us with older minds and memories! :). So please stop by the table at the High Street entrance to pick up your name tag before worship. Special thanks to Janet Tebbel and Ella Davis for helping us update the name tags.



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



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



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024 • 11 AM



First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, April 21, 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

Carillon Prelude

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” arr. by T. Ng

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

“Sheep May Safely Graze” by J. S. Bach

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside the still waters.

They shall mount up with wings like eagles.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

for his name’s sake.

They shall run and not be weary.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I shall fear no evil, for thou art with me.

They shall walk and not faint.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*

UMH 57 - “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” v.1 Spanish, v.1, 2, 5, 7 English

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 454 - “Open My Eyes, That I May See” v.2

Contemporary Reading

excerpts from *This Here Flesh* by Cole Arthur Riley (see insert for full text)

Scripture Readings John 10: 11-18
(see insert for full text)

Sermon Rev. Noé Gabriel López
Ewe-nique Love: Embracing All into the Fold

Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
UMH 356 - “Pues Si Vivimos”
v.1 Spanish, v.1-4 English

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

Offertory Anthem FUMCOG Choir
“I Sing Because I’m Happy” arr. by Rollo Dilworth

Doxology *Standing with body and spirit*
UMH 94 - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we come before you with hearts filled with gratitude for our Good Shepherd, Jesus the Christ. Help us to emulate Christ’s selfless love in our giving, offering not only our resources but also our time and talents for the well-being of others. May our offerings be a reflection of Your abundant grace and mercy in our lives. Amen.

Closing Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*
UMH 381 - “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Benediction

Postlude
“Andantino” from Pastorale, by César Franck

Marion Brown, liturgist
Cyndi Skripak, gathered prayer
Mandonnah Mahallati, tech
Ann Perrone, tech
Alan Symonette, tech
Dan Ross, tech
Janet Tebbel, carillon
Jodi Acker Bohr, piano & organ

The altar flowers this morning are given in heart’s memory, with our gratitude for beloved Emily from Dad, Mom, and Josh.





Upcoming Dates

- UMC General Conference
April 23 - May 3 in Charlotte, NC
- Philomusica Concert
May 19
- EPA Annual Conference
May 21-23 at Wildwood, NJ
- Celebration and blessing of Pastor Gabe on his last Sunday, June 9.

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

Staff and Office Information

Office Hours

11am-5pm Mondays

9am-5pm Tuesdays-Fridays

Pastor Alisa takes Sabbath on Mondays

Pastor Gabe Sabbath on Fridays

- Pastor Alisawailoo@fumcog.org
- Pastor Gabe.....lopez@fumcog.org
- Daniel Jackson.....music@fumcog.org
- Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com
- Joey & Mandonnah.....tech@fumcog.org
- Michael Yancey.....office@fumcog.org

A Message From Reconciling Ministries as General Conference Approaches



There are many unknowns in the landscape of General Conference. The legislative transformations for which we've tirelessly worked may come to pass, but we are far from certain. Even so, some things are certain:

1. RMN will continue evolving to meet the needs of the growing Reconciling movement as well as those who are far from LGBTQ+ affirmation.
2. Most importantly: you are God's delight.

This weekend, we ask for your partnership in prayer.

- Pray for delegates.
- Pray for families, churches, and communities spending two weeks without their beloveds.
- Pray for General Conference staff, translators, volunteers, pastoral care providers, caucus groups like RMN, bishops, and all guests witnessing this historic gathering.
- Pray for queer and trans people awaiting this General Conference's decisions, watching how this Church responds to their existence.
- Pray that the Spirit may inspire us to free ourselves from institutional discrimination.

FUMCOGERS, please reach out to any of your pastors, Gabe, Nikki or Alisa, to talk and pray this week as General Conference comes to life and is in the news. We are in this together, surrounded by God's boundless love.



Prayers for FUMCOG Friends and Family

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

For Priscilla Schaffer and her healing through some ongoing medical challenges.

For Jean Walker as she recovers from a recent back procedure but slower than expected. Jean is currently at Chestnut Hill Hospital, preparing for another procedure.

For healing for James Lozenski, brother of Barry Lozenski, as he faces complicated medical treatments.

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.

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 complications caused by the flu.

Many Thanks!!

Thank you and blessings to everyone who has prayed for me, sent cards, or otherwise encouraged me and Marion as I have waited for, had, and am now recovering from shoulder surgery. With all those good vibes, and by God's grace, I'm doing very well indeed. Thank you!

--Dave Brown

FOR OUR KIDS

Children are welcomed and beloved in our worship space! There are Kid Activity Bags by the door. There is also a children's space in the sanctuary's back corner. Ask the ushers for more information.

New-ish to FUMCOG?

Join us for a 3-session Intro Class. We will delve into our faith community's beliefs, practice of baptism, history, connections, and commitments to social justice. Come explore the ways we seek to follow the Spirit of Christ working together, taking risks for social justice and peace in our community, our city, our nation, and our world. We will meet Sundays after worship on April 21, and 28. And do not worry if you missed the first session; come anyway! The more the merrier!

Reach out to Pastor Alisa (wailoo@fumcog.org or 267-405-1383) with questions or to RSVP.

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

John 10: 11-18

Contemporary Reading

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

“Some theologies say it is not an individual but a collective people who bear the image of God. I quite like this, because it means we need a diversity of people to reflect God more fully. Anything less and the image becomes pixelated and grainy, still beautiful but lacking clarity. If God really is three parts in one like they say, it means that God’s wholeness is in a multitude...

For those of us whose sense of place speaks more of trauma than of belonging, it is understandable to think that the sole and sacred solution would be to belong nowhere at all. But this is alienation masquerading as freedom. It is a dangerous conflation. French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil said, “To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognized need of the human soul.” Alienation and trauma of place are best met not with dislocation but with belonging, with a defiant rootedness, even if those roots stretch out to new and safer places.”

--Cole Arthur Riley from *This Here Flesh*

What’s Happening Around Our Building?



During Last Sunday’s service, Pastor Alisa led our kids to make sandwiches during worship, refilling the emptied fridge by FUMCOG’s High Street entrance.

URDC Volunteer Opportunities

Last Saturday 11 FUMCOG members came together to help seniors in 6 homes with painting, weeding, and clearing out storage space. Another service day like this will happen soon. In the meantime URDC has set dates with several other local groups and FUMCOG members and friends are welcome to join them. RSVP by May 30 to Karen Schoenewaldt, (267) 752-2238, schoenewaldt@gmail.com.

- June 8, with Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
- Monday, July 1-4, with Interfaith Community Building Group (a collaboration between St. Vincent’s and Mishkan Shalom synagogue)

FUMCOG has a long-standing partnership with Urban Resources Development Corporation (URDC), a 501c(3) non-profit organization with a mission to stabilize communities in northwest Philadelphia through home repair and rehabilitation. The organization is managed by twelve faith congregations and uses no public funding. URDC’s Volunteer Service Days bring together members from its partner organizations to assist senior and low-income homeowners with repairs such as painting, sheet rock, cleaning, woodwork, plumbing, and gardening. FUMCOG has organized 13 of these events with URDC in the past decade.

The work day runs 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and URDC provides tee-shirts and a hoagie or pizza lunch. Volunteers can stay for as many or few hours as they wish and all skill levels are welcome.

