

Weekly Calendar

- Sun, Feb 22** 11:00am **Sunday Worship** - Pastor Alisa preaching
12:30pm **Potluck Linger Lunch**
12:30pm **Handbell Rehearsal**
7:00pm **Crafting Group**
- Mon, Feb 23** 9:00am **Walking Women**
11:00am **ICE Out Vigil & March** at 114 N. 8th St.
7:00pm **Adrianna Barnett's Masters Recital** at Temple
- Wed, Feb 25** 1:30pm **Bible Study**
6:30pm **New Womens Group**
7:00pm **Mission Link Service** at Janes Memorial UMC
- Thu, Feb 26** 7:00pm **Choir Rehearsal**
- Sun, Mar 1** 9:30am **Adult Academy** - Trustees Update
11:00am **Sunday Worship** - Pastor Alisa preaching
12:30pm **Linger Lunch**
12:45pm **Handbell Rehearsal**
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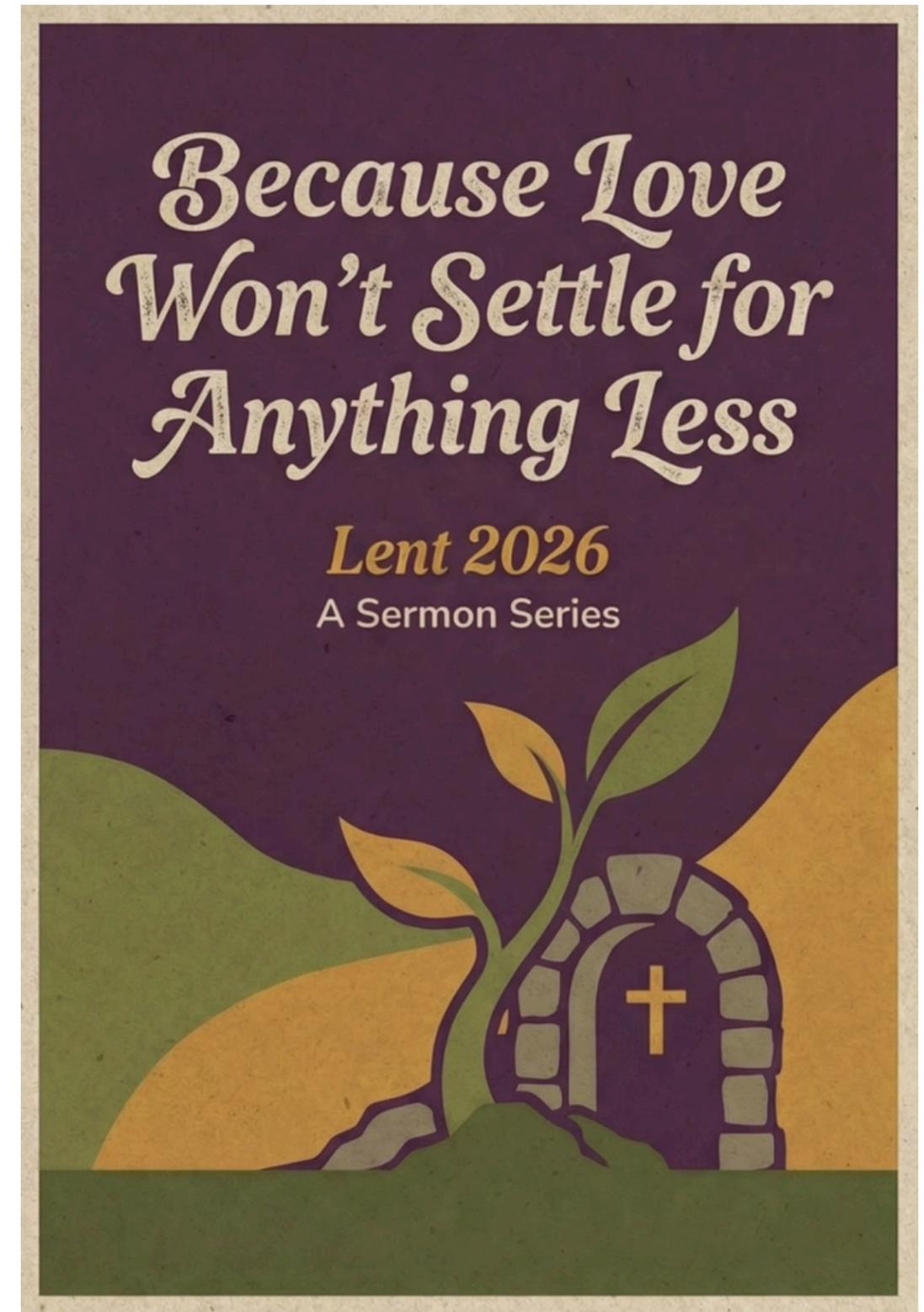
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The First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) is a diverse, urban community of faith that seeks to experience and worship God through Jesus' message of love and inclusion and the mystery of grace expressed through his life. We affirm our 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, FEBRUARY 22, 2026 • 11 AM



First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, February 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.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

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.

Carillon Prelude

Janet Tebbel

Precious Lord

Thomas Dorsey, arr. J. Courter

Nobody knows the Trouble I Seen

Spiritual, arr. CGB Garrett

Shalom Chavarim

arr. M. Polka

Ukrainian National Anthem

Prelude

Jodi Bohr

Winter Holiday, by Betty Jackson King

Call to Worship

Standing with body and spirit

We gather at the edge of the story in the Gospel of John, chapter 11—
standing with Martha and Mary,
weeping at the tomb of Lazarus,
daring to believe that even here, especially here,
Love is at work. Because...

Love refuses to settle.

Jesus does not settle for mere existence.
He does not accept that death, despair, or systems of harm get the final word.
At the grave of his friend, he weeps.
And then he calls forth life. Because...

Love refuses to settle.

As we begin our walk toward Calvary,
we remember that resurrection is not only a distant promise—
it is a present-tense reality.
In the courage to love.
In the refusal to give up on one another.
In the call to come out of whatever tombs bind us.
Because...

Love refuses to settle.

This is the season where Love refuses to settle—
for fear instead of hope,
for scarcity instead of abundance,
for survival instead of abundant life for all.

So come.
Step into this Lenten journey.
Listen for your name being called.
Unbind one another.

We come to worship the One who is calling us,
even now, from mere existence
into abundant life.

We are here to journey with Jesus from comfort to courage, through these forty days and beyond.

Opening Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 269 - Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Passing the Peace

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

Sung Response

TFWS 2179 - "Ubi Caritas"

Gathered Prayer

Ruth Thornton &

The Lord's Prayer

Barbara Mitchell

Prayer Practice

TFWS 2179 - "Ubi Caritas"

Contemporary Reading

Excerpt from "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker
(see insert for full text)

Scripture Reading

John 11: 1-44

As we have heard the whole story read in the children's time, we will focus here on verses 1-8 & 39-44.
(see insert for full text)

Hymn

AAHH 222 - "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land"
(see insert)

Sermon

Pastor Alisa Wailoo

From Merely Existing to Truly Living

Invitation to Offering

Anthem & Offering

FUMCOG Choir

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
by Joseph Scriven & Charles C. Converse;
arr. John Coates, Jr.

Doxology

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 95 - "Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow"

Offering Prayer

Living God, as this season of Lent begins, we offer these gifts and our very selves to you to be instruments of reparations and resurrection. May the ashes of our grieving become the soil for our growing, the hunger from our fasting become a passion for holy feasting, and the shadows of our unjust systems become a womb from which justice and new life come. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 274 - "Woman in the Night"
verse 1&3, 4&6, 7&8

Benediction

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

Postlude

Jodi Bohr



Flowers on the altar today are given by Clara Arrecis (aka Gabriela) in honor and memory of Renee Good and Alex Pretti, two good people taken from us way too soon.

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

Robert Bauer, liturgist

Kristen Pinder, reader

Geovanni Andujar, tech

Wayne Snover, tech

Ann Perrone, tech

John Bustard, tech

Barbara Revere, tech

Jodi Bohr, piano & organ



Upcoming Dates

- Monday, Mar 2
 - Admin Council meeting, 7pm
- Wednesday, Mar 11
 - Lenten Cluster Service at FUMCOG, 7pm
- Sunday, Mar 15
 - Scout Sunday, 11am
- Saturday, Mar 21
 - Neighbors Table, 12pm
 - Direct Action Training, 1pm
- Saturday, Mar 28
 - Community Party, 12pm
- Easter Sunday, Apr 5
- Friday & Saturday, Apr 17-18
 - All Church Anti-Racism Training
- Sunday, Apr 26
 - Germantown Jazz Festival, 2pm
- Saturday, May 9
 - Roberta Millard memorial service, 2pm
- Saturday, May 23
 - FUMCOG & Voices of Philadelphia concert
- Sunday, Jun 14
 - All Church Annual Meeting, 12pm

Staff and Office Information

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday from 9:30am-5pm

- Pastor Alisa Wailoo.....wailoo@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 Children's Message.
- * 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 the loved ones of **Roberta Millard** upon her sudden peaceful passing last week. Her memorial service will be on May 9 at 2pm.

For the family of **C. Gloria Akers**, who passed away on February 4. We are planning to celebrate her life at FUMCOG in the spring, but for the time being you can share your condolences and love of Gloria with her daughter Melanie Alston-Akers at 10759 Cordage Walk, Columbia, MD 21044

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

For all those killed, brutalized, or neglected by ICE.

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

Prayers of healing for **Betty, Joy, Latasha, Kaira, Nate, Kim, Karima & Bridgette.**

Prayers of comfort for **Joy's family, the Marshall, Redmond, Sameal, & White** families.

Prayers of clarity for **Diane and Skyy.**

For **Thea's** healing.

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

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.

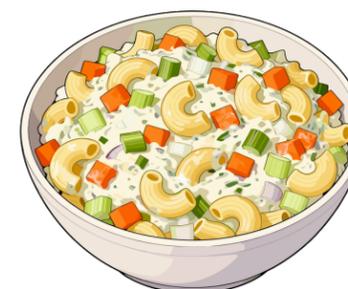
For **Wayne Varnadore** who is improving each day.

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.

Potluck Linger Lunch

Join us in Pilling Hall after worship for our Potluck Linger Lunch! You can always contact Celeste czappala1@yahoo.com or Cara carapom@gmail.com if you'd like to help with a linger lunch any week.



FUMCOG Crafting Group



The FUMCOG knitting/crocheting group next meets **TONIGHT** at 7:00pm in a Mt Airy home Airy just off Lincoln Drive. We make prayer shawls and/or baby blankets for church members and outreach. New members are encouraged so please contact Lucy Hill at phillyhills512@yahoo.com or Susan Tomlinson at susanStomlinson@gmail.com if interested. We hope to see you there!

Contemporary Reading

“Here’s the thing,” say Shug. “The thing I believe. God is inside you and inside everybody else. You come into the world with God. But only them that search for it inside find it. And sometimes it just manifest itself even if you not looking, or don’t know what you looking for. Trouble do it for most folks, I think. Sorrow, lord. Feeling like sh*#....”

Shug a beautiful something, let me tell you. She frown a little, look out cross the yard, lean back in her chair, look like a big rose. She say, “My first step from the old white man was trees. Then air. Then birds. Then other people. But one day when I was sitting quiet and feeling like a motherless child, which I was, it come to me: that feeling of being part of everything, not separate at all. I knew that if I cut a tree, my arm would bleed. And I laughed and I cried and I run all around the house.... Oh...God love all them feelings.”

Excerpt from “The Color Purple”
by Alice Walker

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.

Scripture Reading

John 11: 1-44

11 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. 3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7 Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” 8 The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?”

You can read verses 9-38 in your pew bible.

39 Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days.” 40 Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” 43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” 44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Help our Immigrant Neighbors

Join us at an Interfaith Vigil every Monday at 11 at the Ice Field Office and/or bring food to FUMCOG for local Latina families who are not safe to go to work currently. Any non-perishables are helpful, especially rice, beans, oil, and corn flour. Thank you for your support!



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.

Adri’s Recital

Adri’s Master Recital in Choral Conducting is entitled “Pathways Home” and will be on **Monday, February 23**, at 7:30 pm in Rock Hall Auditorium. Please check Hot Topics for the livestream link.



New Women’s Group

Whether new to the church or a long-timers attendee, all young/middle aged women are invited to the church at **6:30pm on February 25** to connect over study, service, food, friendship, support...you name it! Just RSVP with Pastor Alisa at wailoo@fumcog.org

