



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JUNE 29, 2025

3803 Haines Road North
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

(727) 527-6694

office@allendaleumc.org

www.allendaleumc.org

WELCOME

We are honored that you chose to worship with us today!

Allendale United Methodist Church is a *Reconciling Congregation*. We affirm the sacred worth of all people and strive to practice Christ's example of unconditional love without exclusion. All are welcome to participate fully in the life and ministries of this congregation. Whatever your race, ethnicity, economic situation, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, background or belief, age or condition of ableness, whether single or partnered, you are God's beloved and are welcome here. God calls us to acts of love, grace, and advocacy to promote healing and reconciliation. We are building a new Allendale: a place without barriers, a sanctuary for all.

Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9-4

If you have a special need, or you wish to visit with the pastor, please contact the office at (727) 527-6694 or office@allendaleumc.org.

Gender Pronouns: Asking and correctly using someone's preferred pronoun is one of the most basic ways to show your respect for their gender identity. When someone is referred to with the wrong pronoun, it can do harm.

Childcare/Nursery: Located in the courtyard, the first room to the right as you leave the sanctuary building. Children are welcomed and encouraged to stay in worship, even if they are noisy! The nursery is available beginning at 10 AM for children younger than kindergarten.

Children's activity sheets and fidget bags are available in the narthex.

Changing table is available in the Nursery.

Unisex/family restrooms are in the office hallway, accessible from the narthex, to the left as you exit the sanctuary.

The balcony is open for those wishing to have more social distancing.

Holy Communion is typically celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

ASL Interpretation is available during worship to help make our service more inclusive and accessible. *ASL Version of our worship livestream:* www.allendaleumc.org/asl

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June - July All-church book study: Wesleyan Vitality - Reclaiming the heart of Methodist Identity (Hybrid Room) Sundays 9-10 AM
- Jun 30 - Jul 5 Youth at Warren Willis Summer Camp
- Jul 7-11 Vacation Bible School at Allendale - 9 AM-12 PM
- Tue Jul 8 Committee Meetings (Hybrid Room) Staff Parish 6 PM | Trustees 7 PM
- Thu Jul 10 Committee Meetings (Hybrid Room) Finance 6 PM | Church Council 7 PM
- Tue Jul 22 Social Justice Team Meeting (Community Center) 6 PM
- Get more information about our upcoming events by visiting: www.allendaleumc.org/events*

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

ESMÉ RODRÍGUEZ (they/them) is a non-binary, Latinx educator, activist, and artist serving as Senior Manager of Professional Learning at Equality Florida. They work to create safe and affirming school environments for LGBTQ+ youth and have taught Gender Studies and Latin American Literature for over a decade. Their work centers intersectional justice, community building, and the celebration of diverse gender identities.

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

CANDY VON SPARKLE (any/all) AKA **CHRISTOPHER LEPARD** moved to Largo 7 years ago and is the proud father of four daughters, one son and three grandchildren. His passion includes doing drag for over 40 years, being part of Skyway Dachshund rescue, and being part of Allendale. Candy is a member of Rose Dynasty, Allendale United Methodist Church, in the National Chef Association. Candy's hobbies include flea markets, reading, cooking and performing as a bearded Queen. Her passion is working with non-profit organizations helping them raise funds as Candy Von Sparkle. Candy is also proud to represent Allendale in the 2026 Miss Rose Dynasty pageant. Thank you Allendale for your love and support.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS & DRAG ARTISTS:

piano - Tru Mizzell, guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames, vocals - Erica George, drums - Curtis Roberts
Mr. Vyn Suazion, Blaise Atrayal, Basil, Esmé Rodríguez, Candy Von Sparkle

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

Today's flowers are dedicated by Candy Von Sparkle to the drag artists of Allendale and to the pioneering drag artists who have given their lives in the struggle for equality.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOVINGKINDNESS VBS:

Registration is now open for Vacation Bible School, a fun, faith-filled week of music, stories, crafts, and activities for children, happening July 7-11, 2025, from 9 AM to noon. This is a time to Celebrate our little ones with the theme of Lovingkindness.

Visit www.allendaleumc.org/vbs to sign up and explore more details.

ALLENDALE YOUNG ADULTS KICKOFF:

Wednesday, July 9 at 6 PM in the Community Center. Enjoy pizza and connect with other young adults in their 20s & 30s as we launch a new season together. *Questions? Contact Campbell or Taylor on the Allendale Young Adults Discord at allendaleumc.org/youngadults.*

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

HONORING REV. DAVID FRANKS:

Next Sunday, July 6, we celebrate our Minister of Pastoral Support, Rev. David Franks, for 50 years in the ministry! He will be preaching in the service and will lead us in Communion.

BIRTHDAYS:

Amy Bordeaux	Jul 1
Rin Bowes	Jul 1
Tanner Isoma	Jul 2
Shannon Tierney	Jul 2
Jeff Cox	Jul 4
Jason Edsall	Jul 4
Russ Lehman	Jul 4
Amy Mormino	Jul 5

Birthday missing? Please contact the office

CONNECT WITH A PASTOR:

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor

Office hours: Tue - Fri *make an appointment at www.allendaleumc.org/andy*

Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support

Office hours: Tue 11-2 | Thu 4-7 *make an appointment at www.allendaleumc.org/david*

LICENSED THERAPISTS AND COUNSELORS:

available at Allendale's Counseling Center

Visit www.allendaleumc.org/counseling

PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 117 in-person, 628 online

Live stream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:

Sun Jul 13 at 10:30 AM

Sign-up at: www.allendaleumc.org/join

GIFTS

Give online: www.allendaleumc.org/give

Text-to-give: Text amount to 727-312-0808

Buy a shirt: www.allendaleumc.org/shirts



Give Online now by scanning this code with your phone's camera

WITNESS

CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE:

In a spirit of solidarity, more than 50 Justice-Seeking congregations around the country are lighting a candle of Peace, Hope and Justice. This candle represents Christ's light shining even in the midst of barbed wire policies that wrap tighter each day.

This morning we light the Candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice for all who have been impacted by war: for those living or working near Fordo, Natanz, and Isfahan; for those who breathed a sigh of relief when their B-2 bomber touched down in Missouri, only to now wrestle with the weight of knowing they played a role in dropping 30,000-pound bombs; for families whose homes have been destroyed in Tel Aviv; for those who dare to imagine a future rebuilt from rubble in Gaza; for doctors, nurses, and patients in North Darfur who should be protected but instead know the devastation of war; for parents whose children were taken while sitting in a classroom in Myanmar; for Ukrainians who have accepted that even a church sanctuary is not safe from harm; for all who know the path to the nearest bomb shelter by heart but fear they won't reach it in time; for anyone filled with anxiety when stepping onto a subway train or into a crowded city square, newly told to stay on high alert; and for all who continue, against all odds, to work for the day when swords will be beaten into plowshares, when spears will be transformed into pruning hooks, and war will be no more.

We light this candle proclaiming that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never overcome the light. May Jesus strengthen us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

MORE DRAG AT ALLENDALE:

Thank you for joining us for our 5th Sunday Drag Worship during Pride Month! Two more Drag Gospel Worship services are scheduled this year: Sunday, August 31, and Sunday, December 28, the Sunday after Christmas. These joyful services, led by drag artists, help us embody and reflect the diverse image of God from which we are all created.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Let us know you are here by going to www.allendaleumc.org/here or by filling out the attendance pad in your row.

PRELUDE Allendale Band
You Will Be Found / Perfect | Pasek & Pual / P!nk |

WELCOME & CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE Rev. David Franks
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SONG Basil
This Is Me | Keala Settle |

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER Candy Von Sparkle

SONG Allendale Band
Losing Vile-tality - Race & Gender | Andy Oliver |

VILE-TALITY READING Lynne Hensley

SONG Esmé Rodríguez
Born This Way | Lady Gaga |

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. David Franks
The Lord's Prayer | Mark Miller |

TIME WITH CHILDREN Gina Gibbs & Alan Miller
Rainbow Connection | Kermit the Frog, Jim Henson |

OFFERING Congregation
I Won't Back Down | Tom Petty |
give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Candy Von Sparkle

SONG Blaise Atrayal
Freedom | George Michael |

POEM Esmé Rodríguez
The House of Belonging | David Whyte |

SERMON Esmé Rodríguez

SONG Mr. Vyn Suazion
The Remedy / Wonderwall | Jason Mraz / Oasis |

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Congregation

BENEDICTION Candy Von Sparkle

POSTLUDE Allendale Band
Perfect | P!nk |



The Bravest Thing We Can Do
a Poem by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

Trust your belovedness.
Let it be a protest,
an act of resistance,
a song of celebration.
Trust your belovedness in a world
that is rarely satisfied.
Wear it like a badge of honor.
Speak it as confidently
as your last name.
Tattoo it to your heart.
When outside forces
chip away at your sense of self,
when life asks you
to hand over the keys,
remember the water.
Remember creation.
Remember how it was good,
so very good.
Let that truth hum through your veins.
Sing it so loud
that it drowns out
the weariness of the world,
for the bravest thing we can ever do
is trust that we belong here.

*Liturgy from A Sanctified Art and Enfleshed
(portions adapted by Allendale)*

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor | andy@allendaleumc.org
Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support | david@allendaleumc.org
Diana Ong, Church Administrator | diana@allendaleumc.org
Tru Mizzell, Director of Music Development | tru@allendaleumc.org
Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | cameron@allendaleumc.org
Dylan Dames, Music and Organizing Associate | dylan@allendaleumc.org
Bill Lee | Organist

Campbell Horn, Dylan Dames | Youth Directors
Maddie Johnson | Sign Language Interpreter
Michaela George, Erin Giblin, Courtney Ross, | Nursery Attendants
Dr. Kate Pravera | Theologian in Residence
All of us in the Congregation | Ministers of the Gospel

THIS WEEK

Sun Jun 29

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley) 9 AM
9 AM Wesleyan Vile-Tality Class (Hybrid)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:30 PM Youth Group

Mon Jun 30

Tue Jul 1

3 PM Aging Group (Wesley)

Wed Jul 2

Thu Jul 3

Fri Jul 4

Sat Jul 5

Sun Jul 6

Wesleyan Vile-Tality Class (Hybrid)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:30 PM Youth Group

*Recovery and Support Groups meet often at
Allendale and are now listed on their own
calendar: www.allendaleumc.org/recovery.*

CLASSES & COMMUNITY

Grief Support Group- 6/29 & 7/13 at 9 AM
This group meets every other Sunday

Wesleyan Vile-Tality Group- Sun at 9 AM
7/6 Session 6: Ch 3 - Losing Vile-tality (part 2)

Aging Group - Led by Gina Gibbs
In the Wesley Room - Tue at 3 PM
Classes run from Jun 3 - Jul 29

Scripture Class - Led by Pastor Andy
Virtual on Zoom - Mon at 6 PM
*On Summer Break - Will resume August 4
Join via Zoom: allendaleumc.org/mondayclass*

Young Adult Discord - Online Group
Join at www.allendaleumc.org/youngadults

Social Justice Team - 7/22 at 6 PM
*For those seeking to get involved with
advocacy and justice work. Meets monthly on
the third Tuesday in the Community Center.*

Stand For Democracy -each Mon at 5 PM
NW corner of 22nd Ave N and 34th St N

Wednesday Night Dinner & Classes
On Summer Break - Will resume August 6.