



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

3803 Haines Road North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

(727) 527-6694

office@allendaleumc.org

www.allendaleumc.org

ALLENDALE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.allendaleumc.org/asl)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fri Sep 26 Charity Drag Bingo Night (Sanctuary) 6 PM  
Thu Oct 2 TransNetwork Conversation (Sanctuary) 7 PM  
Tue Oct 21 Social Justice Team Meeting (Community Center) 6 PM  
Sat Oct 25 Trunk or Treat (West Parking Lot) 10 AM - 12 PM  
Sun Oct 26 Youth Sunday (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM - Youth leading worship  
Sun Nov 2 Charge Conference Lunch and Meeting following worship

## WORSHIP NOTES

### TODAY'S LITURGIST:

**NELA LAMB** (they/them) is an activist and artist, currently expressing themselves through ceramics (art at The Hive Community Clay) and drag - maybe you've seen Blaise Atrayal? After 12 years living in Paris they moved back to their native Florida. They are honored to be employee-of-the-week every week for their rescue pup Bola who runs a tight ship in St Pete. They also serve on the board of TransNetwork. Their belief in every human's right to dignity has led them to speak on the Florida Senate Committee floor, to hold vigil in the Everglades and to be outspoken with an open heart and a raised fist. They hope you feel moved to heed the call of justice everyday..

### TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

piano - Tru Mizzell  
guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames  
vocals - Campbell Horn

Contact [tru@allendaleumc.org](mailto:tru@allendaleumc.org) to join our band or choir

### COURAGE, CONNECTION AND CARE:

David Franks is leading a four-week Sunday night series, Courage, Connection, and Care in Times of Upheaval. Sessions will take place from 5-6 PM and explore themes such as anger, dreams, art, and pathways from overwhelm to hope. Each week offers a unique lens on navigating challenging times.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW CHURCH-WIDE BOOK STUDY:

On Sunday Mornings in-person and Monday Evenings via Zoom, we'll be reading *For Such a Time as This: An Emergency Devotional* by Hanna Reichel. Beginning September 28 & 29  
*Order your book online and learn more at [www.allendaleumc.org/time](http://www.allendaleumc.org/time)*

### CHARITY DRAG BINGO THIS FRIDAY:

Join us on Friday, September 26, for an evening of bingo, music, and drag! Proceeds will support ICare St Pete. Starting at 6 PM, a \$10 donation gets you 10 games of bingo.

### ANTI-DEATH PENALTY VIGIL:

Oppose the Sept 30 execution of Victor Jones by signing the petition at [fadp.org](http://fadp.org). During the execution on Wednesday, September 30, death penalty opponents will gather from 5:00-6:00 PM at the northwest corner of the Ulmerton Road and 49th Street North intersection for a vigil. Activists will provide signs, or you can bring your own. If the execution is stayed, the vigil will be cancelled.  
*Details: [fadp.org](http://fadp.org).*

### NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE CLASS:

Dr. Kate Pravera will host a five-week class on nonviolent civil resistance and the transformative power of love. Sessions take place Wednesday nights in October at 6 PM in the Community Center, following the 5 PM community dinner, beginning October 1 and continuing through October 29. Each week will offer thoughtful discussion, shared experiences, and reflections on how love can confront hate and affirm the sacred worth of all people. The first session will include an Ice Cream Social from 5:45 to 6:15 PM on October 1.

# STEWARDSHIP

## PRAYERS

### BIRTHDAYS:

Parker Hutton	Sep 21
Lois Lehman	Sep 23
Elijah Marks	Sep 24
Scott Hensley	Sep 25
Craig Bowman	Sep 26
Renee Burk	Sep 29
Terry Fitzgerald	Sep 29
James Kelchner	Oct 2
Debbie Duty	Oct 3
Trista Miller	Oct 3
Michaela George	Oct 4

*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](http://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](http://www.allendaleumc.org/david)

### LICENSED THERAPISTS AND COUNSELORS:

available at Allendale's Counseling Center  
Visit [www.allendaleumc.org/counseling](http://www.allendaleumc.org/counseling)

## PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 117 in-person, 356 online  
*Live stream: [www.allendaleumc.org/online](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online)*

### WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:  
**Sun Oct 12 at 10:30 AM**  
Sign-up at: [www.allendaleumc.org/join](http://www.allendaleumc.org/join)

## GIFTS

Give online: [www.allendaleumc.org/give](http://www.allendaleumc.org/give)  
Text-to-give: Text amount to 727-312-0808  
Buy a shirt: [www.allendaleumc.org/shirts](http://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.

We've heard it said: "This is a watershed moment that will shape our shared life for generations."

But could this moment—marked by reckless rhetoric and the relentless pursuit of power—be a new day for the church?

Could this be the moment when the church is heard proclaiming more hope than judgment?

When we are caught singing Mary song—the one she sang while Jesus was forming in her womb—about God lifting up the lowly, filling the hungry with good things, and sending the rich away empty?

Could this be the point when the church stops waiting on elected officials to mend our nation's brokenness or weave a society strong enough to hold everyone— but instead recognizes how we can—and must—do this work— by remembering how every person is created in the image of God—including our enemies; by grieving each death as Jesus does—especially when one of God's children kills another by gun, knife, or force; by choosing each word with care, knowing how easily our tongues can spark destruction.

Almighty God, please use this moment to help the church become the church so that the world knows it is the world—as you fill us with peace that is not passive, hope that is not silent, and justice that does not wait for a temporary moment ushered in by a political party or platform,

but rather a complete shift modeled after the life, death, and resurrection of one who brought good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom for the oppressed, before calling and equipping us to do the same.

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.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Let us know you are here by going to [www.allendaleumc.org/here](http://www.allendaleumc.org/here) or by filling out the attendance pad in your row.

PRELUDE ..... Allendale Band  
*Promises* | Joe L Barnes |

WELCOME ..... Rev. Andy Oliver  
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CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE ..... Congregation  
*We're Gonna Tear Your Kingdom Down* | Black Traditional |

SONG ..... Allendale Band  
*Pray With Our Feet* | Paul M. Vasile |

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER ..... Nela Lamb

SONG ..... Allendale Band  
*Another World* | Rev. Kerri Meyer |

TIME WITH CHILDREN ..... Theresa Frost

OFFERING ..... Congregation  
*I'd Like to Teach the World To Sing* | Roger Cook, Roger Greenaway |  
*give online at [www.allendaleumc.org/give](http://www.allendaleumc.org/give)*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION ..... Nela Lamb

SONG ..... Allendale Band  
*A Dishonest Steward* | Carolyn Winfrey Gillette |

SCRIPTURE READING ..... Nela Lamb  
*Luke 16:1-13*

SERMON ..... Rev. Andy Oliver

SONG ..... Congregation  
*God Has Work For Us To Do* | Carl Daw Jr, Mark Miller |

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY ..... Congregation

BENEDICTION ..... Nela Lamb

POSTLUDE ..... Allendale Band  
*Promises* | Joe L Barnes |



The scriptures our preoccupied with the condition of the poor and exploited.

God is on the side of the oppressed. Every transaction is spiritual. No ransom should be paid in blood. We are only as close to God as the economy we are faithful to will allow us to be. We are only as close to God as the economy we are faithful to will allow us to be. We let money separate us from our Mothers and Sisters. We let money separate us from life and love. Money is paper power. Righteousness is people power.

Mismanage the owner's dishonest wealth. Cancel debts that are legally owed. We are only as close to God as the economy we are faithful to will allow us to be.

*Liturgy from Enfleshed  
(portions adapted by Allendale)*

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor | [andy@allendaleumc.org](mailto:andy@allendaleumc.org)

Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support | [david@allendaleumc.org](mailto:david@allendaleumc.org)

Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | [cameron@allendaleumc.org](mailto:cameron@allendaleumc.org)

Bruce Bordeaux, Director of Operations | [bruce@allendaleumc.org](mailto:bruce@allendaleumc.org)

Diana Ong, Church Administrator | [diana@allendaleumc.org](mailto:diana@allendaleumc.org)

Tru Mizzell, Director of Music Development | [tru@allendaleumc.org](mailto:tru@allendaleumc.org)

Dylan Dames, Music and Organizing Associate | [dylan@allendaleumc.org](mailto:dylan@allendaleumc.org)

Campbell Horn, Dylan Dames | Youth Directors

Bill Lee | Organist

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 Sep 21

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)  
9 AM Adult Sunday School Class (Hybrid)  
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
5 PM Courage/Connection/Care (CC)  
6 PM Youth Group

### Mon Sep 22

### Tue Sep 23

### Wed Sep 24

5 PM Dinner (Community Center)  
6 PM Classes (Sanctuary)

### Thu Sep 25

### Fri Sep 26

6 PM Charity Drag Bingo (Sanctuary)

### Sat Sep 27

### Sun Sep 28

9 AM Adult Sunday School Class (Hybrid)  
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
5 PM Courage/Connection/Care (CC)  
6 PM Youth Group

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

## CLASSES & COMMUNITY

Grief Support Group- 9/21 & 10/5 at 9 AM  
*This group meets every other Sunday*

Adult Sunday School Class- Sun at 9 AM  
*"The Bible With and Without Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine*

Scripture Class - Led by Pastor Andy  
Virtual on Zoom - Mon at 6 PM  
*Join via Zoom: [allendaleumc.org/mondayclass](http://allendaleumc.org/mondayclass)*

Young Adult Discord - Online Group  
*Join at [www.allendaleumc.org/youngadults](http://www.allendaleumc.org/youngadults)*

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

Social Justice Team - 10/21 at 6 PM

Wednesday Night Dinner & Classes  
*Dinner at 5 PM and Classes at 6 PM*  
*Class: "Self Care in the Chaos"*

## DINNER MENU

*Dinner is \$10 or whatever you can afford.  
Vegetarian or Vegan options always available.*

### Wed Sep 24

Baked Chicken, Red Beans & Rice,  
Mixed Veggies, Salad, Bread, Dessert