



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 23, 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 ability, 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

- Sun Nov 30 First Sunday of Advent! Our advent series is "*What Do You Fear?*"
- Fri Dec 5 Gay Men's Chorus of Tampa Bay Christmas Concert (Sanctuary) 8 PM
- Fri Dec 12 Christmas Drag Bingo (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Fri Dec 12 Still No Room in the Inn Caroling (100 Mirror Lake) 7 PM
- Sat Dec 13 Brunch with Santa (Sanctuary) 10 AM
- Sun Dec 14 Christmas Choir Singing in Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Tue Dec 16 Social Justice Team Meeting (Community Center) 6 PM
- Wed Dec 17 Impromptu Children's Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Fri Dec 19 Annual Unhoused Memorial Service (100 Mirror Lake) 4:30 PM
- Sun Dec 21 Longest Night Solstice Service: *Keeping Vigil for Hope* (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Wed Dec 24 Christmas Eve Worship with Candlelight (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Sun Dec 28 Christmas Gospel Drag Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM

Get more information about our upcoming events by visiting: www.allendaleumc.org/events

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

JULIE JOHNSON (she/her/hers) is a licensed Texas attorney and Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy. With more than two decades of experience in law, wealth management, and philanthropy, Julie moved to St. Petersburg to help launch Florida's first women-owned trust company. A longtime advocate for children's welfare, she has also served as a Guardian ad Litem in North Carolina. Julie and her spouse, Johnny, are proud parents of three children — Ashley, who lives in California with her spouse, Alexee; Aubrey, who resides in North Carolina; and Austin, age 6, who loves to dance during the children's sermon.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames
piano - Tru Mizzell

Contact tru@allendaleumc.org to join our band or Christmas choir

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

Thank you to everyone who helped create this year's Thanksgiving altar arrangement. Prepared by several Allendale women, it reflects our shared gratitude and the blessings we celebrate together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOODSON'S ANNUAL TOY DRIVE:

Allendale is collecting unwrapped toys for ages 0-12, and gift cards for ages 13-17 for local families as part of The Woodson African American Museum of Florida's Annual Toy Drive. The collection bin is located in the Sanctuary area at Allendale.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

The Gay Men's Chorus of Tampa Bay is performing a Christmas Concert, "Holly, Jolly, and Gay!" at Allendale UMC on Friday, Dec 5 starting at 8 PM. Get tickets at gmctb.org/st-pete-tickets.

CHRISTMAS DRAG BINGO EXTRAVAGANZA:

Join us in the Sanctuary on Friday, Dec 12 at 6 PM for Drag Bingo! \$10 for 10 games of bingo. Ugly Sweater contest, Christmas Cookies, and an appearance by Santa!

BRUNCH WITH SANTA:

Santa Claus is coming to town! Enjoy a brunch with Santa on Saturday, Dec 13 in the Sanctuary. This festive celebration is fun for all ages! RSVP: allendaleumc.org/santa

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

In Loving Memory: Peggy A. Hughes 1953-2025

BIRTHDAYS:

Mark Morrison	Nov 27
Maresi Brown	Nov 28
Jen Clark	Nov 29
Edwin Hotaling	Dec 4
Jessica Moore	Dec 4
Michelle Taylor	Dec 7
Donna Vollmer	Dec 9
Steven Geis	Dec 10
Ed Lally	Dec 12

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

Rev. Franks will begin a three-month sabbatical on December 1, 2025, returning to us on March 1, 2026. *Make an appointment at www.allendaleumc.org/david if you'd like a visit before he is away.*

LICENSED THERAPISTS AND COUNSELORS:

available at Allendale's Counseling Center
Visit www.allendaleumc.org/counseling

PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 115 in-person, 459 online

Live stream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunities:

Sun Dec 14 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

AN UPDATE ON OUR 2026 PLEDGES:

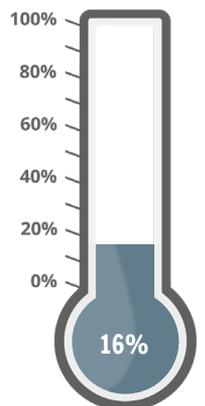
Allendale exists because people like you chose to believe in a church that leads with courage and welcome. Many of us arrived here because we were looking for a community that didn't hesitate to take a stand or welcome those on the margins. What we often discover is that Allendale's boldness is possible only because its people—**you**—show up, give, encourage, question, serve, and keep hoping alongside one another.

As of November 22, we've received 10 pledge cards representing 16 people, totaling \$51,208 toward our \$325,000 goal for the 2026 General Operating Budget. Pledges make up about two-thirds of the support that keeps Allendale going. The rest comes from unpledged giving and from the community groups who partner with us and share space on our campus. Your commitment directly sustains our staff, our gatherings, our justice work, and the daily ministries that make this place feel like home.

We ended the year in 2024 with a total of 73 pledges representing more than 110 people. That level of shared investment helped Allendale to grow, to speak up, to welcome widely, and to stand with those who have been pushed to the margins. Now we're asking you to help shape the year ahead. If Allendale has supported you, challenged you, or given you space to heal, we invite you to make a pledge using the enclosed card or at www.allendaleumc.org/pledge. Thank you for sustaining this work and for being part of what makes Allendale who it is today.

\$51,208 of our **\$325,000**

goal has been pledged to 2026 Operating Budget. As of November 22, we've received 10 pledges representing 16 people. Last year, we received a total of 73 pledges.



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
Stand By You | Rachel Platten |

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver
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CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE Congregation
We Are The Church | Richard Avery, Donald March |

SONG Allendale Band
People Have the Power | Patti Smith |

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER Julie Johnson

SONG Allendale Band
Humble People. Humble Christ | Common Hymnal |

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rev. Andy Oliver

OFFERING Congregation
In Nineteen Hundred Twenty-Five | Carolyn Winfrey Gillette |
give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Julie Johnson

SONG Allendale Band
Sometimes People are Good | Fred Rogers |

SCRIPTURE READING Julie Johnson
Luke 13:20-21

SERMON Melissa Nicholas

SONG Allendale Band
Beautiful Things | Gungor |

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Congregation

BENEDICTION Julie Johnson

POSTLUDE Allendale Band
Stand By You | Rachel Platten |



We believe in a Gospel of rescue from oppression and transfer of wealth. Christ is at our head because he leaned into humanity despite being divine. Those who cling to power cannot lead well. Righteousness will win over greed. We can love our people and despise systems of domination. We can love our people and hold leaders accountable. These all are the same. The Divine shifts conditions of power like the river flows downstream. To be condemned is to be elevated. History will remember the holy innocents who are hated for speaking truth. You can mock me, but the God in me will not be mocked.

*Liturgy from Enfleshed
(portions adapted by Allendale)*

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor | andy@allendaleumc.org

Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support | david@allendaleumc.org

Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | cameron@allendaleumc.org

Bruce Bordeaux, Director of Operations | bruce@allendaleumc.org

Diana Ong, Church Administrator | diana@allendaleumc.org

Tru Mizzell, Director of Music Development | tru@allendaleumc.org

Dylan Dames, Music and Organizing Associate | 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 Nov 23

9 AM Adult Sunday School Class (Hybrid)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:30 PM Youth Group

Mon Nov 24

9 AM Tai Chi (Community Center)

Tue Nov 25

2 PM Pilates (Bill W/Nursery)

Wed Nov 26

6 PM Gentle Yoga (Bill W/Nursery)
6 PM Evening Tai Chi (Community Center)

Thu Nov 27

Fri Nov 28

Sat Nov 29

Sun Nov 30

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)
9 AM Adult Sunday School Class (Hybrid)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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 - 11/30 at 9 AM
This group meets every other Sunday

"For Such a Time As This - An Emergency Devotional" by Amy-Jill Levine

In-Person Adult Sunday School Class- Sun at 9 AM

Virtual Class via Zoom - Mon at 6 PM

Join via Zoom: allendaleumc.org/mondayclass

Young Adult Discord - Online Group

Join at www.allendaleumc.org/youngadults

Stand For Democracy -each Mon at 4 PM
NW corner of 22nd Ave N and 34th St N

Social Justice Team - 12/16 at 6 PM

United Women in Faith - 1st Mon at 6:30 PM

United Methodist Men/Non-Binary - 3rd Thu at 6 PM

Wednesday Night Dinner & Classes are on break for the remainder of the year. Meals and classes will continue in January 2026.