



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 3, 2026

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: Tue-Thu 9-4, Closed Mon & Fri. 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

- Tue May 5 6 PM Staff Parish & 7 PM Trustees (Hybrid Room)
- Wed May 6 Wednesday Night Dinners (Community Center) 5 PM (*Every Wednesday*)
- Thu May 7 6 PM Finance & 7 PM Church Council (Hybrid Room)
- Thu May 21 Anti-Death Penalty Vigil (49th St N & Ulmerton Rd) 5 PM
- Fri May 22 Drag Bingo at Allendale for TransNetwork (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Fri May 29 Gay Men's Chorus of Tampa Bay Concert (Sanctuary) 8 PM
- Sun May 31 5th Sunday Drag-led Worship at Allendale (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Sat Jun 13 Play Proud Kids Day: Book Launch Celebration w/ Tombolo (CC) 10 AM for Rob Sanders' new children's book, *Play Proud: Fiercely Fabulous Queer Athletes*
- Sat Jun 27 Allendale is Marching in the St Pete Pride Parade!
- July 6-11 Summer Camp at Warren Willis Camp for 4th - 12th Grade Students
- July 20-24 Vacation Bible School at Allendale - 9 AM-12 PM

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

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

REV. RUSS LEHMAN (he/him/his) is a retired United Methodist minister, splitting his time between the Peninsula-Delaware Conference and a Navy chaplaincy, with a brief stint in Idaho. Russ and his wife, Lois, have visited every state (with the possible exception of Nebraska), share four sons, and live with three Springer Spaniels. Russ' unique characteristic may be that he has served in the Marine Corp, Air Force, and Navy at various times.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

piano/vocals - Judy Haines-Hricik
Contact tru@allendaleumc.org to join our band or choir.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRIEF SUPPORT AT ALLENDALE:

Grief does not follow a calendar. Even in seasons centered on hope and new life, many of us still carry the weight of loss. Whether your grief is recent or tied to a memory that resurfaces this time of year, you are not alone. Allendale offers an open grief support gathering at 9 AM every other Sunday, facilitated by Rev. David Franks. This is a welcoming space to be with others who understand loss, share if you wish, or sit quietly among people who care. All are welcome. The next meetings are May 3 and May 17.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS:

Join us on Wednesday evenings in May at 5 PM for a meal in the Community Center, followed by classes at 6 PM. Rev. Lee Tredwell, PhD is leading "Journey to Renaissance" in the Hybrid Room. Dinners will go on break in June and July returning on Wed Aug 5.

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

In Loving Memory:

Sugar-pi Wiedeburg 1930-2026

BIRTHDAYS:

Henry Brown May 12

Jeff Ishman May 24

Chris Marks May 28

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: 101 in-person, 759 online

Live stream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunities:

Sun May 10 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.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS: we are seeking office volunteers to help count money on Tuesday mornings. *If you are interested in helping, contact the church office: 727-527-6694 or office@allendaleumc.org.*

WITNESS

VOTING RIGHTS ACT UNDER ATTACK:

This week the Supreme Court weakened one of the central protections of the Voting Rights Act. The Court struck down a congressional map that included a majority-Black district, saying race had been considered too heavily, even though the Voting Rights Act was created to prevent racial discrimination from being hidden inside supposedly neutral maps, rules, and procedures. The result is that Black voters and other voters of color may have a harder time challenging maps that dilute their political power.

We reject the cruelty of telling minority voters they are entitled to “nothing less and nothing more” than whatever opportunity remains after the state draws its lines, protects incumbents, and pursues partisan advantage. We reject the false neutrality that blesses systems built through inequality and then condemns the tools used to repair them.

We pray that God be with every community whose vote has been cracked, packed, weakened, or ignored. We hold in our prayers those who stood in line, crossed bridges, faced dogs, fire hoses, batons, jail cells, poll taxes, literacy tests, intimidation, and violence so that future generations could participate fully in the political life of this country

May we refuse every theology, ideology, and legal fiction that calls exclusion equality. May we stand with those most harmed by this decision until every person has a meaningful voice, every community has fair representation, and every vote carries its full weight.

Make us faithful in the long struggle. Make us stubborn in love, disciplined in truth, and dangerous to every system that depends on people giving up. Keep us marching, organizing, teaching, resisting, and building the democracy our neighbors deserve Amen.

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
A Beautiful Noise | Alicia Keys & Brandi Carlile |

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver
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SONG Allendale Band
The Journey Isn't Over | Mark A. Miller |

CALL TO WORSHIP & AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Rev. Russ Lehman
I Won't Back Down | Tom Petty |

CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE Lynne Hensley & Congregation

SONG Allendale Band
I Won't Back Down | Tom Petty |

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rev. Andy Oliver

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE, CONFESSION, & LIBERATION Rev. David Franks
The Lord's Prayer | Mark A. Miller |

OFFERING Congregation
*give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give
Let Love Shine A Light & This Little Light of Mine*
| Katrina and The Waves, Black Traditional |

POEM Kirsten Anderson
My Grandmother Washes Her Feet in the Sink of the Bathroom at Sears
| Mohja Kahf |

SONG Allendale Band
Christ Make Us Fearless | Andy Oliver |

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & SCRIPTURE READING Rev. Russ Lehman
Acts 7:54-60 and John 14:1-7

SERMON Rev. Andy Oliver

COMMUNION Congregation
At The Table There's A Place For You | Cameron Helwege |

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Congregation

BENEDICTION Rev. Russ Lehman

POSTLUDE Allendale Band



Photo by Ayla Meinberg on Unsplash

INSPIRED BY ACTS 7:54-60 AND JOHN 14:1-7

Fire can warm, guide, purify, and destroy. That image feels especially urgent in a week when voting rights protections are again being weakened by the Supreme Court. There is a kind of fire that consumes justice and calls it order. But there is also a holy fire that keeps burning in people who refuse to surrender their neighbors to silence, exclusion, or fear. Stephen's story in Acts asks us what kind of flame we will carry: the fire of domination, or the fire of witness. Jesus' promise in John is not escape from the world's trouble, but a way through it — a courage rooted in love, a truth that keeps burning, and a community brave enough to stand where harm is being done and say: this is not the way of life.

Liturgy by Allendale United Methodist Church

Rev. Andy Oliver | Pastor
andy@allendaleumc.org

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

Cameron Helwege
Creative Director
cameron@allendaleumc.org

Diana Ong
Church Administrator
diana@allendaleumc.org

Dylan Dames
Music and Organizing Associate
dylan@allendaleumc.org

Bill Lee
Organist

**Michaela George, Erin Giblin,
Courtney Ross**
Nursery Attendants

Lois & Russ Lehman
Clergy in Residence

Rev. A Leon Tredwell, PhD
Pastor of Theological and
Community Engagement
drlee@allendaleumc.org

Bruce Bordeaux
Director of Operations
bruce@allendaleumc.org

Tru Mizzell
Director of Music Development
tru@allendaleumc.org

Campbell Horn & Dylan Dames
Youth Directors
youth@allendaleumc.org

Maddie Johnson
Sign Language Interpreter

Dr. Kate Pravera
Theologian in Residence

All of Us in the Congregation
Ministers of the Gospel

THIS WEEK

Sun May 3

9 AM Adult Sunday Morning Book Study (Hybrid)
9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:30 PM Youth Group (Wesley & CC)

Mon May 4

9 AM Tai Chi (Community Center)

Tue May 5

11 AM Metro Men's Group (Wesley)
2 PM Pilates (Bill W/Nursery)

Wed May 6

5 PM Dinner at Allendale (Community Center)
6 PM Journey Class (Hybrid Room)
6 PM Tai Chi (Sanctuary)

Thu May 7

9 AM Tai Chi (Community Center)

Fri May 8

11 AM Metro Men's Group (Wesley)

Sat May 9

Sun May 10

9 AM Adult Sunday Morning Book Study (Hybrid)
10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Recovery and Support Groups meet often at Allendale and are listed on an online calendar: www.allendaleumc.org/recovery.

CLASSES & COMMUNITY

Grief Support Group - 5/3 & 5/17 at 9 AM
This group meets every other Sunday

"How We Learn to Be Brave" by Bishop Mariann Budde
In-Person Book Study- Sun at 9 AM
www.allendaleumc.org/brave

"Journey to Renaissance" led by Rev. Dr. Lee Tredwell
In-Person Class- Wed at 6 PM
www.allendaleumc.org/journey

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

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

Weekly Immigration Vigil w/ FLIC - Sun at 5 PM
at the Pinellas County Courthouse in Clearwater

DINNER MENU

Dinner starts at 5 PM in the Community Center. \$10 or whatever you can afford. Vegetarian or Vegan options are always available.

Wed May 6

Chicken & Yellow Rice, Black Beans, Spanish Salad, Cuban Bread, Dessert

Wednesday Night Dinners and Activities will go on Summer break during June & July and will start back up on August 5.