

ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 11, 2022

3803 Haines Road North
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

(727) 527-6694
office@allendaleumc.org

www.allendaleumc.org

WELCOME

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 AM to 3 PM

We are honored that you chose to worship with us today! To learn more about the life of the church, if you have a special need, or you wish to visit with the pastor, please contact Beth in the office at 727.527.6694, office@allendaleumc.org.

Gender Pronouns: Asking and correctly using someone's correct 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 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.

Masks are required while on campus at Allendale to protect the most vulnerable.

Zoom links for Allendale's virtual events can be found at www.allendaleumc.org/online.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fri Dec 16 Homeless Persons' Memorial Service (100 Mirror Lake Dr) 4 PM
More information at www.celebrateoutreach.org.
- Sat Dec 17 Brunch With Santa (Community Center) 10 AM
Get tickets at www.allendaleumc.org/santa. \$5 each or pay what you can.
- Sun Dec 18 Soul Food Xmas Lunch & Cookie Exchange (Community Center) 11:30 AM
www.allendaleumc.org/soul. Lunch: \$15 adult, \$5 child, or pay what you can.
- Wed Dec 21 Longest Night Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Fri Dec 23 Impromptu Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Sat Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Sun Dec 25 Christmas Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Sun Jan 1 New Years Day Epiphany Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Fri Jan 6 St. Creaturesburg Open Mic Night (Sanctuary) 8:30 PM

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

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

NICK CAREY (he/him/his) Nick and his wife Aileen moved to St. Petersburg in 2017 and Allendale became their church home in 2018 as a space that connects their faith with a belief in justice. Nick serves as a Community Organizer in Pinellas County with Faith in Florida, working with faith leaders and impacted people to guarantee housing, safety and access to democracy. Nick enjoys disc golf and loving his two dogs, Wilbur and Rylie.

TODAY'S WORSHIP BAND:

piano/vocals - Judy Haines-Hricik
guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames
organist - Bill Lee
drums - Brandon Wise
Allendale Christmas Choir

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

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:

Sun Jan 8 at 10:30 AM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KEITH GLASSCOCK CELEBRATION OF LIFE:

Prayers for Jonna and all of Keith Glasscock's family on his passing last Sunday. A service for Keith will be held at Allendale on Sun Dec 18 at 1 PM. There will be a meal beforehand. Meal tickets: www.allendaleumc.org/soul

IMPROMPTU CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:

Join us on Christmas Eve eve, Fri, Dec 23 at 6 PM. Children participate in telling the Christmas story dressed up in whatever costume they would like! Borrow one of our animal or nativity costumes or bring your own. The Christmas story is meant for everyone! It will be chaotic, messy, and beautiful, just like when Jesus was born.

TREE LOT TAKE DOWN:

Today after church, we are packing up the tree lot. This season, we raised about \$30,000 with sales from the Tree Lot. Thank you to all who volunteered or stopped by!

MEAL TRAIN FOR LORIN AND DONNA:

The Allendale community is showing love to the Baxlas while they face health challenges. *Sign-up and learn more at: www.allendaleumc.org/baxla.*

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

Debbie Duty: cousin's open heart surgery
Tom Simpson: recovering from fractured femur
Donna Baxla: lung cancer treatments
Dan Leeper: cancer treatments
Bobbie Windle: cancer treatments
Jonna Hunt: loss of husband, Keith Glasscock
Ruth Spangler: recovering from a minor stroke

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

Philip Dinkins	Dec 15
Ed Lally	Dec 15
Jim Light	Dec 17
Ruth Spangler	Dec 19
Greg Davidson	Dec 21
Chris Reich	Dec 22
Miguel Iturralde	Dec 25
Gunnar Foster	Dec 29
Courtney Ross	Dec 29
Laura Hutton	Dec 30

Birthday missing? Please contact the office

CARE AND SUPPORT:

Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support
Office hours Tue 11-2 | Thu 4-7
make an appointment by calling the church
office at 727-527-6694

LICENSED THERAPISTS AND COUNSELORS:

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

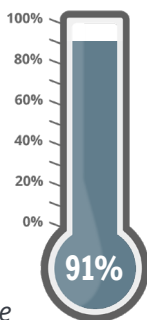
PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 87 in-person, 162 online
Livestream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

GIFTS

Give online: www.allendaleumc.org/give
Text-to-give: Text amount to 727-312-0808
Amazon Smile: Allendale United Methodist

\$273,934 of our
\$300,000 goal
has been pledged
as of Fri Dec 9.



Make your pledge at:
www.allendaleumc.org/pledge

WITNESS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR A HARD CHOICE:

First, you must take a deep breath.
Let oxygen dance through your lungs.
Exhale it slowly.
Allow the hurt, the shame,
the anger to rise up in you.
Let your mind run wild,
like a million loose horses.
Let the narratives unfold, unroll,
a river of choppy water.
Ask yourself how you got here.
Look down at your feet.
Roll your shoulders back.
Remember who you are.
Take another deep breath.

Then, walk it back to the beginning.

Instead of looking at your feet, look at hers.

Imagine where she stands.
Imagine what he needs.

Dry the river of false stories in your mind.

Turn rushing water into a dry creek bed,
certainly not clean enough to drink.

Call the horses.
Bring them home.

Watch as they shake off the dust of the day.

Name what you're feeling.

Inhale again.

Now you are ready
to choose a better way.

A Poetry Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed (she/her)
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
You can find her daily poems on
Instagram and Facebook:

@writingthegood | writingthegood.com

Download our Advent devotional book at
www.allendaleumc.org/advent

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

We can choose a better way

Let us know you are here by going to www.allendaleumc.org/here

PRELUDE Allendale Choir

Prepare The Way |Barrett|

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver

SONG Allendale Band

From Generation to Generation |Burns|

CALL TO WORSHIP & AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Nick Carey

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES Congregation

The Candle of Joy |Gillette|

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF FORGIVENESS Nick Carey

TIME WITH CHILDREN & PASSING OF THE PEACE..... Rev. Andy Oliver

OFFERING Allendale Choir

Bring Us Hope |Schram|

give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. David Franks

The Lord's Prayer |Miller|

POEM Theresa Frost

Instructions For a hard Choice |by Rev. Sarah Speed|sanctifiedart.org|

SONG Allendale Band

From Generation to Generation Reprise |Burns|

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & SCRIPTURE Nick Carey

Isaiah 35:1-10, Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON Rev. Andy Oliver

SONG Allendale Band

A Better Way |Strikland|

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Congregation

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Theresa Frost

BENEDICTION Nick Carey

POSTLUDE Allendale Choir

Christmas Fanfare (Hark! The Herald Angels Sing) |Martin|



by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

ISAIAH 35:1-10

A kaleidoscope doesn't expose your eye to anything that isn't there. It takes what is in view, and with light and mirrors, creates a new, dynamic, luminous image.



by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Don't be afraid of the social stigma... Don't be afraid to experience a love greater than you have ever known. Don't be afraid to make the courageous choice...

"From Generation to Generation"
 advent theme, liturgy, and artwork
 © A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor | andy@allendaleumc.org
 Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support | david@allendaleumc.org
 Tru Mizzell, Music Development | tru@allendaleumc.org
 Theresa Frost, Children/Youth | theresa@allendaleumc.org
 Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | cameron@allendaleumc.org
 Beth Jones, Church Administrator | beth@allendaleumc.org
 Aaron Bennett, Maintenance | aaron@allendaleumc.org
 Bill Lee | Organist
 Maria Davidson | Nursery Coordinator
 Madison Redington, Hannah Newton, Erin Giblin,
 Courtney Ross | Nursery Attendants
 Dr. Kate Pravera | Theologian in Residence
 All in the Congregation | Ministers of the Gospel

THIS WEEK

For a listing of virtual meetings, go to:
www.allendaleumc.org/online.

Sun Dec 11

9 AM Community Circle of Caregivers (Wesley)
 10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 11:30 AM Take Down Tree Lot (W Parking Lot)
 5 PM AA Crystal Meth Anon (Tubman)
 5:30 PM Youth Group (Wesley, Kitchen, Youth)

Mon Dec 12

7:30 PM AA Common Solutions (Bill W.)
 8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin & Tubman)

Tue Dec 13

Wed Dec 14

6 PM Scripture Class (Zoom)
 8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin)

Thu Dec 15

9 AM Chit Chat (Zoom)
 7 PM AA Home Group (Bill W.)

Fri Dec 16

4 PM Homeless Memorial (100 Mirror Lake Dr)
 7:30 PM AA Common Solutions (Bill W.)
 8 PM AA Go After Your Sobriety (Rustin)

Sat Dec 17

9:30 AM AA Women's Reflection (Bill W.)
 10 AM Brunch With Santa (Community Center)
 3 PM Christmas Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sun Dec 18

9 AM Community Circle of Caregivers (Wesley)
 10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 5 PM AA Crystal Meth Anon (Tubman)
 5:30 PM Youth Group (Wesley, Kitchen, Youth)

Subscribe to the Allendale Calendar:
www.allendaleumc.org/calendar.