

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2022

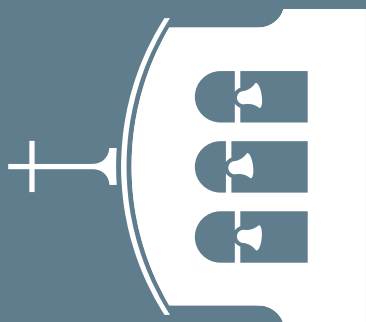
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ALLENDALE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## 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](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sat Dec 24 Christmas Eve Carols & Candlelight Service (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Sat Dec 24 St. Teresa Midnight Catholic Mass (Chapel) 10:30 PM
- Sun Dec 25 Christmas Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Sat Dec 31 Judy Haines playing at FUSION Resort's New Years Eve Party 9 PM  
*Get tickets before they sell out: [www.allendaleumc.org/goodbye2022](http://www.allendaleumc.org/goodbye2022)*
- 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
- Sun Jan 8 Building Community at Allendale (Wesley) 9 AM
- Sun Jan 8 New Member Sunday (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM  
*Sign-up at [allendaleumc.org/join](http://allendaleumc.org/join)*

*Get more information about our upcoming events by visiting: [www.allendaleumc.org/events](http://www.allendaleumc.org/events)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CHRISTMAS MORNING WORSHIP:**

Sun, Dec 25 at 10:30 AM we gather for worship on Christmas morning. Come in your pajamas if you want. Children are invited to bring a favorite toy to show and tell. We will have a hot cocoa station!

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY AT ALLENDALE:**

Allendale's new Community Building Team is working to find new ways to promote connecting with others at Allendale. Our next gathering is Sun Jan 8 at 9 AM in the Wesley room. All are welcome! Come with ideas!

### **ALLENDALE 101 WORKSHOP:**

Explore Allendale United Methodist Church through study and lively discussion of who we are and what sustains us. Learn ways to become more involved and connect with others. This course is open to all and meets Jan 11, 18, 25, and Feb 1, from 6 - 7:30 PM

*Sign up for the course at:  
[www.allendaleumc.org/101](http://www.allendaleumc.org/101)*

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS!:**

Pastor Andy, Rev. David, Beth, Theresa, Tru, Cameron, Aaron, and the entire Allendale United Methodist Church staff would like to wish you a Merry Christmas!

### **WE NEED BUS DRIVERS/COORDINATORS:**

With more people coming back to church, and many relying on others for rides, we are looking for someone to help us coordinate transportation to get people to and from church on Sundays using our church bus. If you are interested in either driving the bus occasionally on Sunday mornings or coordinating pick-ups and drop-offs, *reach out to the church office:*  
[office@allendaleumc.org](mailto:office@allendaleumc.org)

### **COOKING WITH FRIENDS:**

Wendy Wesley is a registered and licensed dietitian/nutritionist who works to improve the health of the community. Wendy will be holding hands-on cooking classes at Allendale every Tuesday night in January and February. Classes are \$39 each or choose multiple classes for a discount. We eat what we cook!  
*Sign up at: [www.allendaleumc.org/cooking](http://www.allendaleumc.org/cooking)*

*Jan 3 - Winter White Bean and Arugula Bisque*

*Jan 10 - Jumbo Crab and Shrimp Cakes*

*Jan 17 - Fresh Thai Noodle Bowls*

*Jan 24 - Greek Salad and Homemade Vinaigrette*

*Jan 31 - Black Bean Tacos with Pico de Gallo*

*Feb 7 - Cast Iron Cooking and Honey-Seared Brussels Sprouts*

*Feb 14 - Chocolate Hummus and Strawberries with Edible Flowers*

*Feb 21 - Black Bean Cakes with Green Goddess Tahini*

*Feb 28 - Mediterranean Dips and Spreads (Hummus, labneh, tabbouleh)*

# 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:

Miguel Iturralde	Dec 25
Gunnar Foster	Dec 29
Courtney Ross	Dec 29
Laura Hutton	Dec 30
Jacqueline Reyes	Jan 1
Kain Arenz	Jan 2
Justin Miller	Jan 10
Lynn Fruit	Jan 12

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

## PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 79 in-person, 227 online  
*Livestream: [www.allendaleumc.org/online](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online)*

## GIFTS

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



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

### WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:  
**Sun Jan 8 at 10:30 AM**  
*Sign-up at: [www.allendaleumc.org/join](http://www.allendaleumc.org/join)*

## WITNESS

### EVERY YEAR:

My heart and I have an agreement.  
Every year we show up here—  
here in the sanctuary,  
here with the candles and the tall ceilings,  
here with the creaky church pews  
and the songs of silent nights.

My heart and I have an agreement.  
Every year we show up here—  
at the end of the year,  
after another 12 months  
of humanity, of me  
trying to  
keep it all together,  
trying to  
keep my head above water,  
trying to  
keep up appearances.

Every year we show up here.  
We drop it all.  
We leave it at the door.  
We come into this space  
and I could swear it feels different.

Maybe it's God.  
Maybe it's hope.  
Maybe it's love.  
But whatever it is,  
I need it  
every year,  
so we show up here.  
Tell us again the story of tonight.

My heart needs it..

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

*@writingthegood | [writingthegood.com](http://writingthegood.com)*

# CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT

## We tell this story

Let us know you are here by going to [www.allendaleumc.org/here](http://www.allendaleumc.org/here)

PRELUDE .....	Allendale Band
WELCOME .....	Rev. Andy Oliver
CALL TO WORSHIP .....	Sheila Stewart
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES .....	Congregation
<i>The Candle of Hope</i>  Gillette	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>  Wade	
POEM .....	Theresa Frost
<i>Every Year</i>  by Rev. Sarah Speed sanctifiedart.org	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>  Sears, Willis	
THE FIRST LESSON .....	Philip Dinkins
<i>Isaiah 11:1-10</i>	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>  Baker	
THE SECOND LESSON .....	Amy Bordeaux
<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>	
OFFERTORY CAROL .....	Congregation
<i>O Holy Night</i>  Cappeau, Adam, Dwight  <i>give online at <a href="http://www.allendaleumc.org/give">www.allendaleumc.org/give</a></i>	
THE THIRD LESSON .....	Andrew Holland
<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>  9th Century Latin	
THE FORTH LESSON .....	LaDonna Hill
<i>Luke 1:39-58</i>	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>Canticle of the Turning</i>  Daigle, Cooney, Donohoo	
THE FIFTH LESSON .....	Fr. Victor Ray
<i>Luke 2:1-7</i>	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>  Brooks, Redner	
THE SIXTH LESSON .....	Bruce Bordeaux
<i>Luke 2:8-20</i>	
CAROL .....	Allendale Band
<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>  Trad. French Carol	
HOMILY .....	Rev. Andy Oliver
CANDLE LIGHTING .....	Congregation
<i>Silent Night</i>  Mohr, Gruber	
BENEDICTION .....	Rev. Andy Oliver



by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

### LUKE 2:1-20

In this image, as if looking past a curtain, we peer into this threshold moment when excruciating pain gives way to ecstatic joy as Mary draws her baby to her chest and he takes his first breath. As Mary holds her baby, additional hands reach in to support them both. Maybe these are the hands of strangers, of Joseph, or of a midwife who was summoned. Perhaps they are simply the hands of angels.

Each year, we tell this story because it is raw with joy, pain, and the complexities of being human. No matter how your story is unfolding, may you find that this sacred story holds space for you. For this is how God shows up—in a child who cries, in hands that hold, in human flesh, in life and in death.

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

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Aaron Bennett, Maintenance | [aaron@allendaleumc.org](mailto: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](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online).

### Sat Dec 24

9:30 AM AA Women's Reflection (Bill W.)

6 PM Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

### Sun Dec 25

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

5 PM AA Crystal Meth Anon (Tubman)

### Mon Dec 26

7:30 PM AA Common Solutions (Bill W.)

8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin & Tubman)

### Tue Dec 27

### Wed Dec 28

6 PM Scripture Class (Zoom)

8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin)

### Thu Dec 29

9 AM Chit Chat (Zoom)

7 PM AA Home Group (Bill W.)

### Fri Dec 30

7:30 PM AA Common Solutions (Bill W.)

8 PM AA Go After Your Sobriety (Rustin)

### Sat Dec 31

9:30 AM AA Women's Reflection (Bill W.)

6 PM Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

Subscribe to the Allendale Calendar:  
[www.allendaleumc.org/calendar](http://www.allendaleumc.org/calendar).