



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

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 2 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 the office at 727.527.6694 or 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 recommended 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

- Sep 8-10 United Women in Faith Spiritual Enrichment Retreat
- Fri Sep 15 Meet-up at FUSION Resort to see Judy Haines (290 107th Ave) 6 PM
- Sun Oct 8 New Member Sunday (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
Sign-up at www.allendaleumc.org/join
- Sun Oct 15 Banned Book Club For Ferocious Floridians
- Sat Oct 28 Trunk-Or-Treat (Parking Lot) 10 AM
- Sun Oct 29 5th Sunday Drag Gospel Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM

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

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

AMY BORDEAUX (she/her/hers) Amy and her husband, Bruce, have 2 grown sons. She works at Applebee's as a Restaurant Systems Support Manager for a franchise with 112 restaurants. Amy enjoys Ice cream dates with friends, root beer floats, and boxing for exercise. She has a heart for young adults, especially those with non-affirming families. If you need a big mom hug or an ice cream date, just ask.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

piano - Tru Mizzell
guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames
bass - Matthew Blaine

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CO-WORKING SPACE AT ALLENDALE:

Need a workspace? The Allendale Equity & Justice Center's Co-Working Space is still available! You can lease a fixed desk in the space for \$300/month or lease a shared desk for \$125/month or \$75 for a week. *Contact the office to reserve a spot: coworking@allendaleequityjustice.org.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES:

Join us on Wednesdays! Dinner starts at 5 PM followed by classes. Amy Mormino is leading an Introduction to World Religions Class at 6 PM and Tru Mizzell is teaching an Introduction to Reading Music at 7 PM. *Visit www.allendaleumc.org/wednesdays for detailed information about our Wednesday night classes offered this semester.*

HURRICANE IDALIA RESPONSE:

The Florida Conference is working with UMCOR on the disaster response of Hurricane Idalia. The Disaster Response Call Center is open at **855-228-3862**. We welcome calls for individual unmet needs, including home cleanout and referrals for other needs. Offers for volunteers and donations can also be made into the call center. Our staff and volunteers are equipped to take your call.

NOMINATIONS:

Allendale depends on different types of people to use their gifts to serve to make us a better community. Consider self-nominating to serve on a leadership team for 2024. We have openings on our building/maintenance, personnel, finance, and program/administration teams. *Visit www.allendaleumc.org/nominations to fill out your self-nomination.*

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

Donna Baxla: lung cancer treatments

Dan Leeper: cancer treatments

Karen Welling: health issues

Eunice Fisher: health issues

Joe Jacoby: cancer treatments

BIRTHDAYS:

Gina Gibbs Sep 11

Kirsten Anderson Sep 11

Cameron Helwege Sep 20

Dan Leeper Sep 24

Edith Wagner Sep 25

Lewis Wilgus Sep 28

Renee Burk Sep 29

Letty Nazario-Braddock Sep 29

Robin Eastwood Sep 30

Birthdays 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 for care 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: 94 in-person, 149 online

Livestream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:

Sun Oct 8 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

WITNESS

INTRODUCTION TO "EZEKIEL"

By Robert W. Jenson Ezekiel

Brazos Theological Commentary

The book of the priest and prophet Ezekiel is an astonishment. Its prophecies are either appalling or inordinately auspicious, its visions are stunning apocalyptic theater, its language is absolute, its theology leads into frightening depths, its author is an enigma.

Moreover, the book somehow contrives at once to exercise a powerful grasp on our common imagination and to be the most esoteric book in the Old Testament.

The old rabbis decreed that of all books of scripture, the book of Ezekiel (along with the Song of Songs) "most pollutes the hands;" that is, it teaches mysteries so deep that probing them is an exposure to deity that may unfit one for ordinary human converse.

As for Ezekiel himself, he is perhaps the most intellectual of the prophets, a considerable poet, and a prose artist adept at manipulating established oral and literary genres to novel effect. Yet the behaviors God mandates for him—the circumstances of his prophesying and the signs he is commanded to perform—are bizarre and humbling in the extreme.

The medieval Jewish philosopher Maimonides denied that some commands that Ezekiel says were laid on him could actually have been given by God, since "God is too exalted to turn his prophets into a laughingstock."



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Bill Lee

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver

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SONG Allendale Band

Let It Rise |Murphy|

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER Amy Bordeaux

SONG Allendale Band

All Things Bright and Beautiful |Alexander|

TIME WITH CHILDREN Theresa Frost

OFFERING Congregation

Blowing in the Wind |Cooke|

give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Amy Bordeaux

SONG Allendale Band

There Is More (Patmos) |Black Voices Movement|

SCRIPTURE Amy Bordeaux

Ezekiel 33:7-11

SERMON Rev. Andy Oliver

SONG Allendale Band

Bind Us Together |Gillman|

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Congregation

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Theresa Frost

BENEDICTION Amy Bordeaux

POSTLUDE Bill Lee



EZEKIEL 33:7-11

This scripture seems to portray a harsher God which can make us a little uncomfortable.

We don't always know what to do with the God of judgements, commands, statutes, and decrees. Is this God worthy of our praise, or just our fear? But what if we encounter this God from a different social positioning?

As members of a righteous fold being victimized by a wicked few, this less tolerant God can bring us relief and restoration in what feels like a severely disordered universe. These texts, while sometimes problematic, also can point us to the role of the divine as one who restores natural order in the cruelest chaos. May we offer praise for a God of change in a brutal status quo.

Image from Unsplash

Liturgy from Enfleshed (portions adapted by Allendale)

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

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

Clarissa Silveira, Church Administrator | clarissa@allendaleumc.org

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

Theresa Frost, Director of Student Ministries | theresa@allendaleumc.org

Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | cameron@allendaleumc.org

Dylan Dames, Music and Organizing Associate | dylan@allendaleumc.org

Aaron Bennett, Maintenance | aaron@allendaleumc.org

Bill Lee | Organist

Maria Davidson | Nursery Coordinator

Madison Redington, Erin Giblin,

Courtney Ross | Nursery Attendants

Dr. Kate Pravera | Theologian in Residence

All in the Congregation | Ministers of the Gospel

THIS WEEK

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

Sun Sep 10

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

5 PM Crystal Meth Anon (Tubman)

5:30 PM Youth Group (Wesley, Kitchen, Youth)

Mon Sep 11

6 PM Scripture Class (Room 109 & Zoom)

6:30 PM United Women in Faith (Wesley)

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

8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin & Tubman)

Tue Sep 12

Wed Sep 13

5 PM Dinner at Allendale (Community Center)

6 PM Wednesday Night Classes

8 PM AA Go After Sobriety (Rustin)

Thu Sep 14

9 AM Chit Chat (Zoom)

7 PM AA Home Group (Bill W.)

Fri Sep 15

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

8 PM AA Go After Your Sobriety (Rustin)

Sat Sep 16

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

Sun Sep 17

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

5 PM Crystal Meth Anon (Tubman)

5:30 PM Youth Group (Wesley, Kitchen, Youth)

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 Sep 13

Shepherd Pie, Cilantro Lime Rice, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

Wed Sep 20

Pulled Chicken/Pork BBQ, Homemade Mac & Cheese, Vegan/Vegetarian Friendly Options, Salad, Dessert