



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 5, 2025

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-Wed 9-4, Thu 10-4*

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 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.

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

1924-2024 Celebrating 100 years of ministry!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat Jan 11 Allendale Leadership Retreat 10:30 AM - 4 PM

Mon Jan 20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade (1st Ave South) 11 AM

Wed Jan 22 Concert: Bobby Jo Valentine @ Allendale UMC (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM

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

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

LYNN FRUIT (she/her/hers) loves Allendale's commitment to social justice and being a place where everyone belongs. She and Ed have two sons living in Tampa. Lynn retired from a career as a project manager, and now enjoys gardening with native plants, throwing pots, pickleball, and singing with One City Chorus.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

piano - Tru Mizzell

guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames

Join our band or choir: tru@allendaleumc.org

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

The yellow rose on the altar is given to the glory of God by Deborah Eldred in loving memory of Gina Gibbs' dad, Tom, who passed away New Year's Eve, 2024.

A second yellow rose on the altar is given to the glory of God by Maresi Brown in loving memory of her dad, Will, who passed away New Year's Eve, 2024.

The Allendale congregation joins in expressing deepest sympathy to both Maresi and Gina and their families.

COMMUNION PREPARERS:

Pam Green and Priscilla Pridgen

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Joe Ventimiglia, Steve Geis, Amy Mormino, Mark Frederick, Deborah Eldred, Greg Gillis, Debbie Duty, Pam Green.

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:

Sun Jan 12 at 10:30 AM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOBBY JO VALENTINE CONCERT:

We are thrilled to host a concert with Bobby Jo Valentine on Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30 PM. Known for his soulful, spirit-focused lyrics and hopeful melodies, Bobby's music speaks to the gentle spiritual awakenings of an openhearted life. His journey—from strict church lines to a faith focused on love and growth—shines through his inspiring songs and stories. *Get tickets: www.allendaleumc.org/bobby*

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING:

The first meeting of the year for UWF is Monday, January 6 at 6:30 PM in the Hybrid Room. We will discuss and plan out 2025.

YOUTH DONUT FUNDRAISER:

The youth are having a friendly competition to raise money for the youth ministry. They are selling Krispy Kreme donuts for \$16 a dozen. *Pre-Order donuts here: www.allendaleumc.org/donuts*

When you order donuts, you will have the option to select a youth to support. Once you order, and the youth leaders have a chance to process your order, you will then be sent a code to redeem for a dozen donuts.

COLD NIGHT SHELTER:

Did you know Allendale serves as a shelter for our unhoused neighbors during cold nights? Let us know if you're interested in helping and we'll send out more information about what's involved and when we activate our shelter: www.allendaleumc.org/coldnight

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

Dan Leeper: cancer treatments

Karen Welling: health issues

Eunice Fisher: health issues

Cait & Eric Reynolds: wisdom & guidance

BIRTHDAYS:

Justin Miller Jan 10

Lynn Fruit Jan 12

Aiden Daly Jan 15

Nova Redlow Jan 17

Edward Miller Jan 18

Tom Dunn Jan 22

John Stewart Jan 22

Jonna Hunt Jan 23

Bobbie Windle Jan 27

Tara Davidson Jan 29

Cindy Burns Jan 31

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/counseling

PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 98 in-person, 1,248 online

Livestream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

Blue Christmas: 63 in-person, 180 online

Worship 12/22: 91 in-person, 296 online

Children's Pageant: 48 in-person, 136 online

Christmas Eve: 137 in-person, 399 online

Livestream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

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 UPCOMING CONCERT:

We will be welcoming songwriter and poet, Bobby Jo Valentine, to Allendale UMC for a concert in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, January 22, at 6:30 PM. Bobby's music and storytelling is a celebration of love, growth, and spiritual openness. His journey from a rigid faith background to an inclusive, welcoming spirituality mirrors the values we embrace at Allendale: a faith that grows, learns, and opens itself to the beauty of all people. Many of us have experienced similar journeys and will find his music relatable.

He writes poetic, searching songs that connect deeply with people from all walks of life. His stories are sometimes funny, sometimes moving, and always deeply resonant.

Bobby has won Songwriter of the Year at West Coast Songwriter's Association and several other awards. His music has been featured in commercials, feature films, wedding ceremonies, and his greatest honor- Youtube videos with puppies. His songs have been sung by choruses around the country, including the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Tickets are available now at www.allendaleumc.org/bobby

Invite your friends, and let's share in an evening of inspiration, joy, and connection. Don't miss this chance to experience the artistry and heart of Bobby Jo Valentine!



EPIPHANY SUNDAY



THE ROAD ISN'T STRAIGHT



FOR THE BEGINNING

Let us know you are here by going to www.allendaleumc.org/here or by filling out the attendance pad in your row.

PRELUDE Music Video

Echolocation |Bengson|

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver

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.

SONG Congregation

The Road Isn't Straight |Oliver| ..

CALL TO WORSHIP & AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Lynn Fruit

SONG Allendale Band

Home |Philips|

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF FORGIVENESS Terry Fitzgerald

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rev. Andy Oliver

OFFERING Congregation

The Journey |H.E.R.|

give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Terry Fitzgerald

The Lord's Prayer |Miller|

POEM Rose Cervantes

Field Notes |by Rev. Sarah A. Speed|sanctifiedart.org|

SONG Allendale Band

The Road Winds Ever On |Strickland|

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & SCRIPTURE Lynn Fruit

Matthew 2:1-12 | Isaiah 43:16-21

SERMON Rev. Andy Oliver

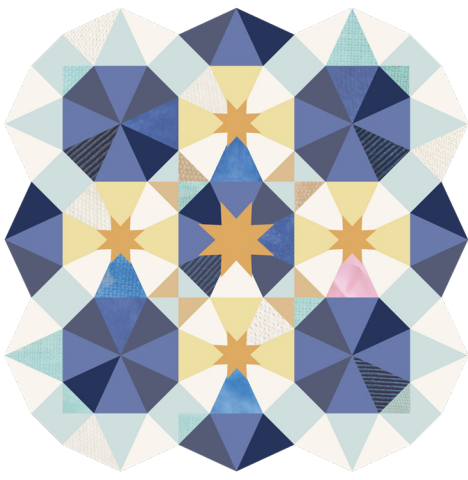
COMMUNION Congregation

Long Way Home |Chapman|

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Rev. Andy Oliver

BENEDICTION Lynn Fruit

POSTLUDE Allendale Band



MATTHEW 2:1-12 | ISAIAH 43:16-21

Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward into the unknown.

Liturgy by A Sanctified Art (Portions adapted by Allendale)

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

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

Diana Ong, Church Administrator | diana@allendaleumc.org

Terry Fitzgerald, Director of Development | terry@allendaleumc.org

Tru Mizzell, Director of Music Development | tru@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

Campbell Horn, Dylan Dames | Youth Leaders

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 Jan 5

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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

Mon Jan 6

6 PM Scripture Class (Zoom)

6:30 PM United Women in Faith (Hybrid)

Tue Jan 7

Wed Jan 8

5 PM Wednesday Night Dinner (CC)

6 PM Wednesday Night Activities (CC)

Thu Jan 9

Fri Jan 10

Sat Jan 11

10:30 AM Leadership Retreat

Sun Jan 12

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)

Recovery and Support Groups meet often at Allendale and are now listed on their own calendar: www.allendaleumc.org/recovery.

ONGOING CLASSES

Grief Support Group- 1/12 at 9 AM
This class meets every other Sunday

Scripture Class on Zoom - Mon at 6 PM
Join via Zoom: www.allendaleumc.org/online

Wednesday Night Dinner & Classes
Dinner at 5 PM, Classes at 6 PM

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 Jan 8

"Marry me" Chicken Tortellini, Herb Rice,
Italian Style Salad, Dessert Dish,
Vegetarian Option