



ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 16, 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sun Feb 16 Ladies Rock Concert (Bayboro Brewing, 2390 5th Ave S) 6 PM - \$20
Sat Feb 22 Allendale Leadership Retreat (Sanctuary) 9:30 AM
Sat Mar 1 Racial Wealth Gap Learning Sim. (Mt. Zion UMC, 2751 Sunset Point Rd)
Wed Mar 5 Pankaj Farewell Meal (CC) 5 PM | Ash Wednesday (Sanctuary) 6 PM
Get more information about our upcoming events by visiting: www.allendaleumc.org/events

WORSHIP NOTES

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

MARESI BROWN (she/her/hers) was born and raised in Connecticut, and has made her way southward via attending Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia, teaching in Alabama, eventually making a home in Florida in 2003. For nearly 20 years she served at a UMC, and now serves as Ministry Services Coordinator for the Center for Youth Ministry Training. Maresi also works as an instructional substitute for Pinellas County Schools. She resides in St. Petersburg with her husband, kids, and 2 adorable dogs. She's an avid knitter, reader and singer.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

piano - Tru Mizzell
guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames
drums - Curtis Roberts

Join our band or choir: tru@allendaleumc.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COOKING CLASS WITH PANKAJ DUTTA:

Join Pankaj Dutta for two hands-on cooking classes: Thursday, Feb 20 from 11 AM – 2 PM demystifying spices, lentils, beans, and rice. And Friday, Feb 28 from 3 – 6 PM – Exploring Curries, chicken, and vegetarian dishes. Classes will be held in the kitchen, with a shared meal afterward. Don't miss this delicious learning experience! Contact the Church Office to RSVP: 727-527-6694.

DOING THEOLOGY AT ALLENDALE:

Join Dr. Kate Pravera and Dylan Dames for an irreverently serious exploration of faith and justice in 2025. Meeting on Wednesday nights after dinner throughout February.

RACIAL WEALTH GAP SIMULATION:

As part of the Black History Month celebration, Mt. Zion, First UMC Clearwater, and First UMC Pinellas Park are putting together a Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation. The simulation helps illustrate the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth. This event is at Mt. Zion UMC, 2751 Sunset Point, Clearwater at 11 AM on March 1. You're Invited!.

SPEECHCRAFT PUBLIC SPEAKING:

Build confidence & improve public speaking. This \$20 course, hosted by Toastmasters, runs from Feb 24–Mar 31, Mon from 5-7 PM at Allendale. *Sign up today:* bit.ly/StPeteSpeechCraft

STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS

In loving memory: Ruth Spangler 1928-2025
Service for Ruth will be Sun Feb 23 at 3 PM
Dan Leeper: cancer treatments

BIRTHDAYS:

Mark Frederick	Feb 18
Debbie Bennett	Feb 19
Robin D'addio	Feb 20
Anthony Lenzo	Feb 22
Erica George	Feb 26
Chicago Ward	Feb 26
Mallory Edghill	Mar 4

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 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: 114 in-person, 328 online
Livestream: www.allendaleumc.org/online

WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:
Sun Mar 9 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*

WITNESS

CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE:

During apartheid in South Africa, Johannesburg's Central Methodist Mission created a candle encircled in barbed wire, inspired by Amnesty International's symbol. They called it the Candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice. Each week, they lit the candle during worship, naming those harassed, imprisoned, or killed for resisting racial injustice. As they read John 1:5—"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"—they rededicated themselves to justice. Their actions led the government to ban their services from radio and TV.

Today, we continue our new ritual of lighting a Candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice at the start of worship, joining 25 congregations across the country in prayer for those suffering under our government's barbed-wire policies—knowing that you cannot have peace and hope without justice.

This Sunday, we light the candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice for migrants—for asylum seekers forced to return to a place of violence or destruction, for children and youth born in this country fearing deportation from the only home they've known, for families afraid to step outside because they know they risk arrest the moment they leave their front door, for those imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay while loved ones desperately search for them., for workers labeled criminals despite paying taxes and doing essential labor for low wages, and for faith leaders striving to make their churches places of true sanctuary from the world's cruelty and injustice.

We light this candle proclaiming that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never overcome the light. May Jesus strengthen us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

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
Blue Collar Praise |Andy Squyres, Isaac Gill, Aaron Strumpel|

WELCOME Rev. Andy Oliver
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SONG Allendale Band
This Little Light of Mine |Black Spiritual|

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER Maresi Brown

SONG Allendale Band
Talkin' 'Bout a Revolution |Tracy Chapman|

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rev. Andy Oliver

OFFERING Congregation
Bind Us Together |Bob Gillman|
give online at www.allendaleumc.org/give

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Maresi Brown

SONG Allendale Band
All The Poor And Powerless |Leslie Jordan, David Leonard|

SCRIPTURE Maresi Brown
Luke 6:17-26

SERMON Rev. Andy Oliver

SONG + DANCE Allendale Band, Mallory Edghill
I'll Rise |Maya Angelou, Ben Harper|

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY Rev. Andy Oliver

BENEDICTION Maresi Brown

POSTLUDE Allendale Band
Blue Collar Praise |Andy Squyres, Isaac Gill, Aaron Strumpel|



LUKE 6:17-26

With the blessings often come warnings. With promises are often predictions of peril. The binary between the wicked and righteous may not always be most helpful, but it can help us remember how these parties are interrelated like predator and prey. The US executive branch has caught onto this use of binaries to express domination in their insistence on two genders. In this way, we can't read righteous and wicked as separate from one another. But if the dead can be resurrected, these positions can surely be transformed. The wicked are not exploitative by nature nor are the righteous doomed to victimhood forever. God in Her mercy intervenes on behalf of the downtrodden.

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

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 Directors

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 Feb 16

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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

Mon Feb 17

6 PM Scripture Class (Zoom)

Tue Feb 18

Wed Feb 19

5 PM Wednesday Night Dinner (CC)

6 PM Theology Class (CC)

Thu Feb 20

Fri Feb 21

Sat Feb 22

9:30 AM Leadership Retreat (Sanctuary)

Sun Feb 23

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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

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 - 2/23 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

*Doing Theology at Allendale - Wed at 6 PM
Classes meet in the Community Center
Led by Dr. Kate Pravera and Dylan Dames.*

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 Feb 19

Chicken & Yellow Rice, Black Beans, Peas, Plantains, Salad/Cuban Bread, Vegetarian Option