



# ALLENDALE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 23, 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](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wed Mar 26 Drag Bingo Fundraiser for Youth (Community Center) 6 PM
- Sat Apr 5 Wonder Walk for Cornerstone with UWF (Crescent Lake) 10 AM
- Mon Apr 7 FAST Nehemiah Action (First Baptist - 1900 Gandy Blvd) 7 PM
- Thu Apr 17 Maundy Thursday Service (Sanctuary) 6 PM
- Fri Apr 18 Good Friday Midday Meditation (Zoom) 12 PM  
*Join the Zoom call at [www.allendaleumc.org/goodfriday](http://www.allendaleumc.org/goodfriday)*
- Sat Apr 19 Easter Egg Hunt (Community Center and Lawn) 10 AM
- Sun Apr 20 Easter Sunrise at Crescent Lake Park (7th St N & 20th Ave N) 6:45 AM
- Sun Apr 27 Drag Queen Led Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 AM
- Get more information about our upcoming events by visiting: [www.allendaleumc.org/events](http://www.allendaleumc.org/events)*

## WORSHIP NOTES

### TODAY'S LITURGIST:

**GREG GILLIS** (he/him/his) and wife Gail retired to Seminole in February 2024, drawn by the area's great bike trails and beaches. For most of Greg's high school teaching career he instructed the daughters and sons of soldiers and Marines in World and US History classes at Ft Campbell High School and Lejeune High School. While at FCHS, he began teaching evening US History classes for Austin Peay State University and still teaches them online. After retiring from the classroom, he came to Florida to teach in a prison, helping men earn GEDs. Greg enjoys bicycling, travelling and DIY projects.

### TODAY'S MUSICIANS:

guitar/vocals - Dylan Dames

piano - Tru Mizzell

drums - Curtis Roberts

vocals - Erica George

organist - Bill Lee

*Join our band or choir: [tru@allendaleumc.org](mailto:tru@allendaleumc.org)*

### TODAY'S THEME: *rest & growth*

The gardener in the vineyard knows the fig tree needs rest, nutrients, and time—and it also needs to produce fruit. Both things are true, which is also true for us. If we are always striving for more growth without taking time to rest, we will burn out. But if we are only ever resting, we won't bear fruit or grow. The fig tree also teaches us that the in between time—of nurture before fruit—can be where transformation begins.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AGING GATHERING:

All those age 65 and older are invited to an initial gathering on Tuesday, March 25 at 3 PM in the Wesley Room. Facilitated by Gina Gibbs, LCSW, this session will introduce an upcoming eight-week group focused on navigating the aging process and sharing life experiences.

### DRAG BINGO FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH:

Our resident drag queens Candy von Sparkle and Patty Ann are excited to share that this month's Drag Queen Bingo on Wed Mar 26 will go toward supporting the youth! Students will help call bingo numbers. \$10 gets you 10 rounds of bingo. Bingo starts at 6 PM following our 5 PM dinner. We play for small prizes.

### FAST NEHEMIAH ACTION:

Join Allendale and local faith communities for the FAST (Faith and Action for Strength Together) Nehemiah Action on Monday, April 7 at 7 PM at First Baptist Church, 1900 Gandy Blvd. in St. Petersburg. Together, we'll advocate for solutions to affordable housing and water quality, demonstrating strong public support for change.

### PAINTING WITH A TWIST:

Join us for "Painting with a Twist," hosted by Bobbie Windle on Wednesday, April 23, from 6–7 PM following our 5 PM community dinner. The cost is \$5 or pay what you can. *Sign up at [www.allendaleumc.org/painting](http://www.allendaleumc.org/painting).*

# STEWARDSHIP

## PRAYERS

### BIRTHDAYS:

Emily Sands	Mar 24
Madelyn Isoma	Mar 27
Hillary Daley	Mar 30
Todd Miller	Apr 1
Tru Mizzell	Apr 1
Lashley Marks	Apr 7
Diane Gibson	Apr 12
Ellen Mowbray	Apr 15
Mia Devillasee	Apr 19

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

## PRESENCE

Previous Sunday: 125 in-person, 393 online  
*Livestream: [www.allendaleumc.org/online](http://www.allendaleumc.org/online)*

### WANT TO JOIN ALLENDALE?

The next opportunity:  
Sun Apr 13 at 10:30 AM  
Sign-up at: [www.allendaleumc.org/join](http://www.allendaleumc.org/join)

### LENT DEVOTIONAL CLASS:

Join Pastor Andy and Lynne Hensley in a class diving deeper into Everything [in] Between. Classes are offered on Zoom on Mondays at 6 PM and again on Wednesdays at 6 PM in person at Allendale.  
*Join via Zoom: [allendaleumc.org/mondayclass](http://allendaleumc.org/mondayclass)  
Devotion Book: [allendaleumc.org/lent25](http://allendaleumc.org/lent25)*

## GIFTS

Give online: [www.allendaleumc.org/give](http://www.allendaleumc.org/give)  
Text-to-give: Text amount to 727-312-0808  
Buy a shirt: [www.allendaleumc.org/shirts](http://www.allendaleumc.org/shirts)



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

## WITNESS

### CANDLE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND JUSTICE:

In a spirit of solidarity, more than 50 Justice-Seeking congregations around the country are lighting a candle of Peace, Hope and Justice. This candle represents Christ's light shining even in the midst of barbed wire policies that wrap tighter each day.

**On this Sunday we light the Candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice for the judicial branch of government as it faces unlawful threats intended to diminish its power to protect every person created in the image of God. For Judge James Boasberg who was stonewalled by the Department of Justice when seeking answers about whether his order had been violated through the use of an obscure wartime law crafted more than 200 years ago. For federal courts who are seeking to curb some of the executive orders to ensure the rule of law is followed. For judges working to hold their ground in the face of administration officials claiming they will carry out their plans despite a judge's ruling. For Chief Justice John Roberts and every justice of the Supreme Court as they discern how to use the power entrusted to them to defend our nation from actions that could unravel much of what we hold to be good and true. And for individuals caught in the center of these confrontations. May every judge wielding a gavel and each person challenging their authority be confronted with the words of Micah who prophesized long ago: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does God require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."**

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.

# THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



everything  
[in] between

rest & growth

Let us know you are here by going to [www.allendaleumc.org/here](http://www.allendaleumc.org/here) or by filling out the attendance pad in your row.

PRELUDE ..... Allendale Band

*Bloom* | Ben Ady, Danny Larsh |

WELCOME ..... Rev. Andy Oliver

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SONG ..... Allendale Band

*Hymn of Promise* | Natalie Allyn Sleeth |

CALL TO WORSHIP & AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ..... Greg Gillis

*Hymn of Promise (Reprise)* | Natalie Allyn Sleeth |

PEACE, HOPE, and JUSTICE & THE LENTEN WREATH ..... Congregation

*The Trees Still Stand* | Oliver |

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF FORGIVENESS ..... Rev. David Franks

*The Lord's Prayer* | Mark Miller |

TIME WITH CHILDREN ..... Rev. Andy Oliver

OFFERING ..... Congregation

*Not In A Hurry* | Will Reagan |  
give online at [www.allendaleumc.org/give](http://www.allendaleumc.org/give)

POEM ..... Rose Cervantes

*Slow Growth* | Rev. Sarah Speed |

SONG ..... Allendale Band

*Beneath the Soil* | Anna Strickland |

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & SCRIPTURE ..... Greg Gillis

*Luke 13:6-9*

SERMON ..... Rev. Andy Oliver

REFLECTION SONG ..... Congregation

*Breathe, Listen, and Notice* | Paul Vasile |

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY ..... Rev. Andy Oliver

BENEDICTION ..... Greg Gillis

POSTLUDE ..... Allendale Band

*Bloom* | Ben Ady, Danny Larsh |



*"Fig Leafing" by Hannah Garrity  
Paper lace with watercolor  
inspired by Luke 13:6-9*

"In this circular image, two figures lean in over the tree; their heads are full of ideas for fruiting, their bodies are full of dead fig leaf patterns. (The two circular shapes with fruit seeds inside of them represent the figures' heads; the branch-like imagery beneath the heads represent their shoulders.) Their ideas and dreams have not born fruit. They converse about how to cultivate growth. Then one pushes back against the other and creates tension, discord. From that tension comes an opening, letting the fig tree have its time and space to thrive."

—from the artist statement for  
"Fig Leafing" by Hannah Garrity

*Liturgy from A Sanctified Art (portions adapted by Allendale)*

Rev. Andy Oliver, Pastor | [andy@allendaleumc.org](mailto:andy@allendaleumc.org)

Rev. David Franks, Minister of Pastoral Support | [david@allendaleumc.org](mailto:david@allendaleumc.org)

Diana Ong, Church Administrator | [diana@allendaleumc.org](mailto:diana@allendaleumc.org)

Terry Fitzgerald, Director of Development | [terry@allendaleumc.org](mailto:terry@allendaleumc.org)

Tru Mizzell, Director of Music Development | [tru@allendaleumc.org](mailto:tru@allendaleumc.org)

Cameron Helwege, Creative Director | [cameron@allendaleumc.org](mailto:cameron@allendaleumc.org)

Dylan Dames, Music and Organizing Associate | [dylan@allendaleumc.org](mailto:dylan@allendaleumc.org)

Aaron Bennett, Maintenance | [aaron@allendaleumc.org](mailto: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 Mar 23

9 AM Grief Support Group (Wesley)

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

### Mon Mar 24

6 PM Scripture Class (Zoom)

### Tue Mar 25

### Wed Mar 26

5 PM Wednesday Night Dinner (CC)

6 PM Drag Bingo (CC)

6 PM Wednesday Night Classes (Hybrid)

### Thu Mar 27

### Fri Mar 28

### Sat Mar 29

### Sun Mar 30

10:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

*Recovery and Support Groups meet often at Allendale and are now listed on their own calendar: [www.allendaleumc.org/recovery](http://www.allendaleumc.org/recovery).*

## ONGOING CLASSES

Grief Support Group- 3/23 & 4/6 at 9 AM  
*This class meets every other Sunday*

Lent Devotional Class -

Led by Pastor Andy and Lynne Hensley

Virtual on Zoom - *Mon at 6 PM*

*Join via Zoom: [allendaleumc.org/mondayclass](http://allendaleumc.org/mondayclass)*

In Person at Allendale - *Wed at 6 PM*

*Devotion book: [allendaleumc.org/lent25](http://allendaleumc.org/lent25)*

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 Mar 26

Lemon Chicken Piccata, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Lemon Pepper Broccoli, Salad, Bread, Dessert, Vegetarian Option