



FIND
HOPE
HERE

SEDGEFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Stay
connected

During this STAY-AT-HOME period, our primary means of communication will be:

EMAIL • TELEPHONE • FACEBOOK LIVE

We are making every effort to stay connected during these difficult days and we need your help. We are asking that **you** check your email and visit our website frequently to stay up-to-date.

Pastor Jim continues his preparations to lead in prayer times and regularly scheduled times to connect with you. Watch for this schedule next week!





Witnesses: *Doubting Thomas*
John 20:19-31
Sunday, March 29, 2020
Rev. Jim Brookshire

I ask God from the wealth of his glory to give you power through his Spirit to be strong in your inner selves, and I pray that Christ will make his home in your hearts through faith. I pray that you may have your roots and foundation in love, so that you, together with all God's people, may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep, is Christ's love.

Ephesians 3:16-18 (GNT)

Something to Think About:

If you grew up in church like I did, someone along the way has said something like this to you: “*You just need to believe!*” And yet the very foundation of the Christian faith—that God came as a human being who died on a cross and was raised from the dead—is (can I say this?) hard to believe. If you’ve ever had doubts...or perhaps you have doubts today...

you’re in good company! At one time or another, every disciple...every apostle...even Jesus’ own mother doubted that Jesus was who he claimed to be. Doubting is not a bad thing. Actually, it’s an important step of faith. Just ask Thomas - “Doubting Thomas”, that is.





Study Guide: Do you now doubt...or have you ever doubted...the story of Jesus and his resurrection? If so, did you share your doubts with anyone else? Why or why not?

When you have questions about God, Jesus or the Bible, do you... Ask someone? Look for the answer on your own? Move on and forget about it?

Notice how Thomas responds to his friends when they tell him they've seen the risen Jesus (John 20:25). Do you think Thomas' request is unreasonable? Why or why not?

Ultimately Thomas sees the risen Jesus for himself (John 20:26-27). How did Jesus respond to Thomas' doubts?

Do you think it's fair that Thomas will forever be known as "Doubting Thomas"? Why or why not?





Prayer Requests

At Home:

Jimmie Foster
Jaime Garcia
Tommy Reep
Sue Van Vynckt

Health Care Facilities:

Lorraine Diaz
Asbury Rehabilitation Center
3800 Shamrock Drive
Charlotte, NC 28215

Ruby Gardiner
Healthcare Center at Brightmore
Room 311A
10011 Providence Road West
Charlotte, NC 28277

During this Stay-At-Home period,
you are encouraged to stay in touch
with these friends through notes and cards.

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own but yours.

*Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will.*

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

*Let me be employed for you
or laid aside for you,*

exalted for you or brought low for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

*I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.*

*And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.*

So be it.

*And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.*

Amen.



If you have a request or concern that you would like us to add to our prayer list, please send the request to:

prayerrequest@sedgefieldchurch.org

Staying Connected Through Giving



We are all struggling to adjust to the recent crisis created by the Coronavirus. With social distancing being the wise choice, we've been unable to gather on Sunday mornings for worship for several weeks. And, unfortunately, we may not find ourselves together again in the sanctuary for many weeks to come. But the ministry of the church continues as we are finding new and creative ways to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with others.

Given the church's growing financial uncertainty, we are asking you to help us by:

- ▶ Praying daily for our church...our worshipers, our ministries, our future
- ▶ Continuing to give on a regular basis (preferably weekly)
- ▶ Considering on-line giving

Thank you,
Hans Warren, Chair
Finance Committee

Offering

WAYS TO GIVE

mail: Sedgefield UMC
2830 Dorchester Place
Charlotte, NC 28209

online: <https://sedgefieldchurch.org/onling-giving/>



Lenten Reflection

The word “respect” is derived from the Latin *respicere*, which means to “look back at” or “to look again”. As Franciscan-hearted people, we are called to “look again, and again” at ourselves and others with new eyes, eyes filled with love, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness. A person who respects pays attention. This means striving to see situations as they are and not solely through the filter of our own desires, fears, likes, and dislikes. When we follow the crowd, or focus on the anonymous “they”, we create barriers that block the new that is arising.

Always merciful and compassionate God, help me to let go of anything that keeps me from accepting your invitation to be the light of your love in our world today.

For Reflection/Journaling

Who is the anonymous “they” I am blaming for keeping me from seeing something new?

How might I let go of all that is keeping me from living the way of love?

Jeanne Connolly, Living the Way of Love, www.wheatonfranciscan.org



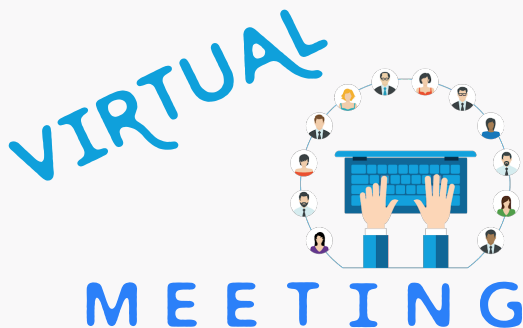
TUNE IN TO FACEBOOK LIVE
SUNDAY MORNING AT 10:25





Announcements

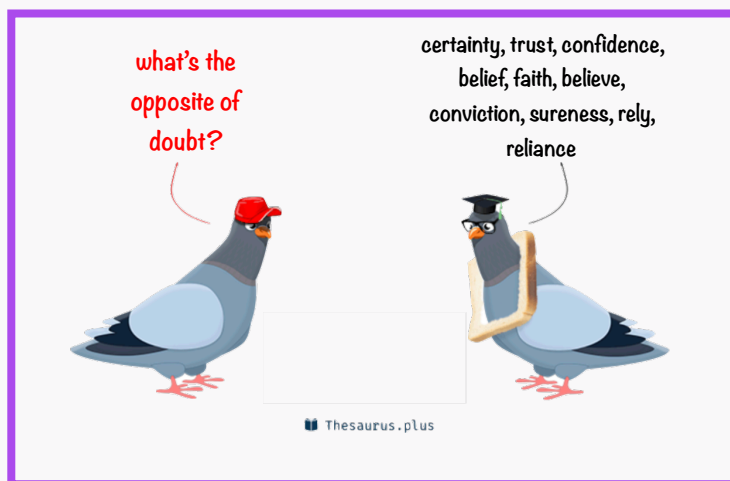
- ▶ Based on guidance from Bishop Leeland and in compliance with the Mecklenburg County Stay-At-Home ordinance, the entire Sedgefield UMC campus is closed. Pastor Jim, Mary Jo and Charlotte are working from their homes during their regular office hours. The ordinance does, however, *permit clergy to enter their churches for the purpose of leading worship.*
 - ▶ Email and voice mail messages sent to the church office are being returned each weekday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 - ▶ Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 is cancelled.
 - ▶ After School Mentoring is cancelled until further notice.
- ▶ Newsletters can now be found on the church website in the “Media” section.



▶ Board of Trustee Meeting ◀

Thursday, April 2
6:30 p.m.

Approximately 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting, members will receive a link via email to join a ZOOM meeting. If you are not a member of the Board of Trustees and have plans to attend the meeting, please contact Pastor Jim or the church office.





Meet the Witnesses

Judas Iscariot

Matthew 26:1-16, 27:1-5
March 1, 2020

Mary and John

John 19:16-27
March 8, 2020

Two Thieves

Luke 23:32-43
March 15, 2020

Roman Soldiers

Mark 15:15-39
March 22, 2020



Witnesses: Doubting Thomas
John 20:19-31
Sunday, March 29, 2020





Sedgefield United Methodist Church

2830 Dorchester Place

Charlotte, NC 28209

704-523-0077

office@SedgefieldChurch.org

SedgefieldChurch.org



Pastor

Rev. Jim Brookshire

PastorJim@SedgefieldChurch.org

704-232-4878



Director of Children's Ministry

Mary Jo Bridges

marycbridges@yahoo.com

704-617-4056

