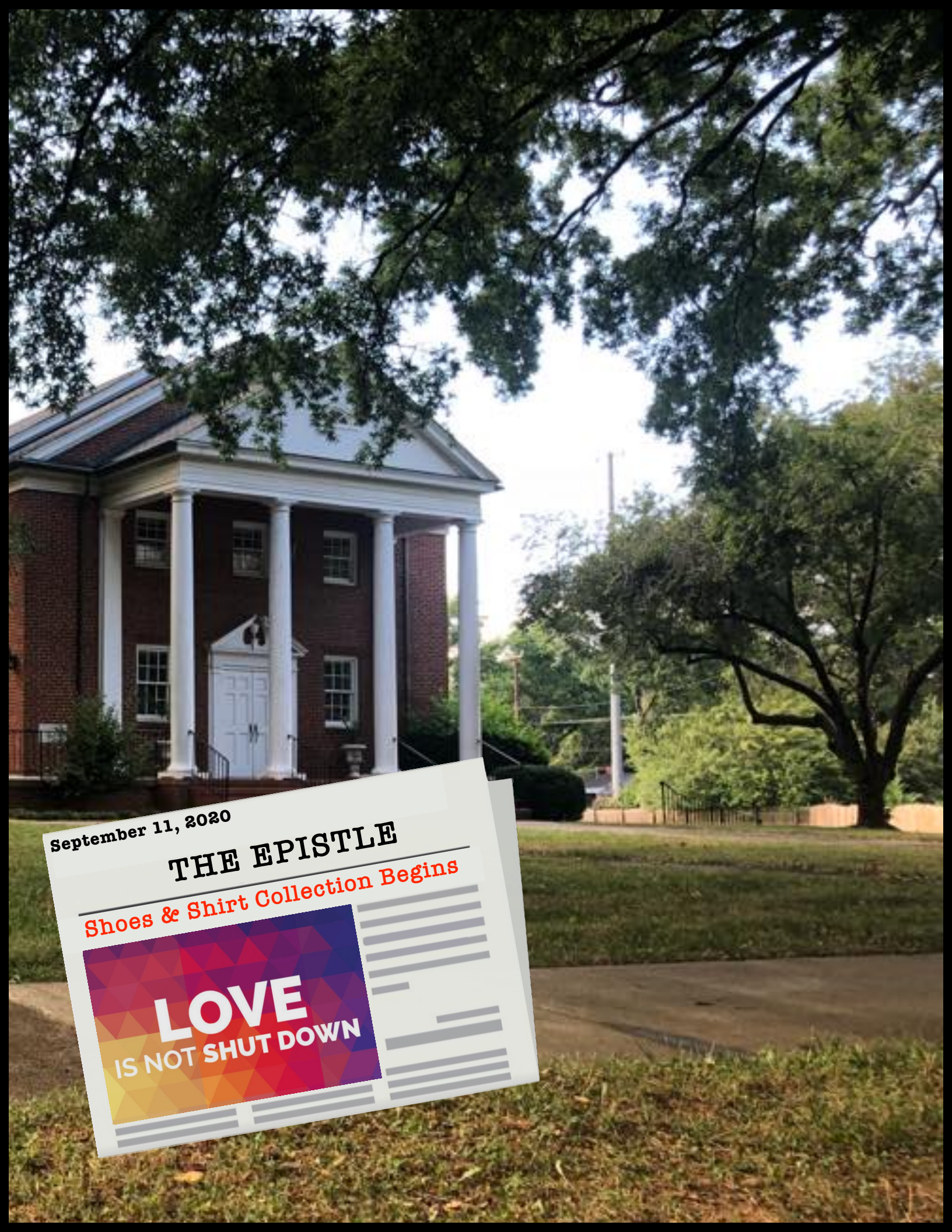


September 11, 2020

# THE EPISTLE

Shoes & Shirt Collection Begins

**LOVE**  
IS NOT SHUT DOWN





## Your safety in mind

COVID-19 Response

### Reopening Update

The Reopening Team met this week and we have, what I think is, exciting news to share! After carefully reviewing the NC Phase 2.5 guidelines along with revised guidelines from the Western North Carolina Conference, we plan to open our sanctuary to a limited number of worshipers beginning Sunday, October 4. Based on current guidelines, we will be limited to a maximum of 25 people in our sanctuary.

As we transition to a partial reopen, there are *ways you can help*. Specifically...

- You received a survey this week. The purpose of the survey is to gauge the frequency at which worshipers who are ready to return will be able to attend. For example, if 60 people indicate they are ready to return to the sanctuary for worship, this would mean that each worshiper could attend approximately every three weeks. *You can help by **submitting** your survey.*
- You will be asked to make a reservation if you desire to attend a worship service in-person. Information on how to make a reservation will be provided to you as soon as the details are finalized. *You can help by **understanding** that, with a maximum of 25 people, you may not be able to attend every Sunday and that it will be necessary for you to make a reservation in advance.*
- Please be prepared for worship to be different. One of the many changes has to do with our music. Unfortunately there will no congregational singing. Also, we will be taking your temperature, requesting that you arrive early wearing a mask, and asking you to enter and exit our sanctuary in a systematic way. *You can help by **preparing** yourself for the changes that must occur for us to reopen.*

I fully understand that returning to the sanctuary before the pandemic passes may not be what is best for you. And that is ok! Although every precaution will be taken to ensure your safety, if you are in an at-risk category please carefully consider whether in-person worship is right for you. For those who are unable to attend, we will continue to live stream our service on Facebook.

In closing, I want to thank you for your support and kind words of encouragement as I have adjusted to preaching in an empty sanctuary. No one is more anxious for our doors to be thrown wide open than I am! Let's pray that day is not too far off.

~Pastor Jim



## Religion and Politics



Many are scared to death about what will happen on November 3rd. Some are afraid that nothing will change; others are afraid that everything will change. All this fear leads us into a political season that is growing more unpleasant and divisive every year. Somehow, we think we get a pass from practicing our faith when it comes to politics. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the very keys to finding peace and civility

in this political season are rooted in the teachings of Jesus. If there's ever been a time to go back to the basics of our faith, this is it.

## This Week in Worship

Sunday, September 13, 2020

### Pre-Service Music

*Ms. Lynn Hager*

10:25 a.m.

### Message

*Religion and Politics: Back to Basics*

**Matthew 7:12, Ephesians 4:29, Romans 12:2,**

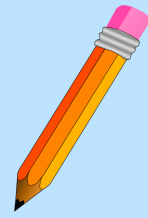
**James 1:19, Ephesians 5:21**

10:30 a.m.

**We Welcome You To Join Us!**



## Weekly Study Guide



The two things we are never supposed to talk about at the dinner table are religion and politics. Is this true in your household? Why or why not?

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When it comes to talking about politics with others, what have your recent experiences been like? ...or, do you just refuse to talk about it?

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What roles do social media outlets and news organizations play in politics?

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Do you find yourself tuning in to the same news source all the time? If so, why is that, and why that particular source?

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Read the parable of the Good Samaritan ([Luke 10:25–37](#)) when a Samaritan helps a Jew...or a Republican helps a Democrat...or a Democrat helps a Republican. What could be gleaned from this parable when it comes to politics?

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Read each of today's Scripture passages carefully. Read each multiple times. Then write down ways that you (not others, but you) could live out each passage in the context of this political season. Be specific.

**Matthew 7:12**

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**Ephesians 4:29**

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**Romans 12:2**

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**James 1:19**

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**Ephesians 5:12**

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**Daily Prayer:** *Lord, help me love unconditionally those with whom I disagree politically. Help me be part of the solution today and not part of the problem. Amen.*





## Remember In Prayer

**Jaime Garcia, Ruby Gardiner, Polly Haney,  
Jerry Meyer, Tommy Reep, Sue Van Vynckt**

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39 (NRSV)

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

[prayerrequest@sedgefieldchurch.org](mailto:prayerrequest@sedgefieldchurch.org)

### **The Pocket Prayer**

Father, You are good.  
I need help. So do they.  
Thank you.  
In Jesus' name, amen.

*Max Lucado*

## Altar Flowers

The altar flowers on Sunday, September 13 have been given in honor of **Dr. W. O. Fields**, father of Frank Fields.



Ossie Fields, Frank Fields  
Fenway Park • Boston, MA (circa 2014)

*My dad, Ossie Fields, lives in Smithfield NC. His 92nd birthday will be Saturday, September 12. Dad has been in assisted living since an illness that occurred around this past Christmas. He has, of course, been kept in close quarters there since Covid -19 began spreading in March. Personal visits have been few, and only by*

*remaining outside the facility looking through the closed window to his room. We talk by phone several times a week though, so that helps us stay connected. This coming Saturday we plan to visit again to celebrate as best we can. My dad is quite a remarkable man and will always be my hero.*

*~Frank Fields*

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If you are interested in providing flowers for an upcoming Sunday, please contact the church office at 704-523-0077 or call Clara Hedberg at 704-375-9588. The cost of the flowers is \$40.



## Ways to Give Your Offerings to Sedgefield UMC



### Online Through

[sedgefieldchurch.org](http://sedgefieldchurch.org)

Make a credit card  
or electronic  
contribution.

[Click Here](#)



### Bank Draft

Set up automatic  
contributions  
through your  
bank's Online  
Bill Pay.



### Church

Mail your check to:

Sedgefield UMC  
2830 Dorchester Pl  
Charlotte, NC 28209



### Online Through

[wnccumc.org](http://wnccumc.org)

Make a credit card  
or electronic  
contribution.

[Click Here](#)



SEDGEFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# COMMUNITY COLLECTION

FOR OUR NEIGHBORS LIVING AT DOVE'S NEST

**SEPTEMBER 12 - 27**



**WOMEN'S &  
CHILDREN'S**

new/gently used

**SHIRTS  
AND SHOES**

of all sizes

\*please attach pairs together

**PORCH DROP OFF: 2830 DORCHESTER PL**

For additional information on how your home can be a drop off location please email

Kimberly Little: [kimberlyelittle@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyelittle@gmail.com)

Tom Little: [tal21951@gmail.com](mailto:tal21951@gmail.com)

# Sedgefield Student Spotlight



Brenda Gonzalez-Silva is a 10th grade student at Myers Park High School. Currently her favorite class is Creative Writing. When asked to complete “*I am happiest when...*” Brenda said she is the happiest when those around her are happy. But Brenda quickly added that she is also happy when her homework is finished!

Brenda loves her time at church and she has been a volunteer at Vacation Bible School and the Fall Festival, assisted in the nursery, and frequently helps out in the church office when she is not at school. Brenda completed “*What I like best about Sedgefield UMC...*” by describing Sedgefield as her second family where everyone is friendly and welcoming.





You're invited to  
**Join Us**

Each **Wednesday** at **1 o'clock** Pastor Jim hosts a time of conversation and fellowship.

Everyone is invited to **Connect** 

To connect online: [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)

To connect by phone: 646-876-9923

Meeting ID: **954 3442 7851**

# FRONT LAWN Hymn Sing

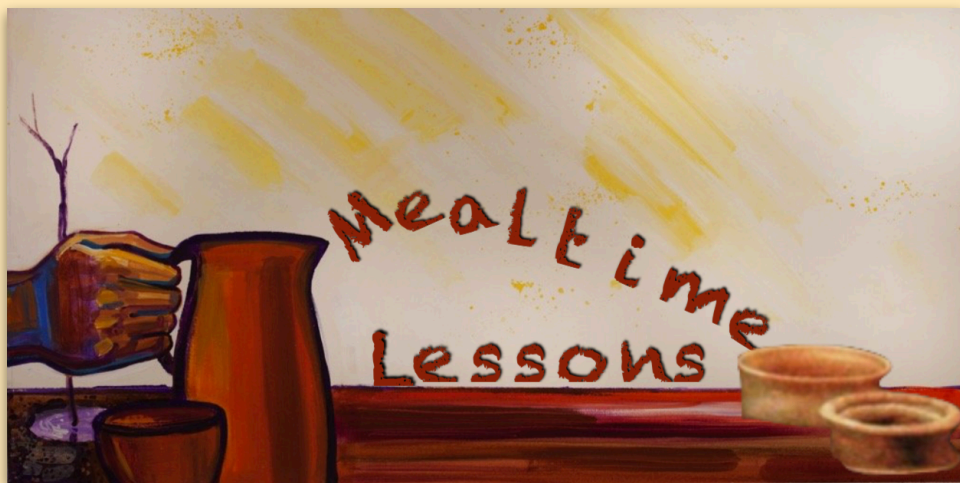


WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16  
AT 5:00PM

\*bring your own chair\*

Spend the evening singing your favorite hymns while physically distanced on the front lawn. Please, bring your own chair. Personal hymnals will be provided.

## Recent Sermon Series



August 2, 2020  
*An Uninvited Dinner Guest*  
Luke 7:36-50

August 9, 2020  
*Miracle of the Heart*  
Luke 9:10-17

August 16, 2020  
*The Better Thing*  
Luke 10:38-42

August 23, 2020  
*Kingdom Values*  
Luke 14:1-24

August 30, 2020  
*The Scandal of Christianity*  
Luke 19:1-9

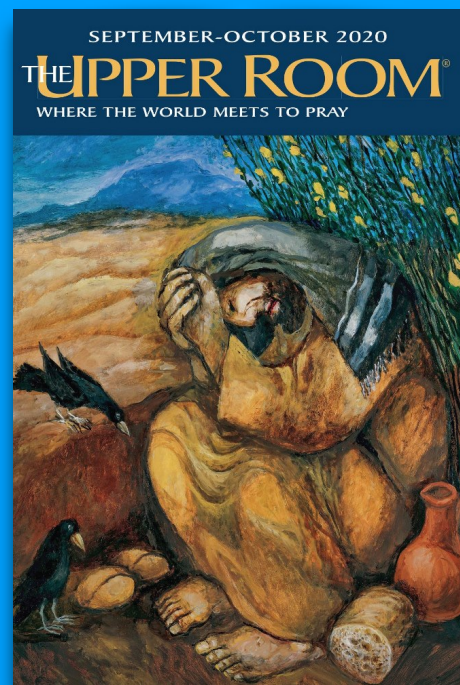
September 6, 2020  
*At This Table*  
Luke 22:14-20

Previous services can be viewed at  
[www.sedgefieldchurch.org/sermons/](http://www.sedgefieldchurch.org/sermons/)




## Audio Daily Devotions

During this time of pandemic *The Upper Room* magazine is making daily devotions available by phone. There is no charge for this service. Each day's meditation can be heard by calling **615-212-2013**.



# CALENDAR

**Virtual meetings are indicated with this symbol  and are held via Zoom.**

**To join a Zoom meeting by phone, call  
1-312-626-6799.**

**To connect by computer, go to  
[www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)**

## ▶ **Nominations Committee** ◀

Tuesday, September 15  
6:30 p.m.  
Meeting ID: 829 8870 8801

## ▶ **Let's Connect!** ◀

Wednesday, September 16  
1:00 p.m.  
Meeting ID: 954 3442 7851

## ▶ **Hymn Sing** ◀

Wednesday, September 16  
5:00 p.m.  
Front Lawn

## ▶ **Church Council** ◀

Thursday, September 17  
6:30 p.m.  
Meeting ID: 898 7766 3153

## ▶ **Annual Charge Conference** ◀

Thursday, November 12  
6:30 p.m.  
Meeting ID: 858 9238 2400





**Rev. Jim Brookshire**, Pastor  
PastorJim@SedgefieldChurch.org  
704-232-4878



**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



**Mary Jo Bridges**  
Director of  
Children's  
Ministry



**Bud Davidson**  
Treasurer



**Robin Moore**  
Nursery Caregiver



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