

# THE EPISTLE

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November 24 , 2023

*Find Hope Here*

*Sedgefield United Methodist Church*

*2830 Dorchester Place  
Charlotte, NC 28209*

*[www.SedgefieldChurch.org](http://www.SedgefieldChurch.org)*

*704-523-0077*

*Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor*

# Reflections From Pastor Tom



Dear Friends,  
This Sunday, I will be preaching on Matthew 25:31-40 and my title will be "Jesus In Need."

We like to think of Jesus as strong, healthy and dominant. We like this image of him because we want him to be able to take on all of our struggles and problems along with all of the world's problems. Yet in this week's Scripture lesson, we are given a very different picture of Jesus - hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, and imprisoned. Jesus wanted his followers to know this image of him so they would see him when they saw the people around them suffering.

Jesus was a different kind of king, a different kind of leader, and a different kind of Savior. He is that for us, today. We have to be careful how we imagine Jesus because many of the images we may want to associate with him are flawed or too limiting. Jesus is in need because all of those around us who are hurting ARE Jesus.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

## This Sunday In Worship

November 26, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Jesus in Need

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.

Education Building Room 203

Holy Communion and  
Food Drive for Loaves and Fishes  
on Sunday, December 3, 2023

## Future Sermons

*Dec 3 - It's God's Fault*

*Dec 10 - Unworthy*

*Dec 17 - Why Are You Here?*

## Upcoming Events

### ► Serve At Rebound-Breakfast

Sunday, November 26, 2023

7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

907 W. 1st Street

### ► No Youth Meeting this Sunday, November 26, 2023

Youth will next meet on Sunday,  
December 3, 2023 for an event at  
Rise Against Hunger  
10825 Texland Blvd. Unit A  
Charlotte 28273

### ► Bible Study

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

### ► Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

### ► Serve At Rebound-Dinner

Sunday December 17, 2023

4:45 p.m.

907 W. 1st Street

### ► Admin Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 21, 2023

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Smith Residence



# Christmas Poinsettias

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



**Order forms to purchase Poinsettias are in the Church Lobby. The cost per Poinsettia is \$12.**

Please place your completed Order Form with payment in the Black Box in the Narthex **by Sunday, December 3rd** or you can pay Online at [sedgefieldchurch.org](http://sedgefieldchurch.org). Please note for "Flower Fund" on your Check or Online.

**Note: An Order Form must be completed to acknowledge the honoree.**

**If you want to purchase a Poinsettia but cannot attend Church**, please email the Church Office at [office@sedgefieldchurch.org](mailto:office@sedgefieldchurch.org) and provide all the information listed below so we can acknowledge the honoree(s), or call the Church Office at 704-523-0077 by Monday, December 4th.

**Your Name**

**Your Telephone Number**

**Number of Plants Ordered**

**Given in Honor of**

**and/or**

**Given in Memory of**

The cost per Poinsettia is \$12. Payment can be made by mailing a check payable to Sedgefield UMC, 2830 Dorchester Place, Charlotte, NC 28209 or PayOnline.

Please note for "Flower Fund" on Check or Online.





**'Tis the season ....**

**Come join in the fun and help decorate the church for the Christmas season immediately following the worship service this Sunday, November 26, 2023.**

**Everyone is welcome.**

**Looking forward to seeing you Sunday.**

**Joyce Bergantino  
808-280-0836**

# Operation Christmas Child

Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox  
Mission Project was a success!

The children packed 22 boxes during JAM on Sunday,  
November 12<sup>th</sup> and the congregation/neighborhood  
donated 55 shoeboxes for a total of 77 boxes. Jim and I  
delivered the shoeboxes on Sunday afternoon to the OCC  
Processing Center in Charlotte. Did you know that since  
1993 Samaritan's Purse has brought JOY to over 146  
million children/youth around the world through  
Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts?

Thank you again for helping to bring JOY to 77  
children/youth this Christmas season!

Blessings!

Mary Jo Bridges

Children's Program Director



## Receiving Holy Communion

On Communion Sundays, servers are available to bring Communion to your home. We encourage you to contact the church office at 704-523-0077 or email the church office at [office@sedgefieldchurch.org](mailto:office@sedgefieldchurch.org) if you, or someone you know, would like Holy Communion brought to the home.

Generally we observe Communion on the first Sunday of the month.



Our next observance of the Lord's Supper is Sunday, December 3, 2023





**LOAVES & FISHES**

Groceries for Neighbors in Need

On Communion Sundays we have a tradition of collecting food for our neighborhood Loaves & Fishes pantry. Items most needed are: canned meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, boxed or canned pasta, and canned vegetables.

*You are invited to bring your food donations forward as you receive Communion on Sunday, December 3, 2023.*



## **Our Food Collection for 2023**

January - **73** pounds  
February - **129** pounds  
March - **86** pounds  
April - **76** pounds  
May - **100** pounds  
June - **69** pounds  
July - **79** pounds  
August - **105** pounds  
September - **63** pounds  
October - **201** pounds

The collection of non-perishable food items is an ongoing mission opportunity. Collection baskets are in the lobby each Sunday or donations can be dropped off at any time during office hours.



## **Habitat for Humanity Build 2023/2024**

**Sedgefield Church is hosting a workday at the site,  
The Meadows at Plato Price, on December 2, 2023  
providing lunch and volunteers.**

**We would love to have you join us, no skills required.  
You can register at the  
[Carter Work Project](#) website or just show up.**

**Sedgefield Church is again working with the Charlotte Church Partners this year to complete two of the 39 homes being built at The Meadows at Plato Price. This neighborhood development is part of the Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Work Project and hundreds of volunteers from around the world are expected to start work in October.**

**Local volunteers will start working in November until completion of the project anticipated for March 2024.**



**Sedgefield Church will once again be hosting four Sunday nights at Room In the Inn. Our hosting dates are listed below.**

**We will be using the facilities at Avondale Presbyterian Church to provide food and shelter.**

**Location:**

**Avondale Presbyterian Church  
2821 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28209**

**Hosting Dates:**

**Sunday, December 10th  
Sunday, January 14th  
Sunday, February 11th  
Sunday, March 10th**

**We need your help. Please use the Sign-Up Link below to volunteer or to fill a need.**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EACAB23A64-46252965-room>**

**Thank you.**



# Altar Flowers



**You can now sign-up for Altar Flowers online.  
2024 dates are now listed on the Link.**

**Use the SignUp Genius Link below to:**

- pick an available date
- write a message to let us know who/what you want to memorialize, honor or celebrate on a special day

**Sign up Genius Link**

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/  
10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-sedgefield](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-sedgefield)

**The Altar Flower donation remains the same at \$40  
which can be paid online using the Church Website  
[sedgefieldchurch.org](https://www.sedgefieldchurch.org)**

**or by sending a check to Sedgefield Church,  
2830 Dorchester Place, Charlotte 28209.**

# Invitation From Woodlawn Community Fellowship



**Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC is sponsoring  
free dinners each Thursday night during the months of  
October and November.**

**Last Date is November 30th.**

**The meals are free and will be served from  
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Our dinners are catered by Gayle Smith, Founder and  
Executive Director of Dahlia Grove, Inc.**

**We hope you will join us for fellowship and conversation.**

**Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC  
737 East Woodlawn, Charlotte 28209  
Telephone: 704-523-5052**

## Ways to Give Your Offerings to Sedgefield UMC



### **Online Through**

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

Make a credit card  
or electronic  
contribution.



### **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.





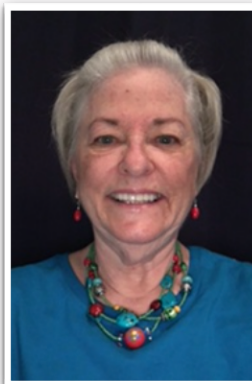
**Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor**  
[pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org](mailto:pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org)



**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



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



**Ellen Freitas**  
Office Manager



**Robin Moore**  
Nursery Caregiver



**Bradley Kirksey**  
Youth Director



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