

THE EPISTLE

December 15, 2023

Find Hope Here

Sedgefield United Methodist Church

*2830 Dorchester Place
Charlotte, NC 28209*

www.SedgefieldChurch.org

704-523-0077

Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor

Reflections From Pastor Tom



Dear Friends,
This Sunday I will be preaching on John 1:19-27 and my title will be “Why Are You Here?”

It's a simple question with multiple possible answers (depending on how deep and philosophical you want to be). “Why are you here?” You could even play around with the meaning of the word “here.”

Every person should know their purpose in life - that answer to “why am I here?” Some people go through most of their lives before they figure it out. I suppose some people feel like they never figure it out.

For a second Sunday, we will talk about John the Baptist, but we will go beyond John to the question we all need to answer - “Why are we here?”

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

This Sunday In Worship

December 17, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Why Are You Here?

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.
Education Building Room 203

Altar Flowers

The flowers for Sunday, December 17, 2023 are in celebration of Myra "Mimi" Arbuckle's Birthday on December 19th from her family.

Future Sermons

Dec 24 - Expecting the Unexpected

Dec 31 - Frank Fields Preaching

Jan 7 - Water Power

- ▶ **Christmas Eve at Sedgfield**
Sunday, December 24, 2023
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Children's Christmas Party**
Sunday, December 17, 2023
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
- ▶ **Youth Group on Holiday Break**
Meetings will resume on
Sunday, January 7, 2024
12:30 p.m. at St. Andrews
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**
Sunday December 17, 2023
4:45 p.m.
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Bible Study**
Tuesday, December 19, 2023
11:00 a.m. - 12 Noon
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Admin Council Meeting**
Thursday, December 21, 2023
6:00 p.m. - 7:00pm
Smith Residence
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**
Sunday December 24, 2023
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
907 W. 1st Street

Gift for Christ

The last Sunday before Christmas (December 24) we will take up a special offering called the Gift of Christ. The idea is that in this season of shopping and giving, we keep Jesus on our list. You are invited to present your Gift for Christ at the altar rail at the 10:30am Worship Service on Christmas Eve or at the 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service that same day, December 24. You can wrap it like a little present or simply put it in an envelope. If you are not able to attend on Sunday, December 24th, you can bring it to to church another Sunday or send it to the Church Office. The Church Council will decide the area of greatest need and the offering will go to that area.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tom.



If you would like to use a box for your *Gift for Christ* offering, boxes will be available on Sunday December 17 and December 24.

Gloves and Socks Collection



This Sunday, December 17th is the last Sunday, you can drop your donated Gloves and Socks in the containers in the Church Narthex or in the Black Trash Bin on the front porch of the Church.

If you prefer, you may make a donation to the Church; please write Gloves and Socks in the memo of your Check and that money will be used to make a bulk purchase of Gloves and Socks.

Please feel free to call the church at 704-523-0077 or email office@sedgefieldchurch.org if you have any

Certificate of Baptism

This certifies that

Griffin Miller Grimes

*was baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
on the tenth day of the month of December in the year two thousand twenty three*

*Sedgefield United Methodist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina*

*Tom Stinson-Wesley
Pastor*



History of the Christmas Wreaths on the Front Doors of the Church and School.

Pam Walker writes:

“George and Clara Byrum and Bob and Cecile Kinnett started this tradition so many years ago I can’t remember the year it began. When Mr. Byrum and my mom Cecile passed away, Dad (Bob Kinnett) and Mrs. Byrum continued the tradition. When my dad passed away Mrs. Byrum and I kept up the tradition. Then it came down to Randy (my husband) and I keeping up the tradition in their memory. Now my sister Patty and I are carrying on this tradition. The Wreaths are still in memory of Bob and Cecile Kinnett and George and Clara Byrum and beginning this year, also in the memory of Randy Walker.”

Thank you Pam and Patty.





Sedgefield Church is hosting three more Sunday nights at Room In The Inn. Our remaining 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, 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.

Breakfast and Lunch Bags for Guests at Room in the Inn

The children and youth packed breakfast and lunch bags for the guests at Room in the Inn on Sunday, December 10th during JAM. The children colored Christmas pictures on the bags and made pillow cards for the guests. Thanks to the parents for their donations of breakfast and lunch items. Our next Room In The Inn Sunday will be January 14th.

**Blessings,
Mary Jo Bridges
Children's Program Director**



Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Sunday was our Youth Group's Christmas Party. Our hosts at Sedgefield made a taco bar, we had a lot of hot chocolate and sweets, and played a few games. We decorated gingerbread houses, practiced our unwrapping skills for Christmas (in the form of trying to untangle 200 square feet of Saran Wrap, (which took me 45 minutes to set up for the record), and practicing our blindfolded gift wrapping abilities.

Thanks everyone!
Brad Kirksey
Youth Director





LOAVES & FISHES

Groceries for Neighbors in Need

This week we delivered 54 pounds of food to Loaves & Fishes.



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
November - 54 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.

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.**



Habitat for Humanity Build 2023/2024

Sedgefield volunteers hosted a workday and provided lunch at The Meadows at Plato Price on Saturday, December 2, 2023.

Thank you for your service.





Poinsettia Dedications 2023

In Honor Of

Jo Anne Horn

Cathy Straits

Brenda and JW Harbinson

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hedberg

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Little

Mrs. Tam Thompson

Clara and Carl Hedberg

Kimberly Little

Kelly Little

Steven Hedberg

Carson Hedberg

Matthew Hedberg

Carol and Tom Little

Robert and Ruth Fostvedt

Myra 'MiMi' Arbuckle

Clemmie 'Nana' Clarke

Given By

Johnny and Kelli Horn

Susan Carter-Hope

Carol and Tom

Carl and Clara Hedberg

Carl and Clara

Jean Fostvedt

The Clarke Family



Poinsettia Dedications 2023

In Honor Of

**Jason and Roya
Shea, Justin and Rowan**

Our Children and Grandchildren

**Virginia Maxey
Douglas Maxey**

Clara and Carl Hedberg

The People of Sedgefield Church

Given By

Myra Arbuckle

Mary Jo and Jim Bridges

Jo Marie Best

Anne and Richard Lafferty

Ellen Freitas



Poinsettia Dedications 2023

In Memory Of

**Alf and Edith Hedberg
Mamie and Samuel Ross Morris**

Aileen and Tom Little

Barbara Scoini

**Our Parents
Betty and Bob Neill
Ann and Jack Sink**

**Ernest and Lucy Payne
Gordon and Thelma Lupo**

**Joan Hager - Randy's Mother
Miralyn Stanley - Lynn's Mother**

**Marion 'Nonie' Clarke
Virginia 'GG' Fesperman**

Virginia Fesperman

Given By

Carl and Clara Hedberg

Carol and Tom Little

Jean Fostvedt

Rob and Cathy Neill

Larry and Jan Payne

Randy and Lynn Hager

The Clarke Family

Myra Arbuckle



Poinsettia Dedications 2023

In Memory Of

Marie and Al Henderson

**Ossie Fields
Jean Fields
L H Barnes
Mary Barnes**

**Mr. and Mrs. Conrad N. Carter
Mrs. Martha Carter Mattocks**

Jim 'Papa' Thompson

**Randy, Mildred and DJ Walker
Bob and Cecile Kinnett**

**Virginia Judy
Richard Judy
Jane Judy**

**Mr. and Mrs. Paul & Aleen McGowan
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby & Janie Robinson**

Given By

**Anne and Richard Lafferty
Maris Lafferty Marinelli**

MaryBeth and Frank Fields

Susan Carter-Hope

His Family

Walker Family

Karen Willis

Teresa McGowan

Ways to Give Your Offerings to Sedgefield UMC



Online Through

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



Online Through

wnccumc.org

Make a credit card
or electronic
contribution.



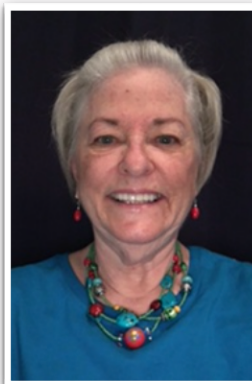
Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



Ron Aldridge
Worship Leader



Mary Jo Bridges
Director of
Children's Ministry



Ellen Freitas
Office Manager



Robin Moore
Nursery Caregiver



Bradley Kirksey
Youth Director



2830 Dorchester Place
Charlotte, NC 28209
704-523-0077
office@SedgefieldChurch.org
SedgefieldChurch.org