

THE EPISTLE

December 22, 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 Luke 1:26-38 and my title will be “Expecting The Unexpected.”

At face value, my title is ridiculous. How can you expect the unexpected? How can you prepare for something you do not anticipate happening? Mary did. As much as anyone can, Mary did.

Sometimes we get a warning of something bad, or notice of something good, that might happen in the future. We can then brace ourselves for what is to come. Mary didn't get that kind of help before she heard her big news. On Sunday, we will talk about how Mary handled her circumstances and what we can learn from her.

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

This Sunday in Worship

December 24, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Expecting the Unexpected

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.

Education Building Room 203

Flowers this Sunday, December 24, 2023 are the Dedicated Poinsettias.

Flowers for next Sunday, December 31, 2023 are in honor of Shea Clarke's Birthday on December 26th.
Love Mom and the Family

Future Sermons

Dec 31 - Free Samples

Frank Fields Preaching

Jan 7 - Water Power

Jan 14 - A Child Called By God

**The Epistle will not be
published next week.**

**It will return on Friday,
January 5, 2024.**

**Wishing Everyone a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year**

Upcoming Events

► **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**
Sunday December 24, 2023
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
907 W. 1st Street

► **Christmas Eve Service**
Sunday December 24, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

► **Next Youth Group Meeting**
Sunday, January 7, 2024
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
St. Andrews

► **Next Bible Study**
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
11:00 a.m. - 12 Noon
Fellowship Hall

► **Trustees Meeeting**
Wednesday January 10, 2024
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

► **Missions Meeting**
Sunday, January 14, 2024
11:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

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.

*Thank
you*

Dear Sedgefield Church Friends,

Thank you so much for the Christmas bonuses.

Your generosity is amazing and wonderful. We are blessed beyond measure to serve you and serve with you. We look forward to a wonderful year of ministry in 2024!

Blessings,

Pastor Tom and the Sedgefield Church Staff



**Our next Sunday to host Room in the Inn
is Sunday, January 14th.**

All 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 for Sunday,
January 14th or another remaining date.**

**[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/
20F0D4EACAB23A64-46252965-room](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EACAB23A64-46252965-room)**

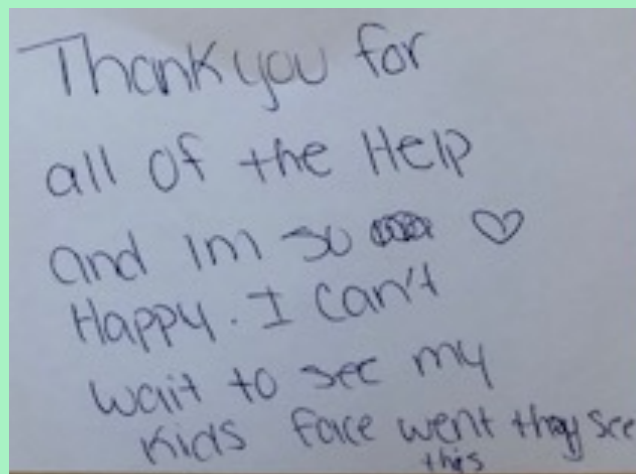
Thank you.

Angel Tree

Thank you for sponsoring seven angels from our Angel Tree this year. I know that your gifts will help to make Christmas a little brighter for these families.



Thank You Notes From Sedgefield Middle School



Blessings!
Mary Jo Bridges
Children's Program Director

Pictures from the Children's Christmas Party

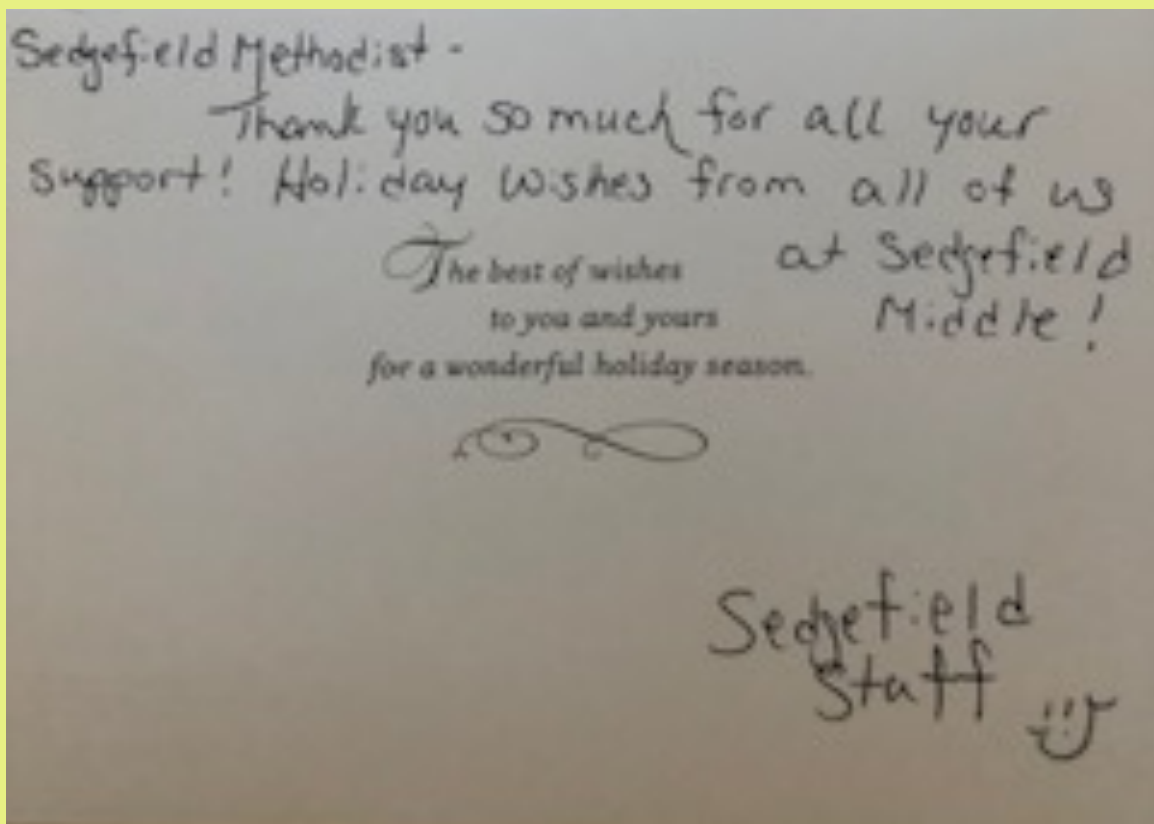


Sweet Treats for Staff at Sedgefield Middle School



Thank you to the Susanna Wesley Circle and church members for providing “Sweet Treats” for the staff at Sedgefield Middle School last Friday. This is just a small way of saying thank you to the amazing staff at our neighborhood school.

Thank you note from Sedgefield Middle School Staff



Blessings!
Mary Jo Bridges
Children's Program Director

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>

**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.**



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 28209



Online Through

wnccumc.org

Make a credit card
or electronic
contribution.



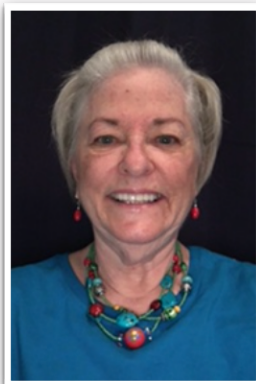
Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



Ron Aldridge
Worship Leader



Mary Jo Bridges
Director of
Children's Ministry



Ellen Freitas
Office Manager



Robin Moore
Nursery Caregiver



Bradley Kirksey
Youth Director



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