

THE EPISTLE

June 23, 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 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 and my title will be “The Early Stages of Gardening.”

In his teaching, Jesus intentionally used images that were familiar to his people. Practically everyone Jesus addressed would have been farmers, either full-time or part-time. So when he told the parable of the sower, they could relate to it easily. Unlike many of Jesus’s parables, this one included his explanation. We have all been at least one of these kinds of “soil”: on the path, on rocky ground, among the thorns, or good soil. And we have known people who fit in these categories.

Jesus knows which kind of soil we are, have been, and can be. Sunday we will discuss how we can be the good soil and how we can be good sowers as well. I look forward to worshipping with you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

This Sunday In Worship

June 25, 2023

10:30 a.m.

The Early Stages of Gardening

Sunday School begins at
9:30am in the
Education Building

Holy Communion and
Food Drive for Loaves and Fishes
on Sunday, July 2, 2023

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers on Sunday,
June 25, 2023 are from Alice and
Warren Richards in memory of
Alices's brother Wayne Berryhill.

Future Sermons

July 2 - Forever Connected to God

July 9 - Jeff Glenn of Charlotte Rescue Mission

July 16 - Sibling Rivalry

Upcoming Events

► Church Cookout

Saturday, June 24, 2023

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine

► Summer Fun Day

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

10:00 a.m. - 12Noon

Play Ground or Fellowship Hall

► Missions Meeting

Sunday, July 16, 2023

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

► Serve At Rebound

Sunday, July 16, 2023

4:30 p.m.

907 W. 1st Street



CHURCH AND
NEIGHBORHOOD
COOKOUT THIS
SATURDAY,
JUNE 24, 2023



**Rain
or
Shine**

Please join us for fun and fellowship at our church and neighborhood wide hot dog and hamburger cookout with all the fixings THIS Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 11:30am-1:00pm on the front lawn of Sedgefield Church.

Our focus will be Charlotte Rescue Mission — all proceeds will go to CRM and Jeff Glenn, Faith Relations Coordinator, CRM will be our special guest.

Bring a Friend or Neighbor!

Volunteers and food are needed.
Please sign up using the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EACAB23A64-neighborhood2>

2023 Summer Fun Wednesdays at Sedgefield Church

Ages - Preschool – Elementary Children

10:00 Playground Fun

10:30 – 11:45 Program in Fellowship Hall or Outside

June 28 – Bunny Blessings (Rabbits)

July 5 – Brown Sounds (Dance Party – Limbo, musical chairs, chicken dance, YMCA, etc. Fun for boys and girls.)

July 12 – Exotic Encounters (Exotic Animals)

July 19 – No Summer Fun Wednesday – July 19-23 is Vacation Bible School 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm. Ages: rising kindergarten – rising 5th graders. Register at sedgefieldchurch.org Middle and High School students and adults can register as volunteers.

July 26 - Scales (Snakes)

August 2 – Popcorn and a Movie

August 9 – Back to School Bash with Jumping Jacks Water Slide (Come prepared to get WET! Parents may want to bring a lawn chair and a towel.)

11:45 – Optional - Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy eating lunch with friends or more playground fun!

Questions – Call Mary Jo Bridges – Children’s Program Director - 704-617-4056

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 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, July 2, 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 will be invited to bring your food donations forward as you receive Communion on Sunday, July 2, 2023.



Our Food Collection for 2023

January - 73 pounds
February - 129 pounds
March - 86 pounds
April - 76 pounds
May - 100 pounds
June - 69 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.

Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School will be the week of July 17 – 21, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. for rising Kindergarten – rising 5th grade students. **Registration is open!** Participants will be limited to 50 kids!

Please click the link below to register your child for Stellar VBS and for more details.

<https://vbspro.events/p/1a3f96>

Blessings!

Mary Jo Bridges

Director of Children's Programs

704-617-4056

OBITUARY

Lorraine Heilig Diaz - (Mother of Debbie Wilcox)

OCTOBER 26, 1937 – JUNE 17, 2023



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother Lorraine Heilig Diaz, age 85, recently of Annapolis, Maryland. Lorraine was born October 26, 1937 in Remington, Virginia and grew up in Orange, Virginia. She graduated from Orange County High School in 1956, where she was a cheerleader, an accomplished pianist, a member of the basketball team and was crowned prom queen her senior year. She often recounted her senior recital where she played Debussy's Claire de Lune, which she continued to play throughout the years. In her last few weeks of life she still remembered her Orange County Hornets cheers and shared stories about her "buzzer beater" shot in one basketball game.

Lorraine went on to graduate from James Madison University in 1960, then known as Madison College, with a Bachelor of Science in Business. She was a proud member of the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. At Madison, she became an avid bridge player and was appointed to the May Court her senior year.

Lorraine had a successful career as a paralegal in the DC area where she met her husband Ralph Diaz, and ultimately became the paralegal and office manager of Ralph's law practice after they moved to Coral Springs, Florida. Lorraine was an active member of the Coral Springs community for 29 years until she returned to her beloved state of Virginia, where she lived in Charlottesville for 15 years. She then spent 6 years in Charlotte, North Carolina and moved to Annapolis in 2022, both to be closer to her children. During retirement, Lorraine loved to travel to Europe, especially to Oberammergau, Germany where she witnessed the impressive Passion Play reenacted multiple times. She loved reading horoscopes and sharing her enthusiasm about being a Scorpio.

Lorraine is predeceased by her husband of 29 years Ralph Diaz, father Robert Lee Heilig and mother Ruth Courtney Heilig, her brothers Thomas Heilig and Robert "Buddy" Heilig, and her sister Frances Spigone.

Lorraine is lovingly remembered by her daughters Teresa Lorraine Diaz Ellenburg (Matt) of Annapolis and Debra Lorraine Diaz Wilcox (Kip) of Charlotte; her siblings Dorothy Hardwick, Margaret Rowe, Zelda Ouellette, Brenda Shelton (Terry) and James Heilig (Laura); and her step-children Cynthia Feist (John), Ralph Louis Diaz and Mary Ellen Diaz (Margaret). Lorraine had many nieces and nephews who loved their "Aunt Lorraine."

Lorraine's most cherished role was that of being "Grandma Rainey" to her grandson William Cameron Wilcox and her seven step-grandchildren: Tanya Vanderheiden, Chelsea Eddy, Josephine Preston, Devyn Diaz, Dallas Lorraine Diaz, Thea Simpson and Henry Simpson.

She loved to keep in touch with family and friends through greeting cards and Facebook, and everyone loved to see her loving comments in ALL CAPS. She will be sorely missed but continues to be deeply loved.

A memorial service for Lorraine will be held Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 2:30 PM at Trinity United Methodist Church, 143 W Main Street, Orange, VA 22960. A graveside service will occur Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 11:30 AM at Quantico National Cemetery, 18424 Joplin Rd, Triangle, VA 22172.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Lorraine's favorite charity that she loved to support. There was no child that Lorraine saw that did not bring a smile to her face.

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.



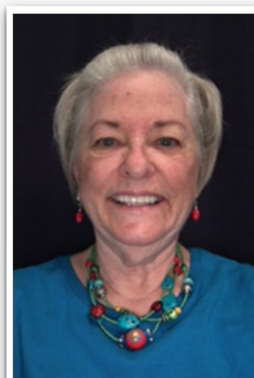
Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



Ron Aldridge
Worship Leader



Mary Jo Bridges
Director of
Children's
Ministry



Ellen Freitas
Office Manager



Robin Moore
Nursery Caregiver



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