

# THE EPISTLE

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August 11, 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 Genesis 32:22-31 and my title will be “Wrestling and Name-Calling.”

We have been following the stories of Jacob in the book of Genesis and we have now arrived at the wrestling match between Jacob and the stranger/angel/God in the middle of the night. I don't know if Jacob suffered from insomnia, but if I had a vivid dream of a stairway to heaven one night and wrestled with an angel another night, I would be slightly worried each night before I fell asleep. As it was, Jacob wrestling match changed his life in an even more dramatic way than the ladder dream.

Jacob was on his way to confront his brother Esau. As we have been discussing, Esau had threatened to kill Jacob many years before, but at this point, they have aged significantly. Would that mean that Esau's rage had cooled, or had he been building up his hatred and desire for violent revenge? Jacob had to be contemplating how he would approach his brother. How do you confront someone who wanted to kill you and may still want to kill you?

It was in that context that Jacob had his midnight wrestling match. Jacob's struggle was more than a physical contest. He was struggling with his identity. Regardless of who he was in the past, who had he become? We'll talk about that on Sunday.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom



## This Sunday In Worship

August 13, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Wrestling and Name-Calling

Sunday School begins at

9:30am in the Education

Building Room 203

### Altar Flowers

The altar flowers on Sunday, August 13, 2023 are to the glory of God and in loving memory of their Papa Jim Thompson by his family, Tam, Cam, Nolan, Sarah, Craig, Paisley, Abigail, Knox, Georgie, Devon, Olivia, Polly, Jeff, Beck, and Lilly.

### Future Sermons

*Aug 20 - My, How You've Grown!*

*Aug 27 - Begging for Table Scraps*

*Sept 3 - Giving Your Life to Jesus*

## Upcoming Events

### ► SPRC Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

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

Via Zoom

### ► Admin Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

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

Via Zoom

### ► Serve At Rebound

Sunday, August 20, 2023

4:30 p.m.

907 W. 1st Street

### ► Church & Neighborhood Cookout

Saturday, August 26, 2023

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

Front Lawn

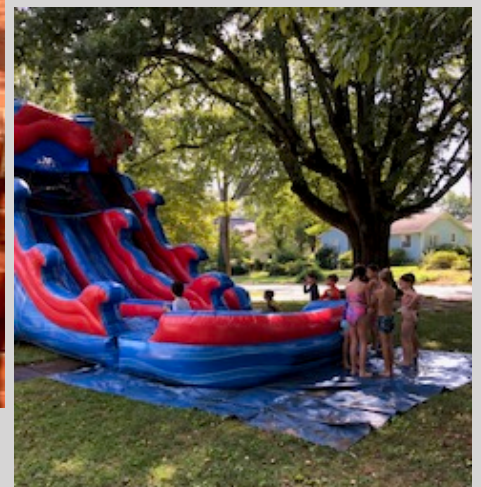
### ► Back to School Blessing - Students, Backpacks and School Staff

Sunday, August 27, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Sanctuary

# Our Final Summer Fun Wednesday with Jumping Jacks Water Slide was a Blast!!



**Sedgefield Church & Sedgefield  
Neighborhood Cookout  
Saturday, August 26th  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm on the Front Lawn**



**Featuring Home Made Ice Cream**

**Everyone is invited to join us for fun and fellowship at our church and neighborhood wide Cookout on Saturday, August 26, 2023 from 11:30am-1:00pm at Sedgefield Church, 2830 Dorchester Place.**

*Bring a Friend or Neighbor!*

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

**[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/  
20f0d4eacab23a64-neighborhood3/30372202#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4eacab23a64-neighborhood3/30372202#/)**



## 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.



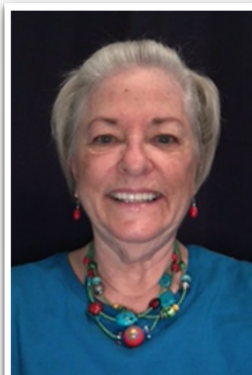
**Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley**, Pastor  
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**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



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



**Ellen Freitas**  
Office Manager



**Robin Moore**  
Nursery Caregiver



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