

# THE EPISTLE

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January 5, 2024

*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, January 7, we will have the Renewal of our Baptismal Covenant, communion, and I will be preaching on Mark 1:4-11. My title will be “Water Power.”

Water is definitely something we take for granted in our modern lives. We turn on the tap and just expect it to come out. It’s no wonder that we can think of water as a symbol of God’s presence. We take God for granted, too.

Water is powerful. It impacts us and the natural world in so many ways. In storms like tornadoes and hurricanes, water can cause immense damage and the subsequent flooding can be overwhelming and disastrous. Water can also refresh and renew and bring life. Like many powerful forces in nature, water can do much good and much harm.

We use water in the church as a symbol of cleansing, rebirth, and the presence of God. In worship this Sunday, we will come forward and touch the baptismal water and we will remember what God has done in our lives, in the world, and in history. I look forward to worshipping with you.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

# This Sunday in Worship

January 7, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Water Power

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.

Education Building Room 203

Holy Communion and

Food Drive for Loaves and Fishes  
this Sunday, January 7, 2024

## Future Sermons

*Jan 14 - A Child Called By God*

*Jan 21 - Jesus Wants You!*

*Jan 28 - A Positive Influence*

### ► Room in the Inn

Sunday, January 14, 2024

**We need volunteers.** Please sign  
up using the link on next page of  
the Newsletter.

### ► Admin Council Meeting

Thursday, January 18, 2024

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

Fellowship Hall

### ► Serve At Rebound-Dinner

Sunday, January 21, 2024

4:45 p.m.

907 W. 1st Street

### ► Serve At Rebound-Breakfast

Sunday, January 28, 2024

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

907 W. 1st Street

# Upcoming Events

### ► Packing Socks & Gloves-Missions

Sunday, January 7, 2024

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

### ► Youth Group Meeting

Sunday, January 7, 2024

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

St. Andrews UMC

1901 Archdale Drive

### ► Bible Study - Hebrews

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

11:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

Fellowship Hall

### ► Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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

Fellowship Hall

### ► SW Circle Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Education Bldg. Room 204

### ► Socks & Gloves Distribution-Missions

Sunday, January 14, 2024

6:30 a.m.

Meet in Church Parking Lot - Drive to  
Overpass at Tryon & 12th St.

### ► Missions Meeting

Sunday, January 14, 2024

11:45 a.m.

Fellowship Hall



**We need your help with this  
important ministry!**

**Nine days from now, on Sunday, January  
14th, we are tasked with providing food for  
and serving the RITI guests at Avondale  
Presbyterian Church.**

**Please consider volunteering to prepare food  
or serve at the site using the Link Below.**

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

**Thank You.**

**Remaining Dates**

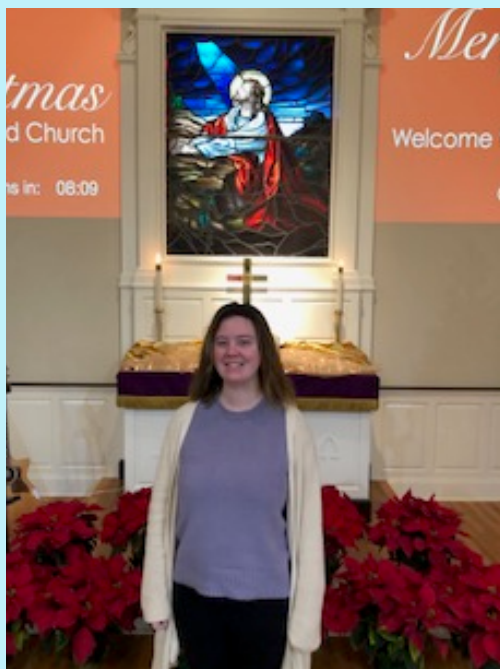
**Location:**

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

**Hosting Dates:**

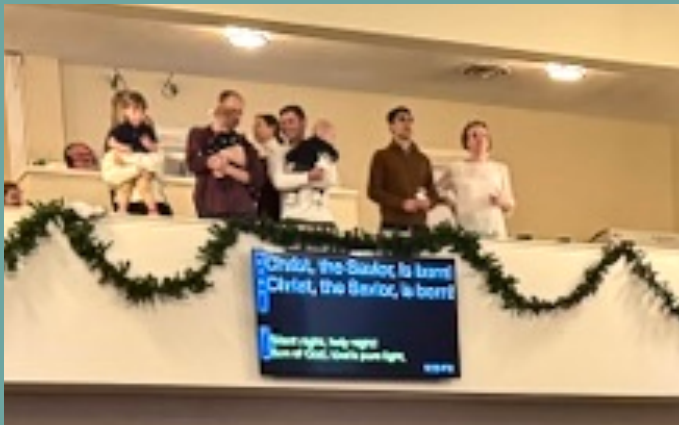
**Sunday, January 14th  
Sunday, February 11th  
Sunday, March 10th**

**Kyra Stinson-Wesley joined  
Sedgefield United Methodist Church  
on Sunday, December 17, 2023.**



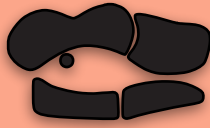
***Kyra and her fellowship friend Mary Jo Bridges***





## Christmas Eve at Sedgefield





**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 this Sunday, January 7 2024.*



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





# **Save the Date**

**Vacation Bible School**

**at Sedgefield Church**

**July 15 – 18, 2024**

**9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Registration will open March 1, 2024 for  
rising kindergartners – rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders.**

# Save Your Tabs



**On December 28, 2023 we delivered 5.5 pounds of tabs to the Ronald McDonald House.**

**Thank you.**

**Each four pounds of pop tops covers the cost of a family's food and lodging for one day at the Ronald McDonald House.**

**Tabs can be left at  
2830 Sunset Drive, Charlotte, NC.**

## 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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