

# THE EPISTLE

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April 26, 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 I will be preaching on John 3:14-21 and my title will be “Seeing in the Dark.”

John the Gospel writer wrote poetry with his version of the life and ministry of Jesus. One of his prominent images is light/darkness. The setup for this week’s lesson: Nicodemus, a Pharisee and scholar, came to talk to Jesus at night. The most obvious reason for his timing was that he didn't want to be seen talking to Jesus. His Pharisee colleagues didn't approve of Jesus and they certainly wouldn’t want one of their own questioning Jesus as if Jesus possessed any knowledge that they did not.

We notice as their conversation goes along that light and darkness does not just refer to the time of day. Jesus was in the light. He was “enlightened” in a way that Nicodemus was not. Nicodemus was living and thinking in darkness. He didn't understand what Jesus was talking about and misunderstood almost everything Jesus tried to explain to him.

We sometimes struggle to understand what Jesus is saying to us. Like Nicodemus, we are in the dark trying to see the light. We will talk more about this in the sermon on Sunday.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

# This Sunday in Worship

April 28, 2024  
10:30 a.m.  
Seeing in the Dark

Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.  
in Room 203 in the Education Bldg.

## April is Missions Month

**April 27th** - Cook-Out Donations to Missions

**April 28th** - Special Missions Offering  
Tom Little will speak on Nourish Up  
(formerly Loaves & Fishes)

## Altar Flowers

The altar flowers for Sunday, April 28, 2024 are from Johnny Horn in honor of Kelli Horn in celebration of her birthday.

## Future Sermons

*May 12 - Challenge Course*

*May 19 - Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday*

- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**  
Sunday, May 26, 2024  
4:45 p.m.  
907 W. 1st Street

# Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Church Cook Out**  
Saturday, April 27, 2024  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Front Lawn
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**  
Sunday, April 28, 2024  
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.  
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Youth Group**  
Sunday, April 28, 2024  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC  
737 East Woodlawn Road  
Charlotte, NC 28209
- ▶ **Bible Study**  
Tuesday, April 30, 2024  
11:00 a.m. - 12Noon  
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Final Confirmation Class**  
Sunday, May 5, 2024  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Susanna Wesley Circle**  
Thursday, May 9, 2024  
6:30 p.m.  
Room 204 in the Education Bldg.
- ▶ **Admin Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
6:30 p.m.  
Rm 204 in Ed. Bldg w/Zoom Option

**Sedgefield Church & Neighborhood Cookout**  
**This Saturday, April 27th**

**11:30 am - 1:00 pm on the Front Lawn**



**All Donations going to the  
Missions Ministry.**

**Everyone is invited to join us for fun and  
fellowship at our church and neighborhood  
wide Cookout on Saturday, April 27, 2024  
from 11:30am-1:00pm at Sedgefield Church,  
2830 Dorchester Place.**

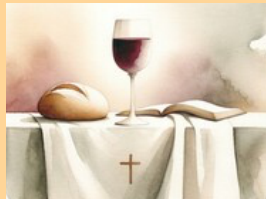
*Bring a Friend or Neighbor!*



On Communion Sundays we have a tradition of collecting food for our neighborhood food pantry which is now named **Nourish Up** (*formerly Loaves & Fishes*).

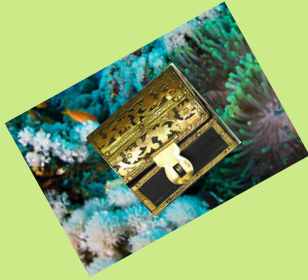
Items most needed are: canned meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, boxed or canned pasta, and canned vegetables.

*You are invited to bring your food donations forward as you receive Communion on Sunday, May 5, 2024.*



The collection of non-perishable food items is an ongoing mission opportunity. Collection baskets are in the lobby each Sunday or food donations can be dropped off at any time during office hours.

# Diving for Sunken Treasures!



## Your Trash is our Treasure!

We are collecting items to help make decorations for VBS.

If you have any of the following items that you would like to donate, please place them in our treasure box, in the narthex, on or before May 5th!

Items needed: egg cartons, ribbons (any color or size), cardboard tubes (any size), artificial flowers/plants, plastic, styrofoam or paper bowls (all sizes), caps from plastic bottles, brightly colored pool noodles, pipe cleaners, cupcake liners, spray paint, straws, netting, and tulle.

Also, we need foam balls (any size), curvy packing peanuts (non-biodegradable), long wooden skewers (16" – 36"), and large sheets of foam.

I appreciate all donations!

Thanks!

Mary Jo Bridges  
VBS Director



## **Receiving Holy Communion**



**On Communion Sundays, generally the first Sunday of the month, 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](mailto:office@sedgefieldchurch.org) if you, or someone you know, would like Holy Communion brought to the**

**Our next observance of the Lord's Supper is Sunday, May 5, 2024.**

# Altar Flowers



**You can now Order Sunday Altar Flowers online.**

**Use the Sign-up Genius Link Below  
to Order Flowers**

**[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/  
10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-sedgefield](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-sedgefield)**

- **pick an available date**
- **write a message to let us know who/what you want to memorialize, honor or celebrate on a special day**

**The Altar Flower donation remains the same at \$40 which can be paid online using the Church Website [sedgefieldchurch.org](http://sedgefieldchurch.org)**

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





## Sedgefield Middle School PTO

### Volunteers Needed for EOY Proctoring

We are in need of around 30 volunteers each day. There will be proctor training in advance of the testing days as well as proctor training on testing days. **You do need to be a cleared CMS volunteer to help us.** We test reading, math and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science. May 28<sup>th</sup> will be the reading test; May 30<sup>th</sup> will be the math test and June 4<sup>th</sup> will be the 8<sup>th</sup> grade science test! Testing times are from 7:45am-12:00pm for all days.

Proctors-

- MUST be 18 years or older and an approved CMS volunteer
- May not be assigned to proctor in a room where a relative is testing
- Read proctor guide
- Receive face-to-face proctor training
- May not assist students nor be left alone with testing materials
- May not read test directions
- Must turn off cell phone and not have access to any electronic devices.

#### EOG Sign Up Link-

<https://forms.gle/PLJr7mV6sH2CtsfSA>

#### CMS Volunteer Link-

<https://www.cmsvolunteers.com/login.php>

We appreciate your willingness to serve as a proctor at our school! You make testing possible!

**Questions?** Contact [Ms. Eldridge](#).

Email: [catherine.eldridge@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:catherine.eldridge@cms.k12.nc.us)



# Save The Dates

**for Vacation Bible School  
at Sedgefield Church**

**Monday-Thursday, July 15–18, 2024**

**9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

This year's theme for Bible Study is  
*“SCUBA: Diving Into Friendship With God.”*

To see a short introductory video  
about this year's program please  
click on the Link Below.

[https://player.vimeo.com/video/834887893?  
h=e87b078ead](https://player.vimeo.com/video/834887893?h=e87b078ead)



# Vacation Bible School at Sedgefield Church

**Monday-Thursday, July 15–18, 2024  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is open for rising kindergartners  
to rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders and for Volunteers.

Click on the Link Below to  
Register your child or to  
volunteer at VBS.

[https://vbspro.events/p/  
c43d9d](https://vbspro.events/p/c43d9d)

**OR**

Use the QR Code to  
Register your child or to  
volunteer at VBS



Any questions please contact:  
Mary Jo Bridges  
VBS Director  
[marycbridges@yahoo.com](mailto:marycbridges@yahoo.com)  
704-617-4056

# 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.



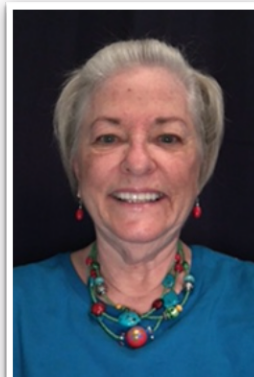
**Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley**, Pastor  
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



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



**Ellen Freitas**  
Office Manager



**Robin Moore**  
Nursery Caregiver



**Bradley Kirksey**  
Youth Director



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