

THE EPISTLE

March 14, 2025

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 Genesis 15:1-12 and my title will be “An Uncertain Future.”

The future is often scary. We fear the unknown, and the future is unknown to us. We base our hopes on what we know about the future, but sometimes it feels like we don't know much at all about what will happen next.

Like all of us, Abram didn't know what the future would bring for him. God told him about what was going to happen - Abram was going to be the father of a great nation and he would go to a land he had never seen previously. This would have come as a huge surprise to Abram. He had no children at that time and he had only known his country of origin. Even with all that he did not know, Abram believed what God had told him.

On Sunday, we will talk about preparing for the future, and what Abram's experience means for us. I hope to see you at church.

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

This Sunday in Worship

March 16, 2025
10:30 a.m.
An Uncertain Future

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

Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers for this Sunday, March 16, 2025 are from Diana Orth in memory of her parents Helen and Eddie and her brother Dennis.

Do you want to honor or remember someone by donating Altar Flowers?

You can do so by:

- Signing Up on the Altar Flowers page in this Epistle
- Email the office at office@SedgefieldChurch.org
- Call the office at 704-523-0077.

In order for your flowers to be announced in the Newsletter and in Church on a particular Sunday, your order must be placed by Wednesday morning of that week.

The Altar Flower donation remains the same at \$40. Payment can be made by mailing a check payable to Sedgefield UMC, 2830 Dorchester Pl, Charlotte, NC 28209 or pay online using your usual method of giving.

Future Sermons

Mar 23 - A Soul Unsatisfied
Mar 30 - Leigh Fresina Preaching
Apr 6 - What Was She Thinking

Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Youth Group**
Sunday, March 16, 2025
12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Southpark Church
3151 Apex Drive
Charlotte NC 28211
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**
Sunday, March 16, 2025
4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Lenten Lunch**
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
12 Noon - 1:00 pm
Woodlawn Community UMC
737 E. Woodlawn Road
Charlotte, NC 28209
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**
Sunday, March 23, 2025
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Admin Council Meeting**
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Room 204 w/ Zoom Option
- ▶ **Charlotte Checkers Game**
Sunday, March 30, 2025
1:00 pm
Bojanles Coliseum
2700 E. Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28205

The Symbols of Lent



Purple was considered the color of royalty and wealth in the ancient world. It was an expensive and lengthy process to make it. The dye came from mollusk (shellfish), and they could get only about one drop out of each mollusk. We remember that Jesus was King of Kings, so purple is an appropriate color for us to use to remember him. We also know that many people mocked Jesus, calling him king as a cruel joke.



**This week Sedgefield UMC delivered
118 pounds of food to Nourish Up.
Thank you for your generosity!**

Our Food Collection for 2025

January **70** pounds

February **65** pounds

March **118** pounds

On Communion Sundays we have a tradition of collecting food for Nourish Up our neighborhood food pantry. Items most needed are: canned meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, boxed or canned pasta, canned vegetables, powdered milk and shelf milk. Crackers would be a great addition as well.

The collection of non-perishable food items is an ongoing mission opportunity. Collection baskets are in the lobby each Sunday. Food donations can also be dropped off at the church office from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Monday - Thursday.



Easter Lily Information

Order Forms to purchase Easter Lilies will be available in the Church lobby beginning this Sunday, March 16, 2025.

New Price is \$15.00 per Lily.

Please place your completed Order Forms in the Black Box on the Lobby Desk with payment by **Sunday, April 13, 2025.**

(Please note *“for flowers”* on your check).

Or you can use your normal method of payment, just note *“for flowers.”*

Important: An Order Form must be completed and put in the Black Box to acknowledge the honoree in the Newsletter and on the screen in Church on Easter Sunday.

If you are unable to attend Church, please call the Office at 704-523-0077 or email office@sedgefieldchurch.org and give us the information listed below by **Monday April 14, 2025.**

Your Name

Your Telephone Number

Number of Lilies Ordered

Given in Honor of

or

Given in Memory of

New Price is \$15.00 per Lily. Payment can be made by mailing a check payable to Sedgefield UMC, 2830 Dorchester Place, Charlotte, NC 28209 or you can use your normal method of payment.

Please note *“for Flowers”* on whatever method you use.

Lenten Luncheons

Sedgefield UMC and Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC are hosting five Lenten Luncheons at 12Noon on Wednesdays during Lent.

This Wednesday, March 19th, the Luncheon is at Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC.

Please join us we gather for a brief time of devotion and fellowship. Remaining dates and locations are listed below.

Those attending are invited to bring their own lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided by the host church.



All are Welcome!

March 26th and April 9th

12Noon - Sedgefield United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor

April 2nd

12Noon - Woodlawn Community Fellowship UMC
737 E. Woodlawn Road
Charlotte 28209
Jonathan Coppedge-Henley, Pastor



Donate Altar Flowers

**Use the Sign-up Genius Link Below
to Donate Flowers in 2025.**

**[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**

**You can also call the just Church Office
at 704-523-0077 to order flowers.**

**In order for your flowers to be announced in the Newsletter
and in Church on a particular Sunday, your order must be
placed by Wednesday morning of that week.**

**The Altar Flower donation remains the same at \$40.
Payment can be made by mailing a check payable to
Sedgefield UMC, 2830 Dorchester Pl, Charlotte, NC 28209
or pay online using your usual method of giving.
Note for “Flower Fund” on the payment method you use.**

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 12, 2025



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Activities will be on Saturday, April 12, at 10:30 a.m. in our Fellowship Hall – Rain or Shine! We will have games, crafts, food and an egg hunt at 11:30 a.m. for our preschool and elementary children. We hope that you and your family will attend.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers (middle schoolers – adults) to assist with our crafts/activities and to hide our eggs for our egg hunt. If you able to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Also, we will have bags of empty plastic eggs available for you to take home to fill with age-appropriate candy (no hard candy please**) this Sunday. Please return the bags of filled eggs on or before April 6th.**

Blessings!

**Mary Jo Bridges
Children's Director**



Sedgefield Church at the Charlotte Checkers

Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 1:00 pm

Sedgefield Day at the Charlotte Checkers Hockey Game will be Sunday, March 30th at 1:00 pm! Come hang out with your church friends and enjoy some hockey. Tickets are \$29.12 each - use the link below to purchase. This event is open to all ages!

Blessings!
Mary Jo Bridges
704-617-4056

Below is the link to purchase

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Sedgefieldchurch7>

**Bojangles Coliseum
2700 E. Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28205**



Lay Servant Training 2025 - Register Now!

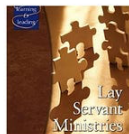
Metro District is Offering Basic Lay Servant Training and two Advanced Courses on March 29 and 30. The deadline to register is March 17!



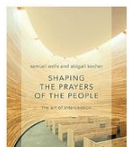
The Metro District is offering the opportunity to become a lay servant through the basic course or to become, or maintain your status as, a certified lay servant through an Advanced Course.

Certified Lay Servants must take an advanced course every three years to maintain certification. We hope you will join one of our classes listed below.

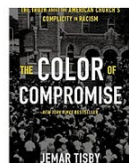
Deadline to register is March 17, 2025



Basic Lay Servant Ministries Course - "God calls you to a life of servanthood as a disciple of Jesus Christ. ...Lay Servant Ministries is the first step for many laypersons toward their faith journey as they strive for a closer relationship with the Lord,



Advanced Course: "Shaping the Prayers of the People: The Art of Intercession" by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher. Praying in public can be daunting, but prayer is something one learns. This course on praying in public will help the participant grow in confidence and skill in public prayer and enrich their personal prayer life.



Advanced Course: The Color of Compromise: The Truth About American Church's Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby. An acclaimed, timely narrative on how people of faith have historically - up to the present day - worked against racial Justice. The course is both enlightening and compelling, telling a history we either ignore or just don't know. Equal parts painful and inspirational.

MARCH 29 & 30, 2025

All courses will be held at University City UMC, 3835 W W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte - (You MUST attend all ten hours to receive credit for the course.)

SATURDAY - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SUNDAY - 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM (followed by a closing session)



Below is the Link to Sign Up for a Lay Servant Ministry Training Course

[https://wnc-reg.brtaapp.com/
2025MetroDistrictLayServantTraining7171?
utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email](https://wnc-reg.brtaapp.com/2025MetroDistrictLayServantTraining7171?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email)



Vacation Bible School at Sedgefield Church

**Monday-Thursday, July 14–17, 2025
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is open for rising kindergartners
to rising 5th graders and for Volunteers.

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

OR

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
2025 - TRUE NORTH



Any questions please contact:
Mary Jo Bridges
VBS Director
marycbridges@yahoo.com
704-617-4056

First United Methodist Church
501 N Tryon St, Charlotte, NC 28202

***BREAKFAST MINISTRY
NEEDS VOLUNTEERS***



Every Sunday morning between 8-9:15, some 250 guests receive breakfast in the Fellowship Hall of First United Methodist Church, called the **Muffin Ministry**.

Since it began 15 years ago, volunteers actually serve a full meal, with cereal, fruit, sandwiches, eggs, biscuits, pastries, bagels, and coffee and juice.

Individuals or church groups are welcome to assist in this important work! Come once, or schedule a recurring Sunday.

If you would like to help set up, serve, visit, or clean up, please email the Muffin Ministry Coordinator, Ann Huskey at annhusk@yahoo.com.

Thank You!



Hurricane Helene Volunteer Opportunity from Woodlawn Community Fellowship

Woodlawn Community Fellowship has been in collaboration with other area churches and Neighborhood Table to provide hot meals several days a week as part of Hurricane Helene Relief.

Every Tuesday in February and March, we will take a team of 3 people to Newland UMC in Avery County. Catered food is picked up at a local restaurant in Avery County, delivered to Newland UMC and served to approximately 200 guests 12:00-2:00 pm. Guests include local residents impacted by the storm, FEMA workers and other work crews.

Please contact Barbara Helm at wcf@woodlawncommunityfellowship.org if you can help by:

1. Travel on a Tuesday in February or March. Leave Woodlawn Community Fellowship at 8:30am and return approximately 5:00pm. Everyone travels in one vehicle.
2. Provide baked goods/desserts. Desserts need to be placed in individual baggies or wrapped in clear plastic wrap. 200 desserts are needed each Tuesday. Desserts can be dropped off Monday morning or Tuesday morning between 8:00 - 8:30. Please schedule a drop off with the number of servings with Barbara.
3. Provide soft drinks.

Thank You!



How To Help With WNCCH Hurricane Helene Relief

Step 1: Sedgefield UMC Will Collect Supplies.

Current list of supplies needed:

- Water
- Flood Buckets
- Non-perishable food
- Diapers
- Baby Formula
- Cleaning Supplies

Absolutely NO clothes or food items that need refrigeration.

We will work on a more detailed list over time. This list may change quickly, and we will keep you updated.

Please leave your donations under the sign next to the stairs in the Narthex.

Step 2: We Will Deliver Our Donated Supplies to:

Woodlawn Community Fellowship (our District Collection Hub).

Ann Davis - Collection Hub Coordinator

704-502-9265 (Please text.)

Call Woodlawn Coordinator to schedule a time to drop off supplies.

Donate directly to WNCCH

Online: Use this Link: <https://bit.ly/WNCCHurricaneReliefDonations>

Checks: Checks can be made out to WNCCH Treasurer and mailed to PO Box 2757, Huntersville, NC 28070 with memo Disaster Response.

You can also donate through Sedgefield UMC by whatever method you currently use (**note for Disaster Relief**). We will forward to WNCCH.

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.



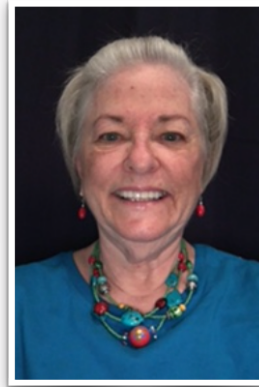
Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



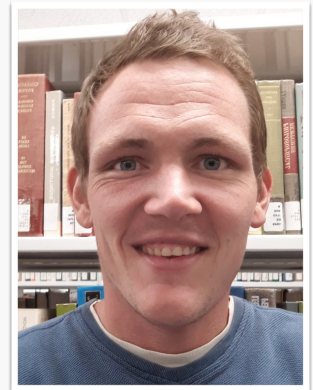
Ron Aldridge
Worship Leader



Mary Jo Bridges
Director of
Children's Ministry



Ellen Freitas
Office Manager



Bradley Kirksey
Youth Director



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