

# THE EPISTLE

April 4, 2025

*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 we will have Holy Communion and there will be a special children's time in worship. I will be preaching on John 12:1-8 and my title will be "What Was She Thinking?" (For the record, this title is not connected to Leigh's preaching at all, but it is pretty funny that it lined up that way).

The "she" in the title refers to Mary, sister of Martha and Lazarus, who anointed Jesus's feet with expensive perfume. This story is told in all four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. While Mark and Matthew's versions are similar, Luke and John tell it a little differently. Mark and Matthew put it right before the Last Supper but Luke puts it much earlier in Jesus's ministry. John puts it later in the order of events, but in John's version, it is not some unknown woman coming in off the street. In John, the anointing is done by a close friend, Mary, in her brother Lazarus's house. These differences may not matter significantly for us, but it is interesting how the writers all tell it differently.

On Sunday we will talk about strange, reckless behavior. We have all been in awkward situations when someone acts or speaks inappropriately. Sometimes YOU are the one behaving strangely. What were YOU thinking? How do we respond in these situations? What is the Christ-like response? The disciples received a lesson from Jesus in this story. It was uncomfortable and those present had different thoughts going through their minds. In the sermon, I will discuss how Jesus used the incident as a teaching moment. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

## This Sunday in Worship

April 6, 2025

10:30 a.m.

What Was She Thinking?

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

Holy Communion and Food Drive for  
Nourish Up this Sunday, April 6, 2025

### Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers for this Sunday,  
April 6, 2025 are in celebration of  
Bud and Betty Davidson's 67th  
Wedding Anniversary.  
and in celebration of Everet  
Whelan's Birthday.

### Future Sermons

*Apr 13 - Palm/Passion Sunday*

*Apr 20 - Easter Sunday -*

*Short Term Memory Loss*

*Apr 27 - Rev. Emily Parker Preaching*

▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**

Sunday, April 20, 2025

4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

907 W. 1st Street

▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**

Sunday, April 27, 2024

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

907 W. 1st Street

## Upcoming Events

▶ **Blood Drive**

Sunday, April 6, 2025

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Sedgefield Church Parking Lot

▶ **Youth Group**

Sunday, April 6, 2025

12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.

St. Andrews UMC

1901 Archdale Drive

Charlotte NC 28210

▶ **Chamber Concert**

Sunday, April 6, 2025

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m

Sanctuary

▶ **Lenten Lunch**

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

12 Noon - 1:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

▶ **Trustees Meeting**

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

▶ **Susanna Wesley Circle**

Thursday, April 10, 2025

5:30 p.m

Room 204 in the Education Bldg.

▶ **Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday April 12, 2025

10:30 a.m.


Fellowship Hall (Rain or Shine)

▶ **Admin Council Meeting**

Wednesday, April 15, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom



# DONATE BLOOD

**Sedgefield United Methodist Church**  
**Sunday, April 6**  
**8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

All donors receive\*:  
 - **\$20 eGift Card**  
 - **OneBlood T-Shirt**  
 - **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.


Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.

Appointments are encouraged, please visit [oneblood.org/donate-now](https://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use sponsor code 43269


**ID REQUIRED**  
\*One gift per donor per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit [oneblood.org/faq](https://oneblood.org/faq).

Donors Receive  
 \$20 eGift CARD  
 Amazon  
 and more!

~ PLUS ~



~ PLUS ~



oneblood  
save your blood

Below is the Link to schedule a donation.  
 Walk Ups also welcome!

[https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/1626969](https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1626969)

### The Lifesaving Gift: Why Blood Donation Matters

Every few seconds, someone in the world needs a blood transfusion. Whether due to accidents, surgeries, or medical conditions like anemia or cancer, the demand for blood is constant. However, blood cannot be manufactured - it can only come from the support of generous donors who choose to give this lifesaving gift. Approximately 62% of the population is eligible to donate blood yet only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.

Blood transfusions are essential in medical emergencies and help to manage chronic medical conditions. *A single blood donation can help save up to three lives*, making each contribution incredibly impactful.

There are many reasons patients need blood:

- More than 25% of the blood supply is used by patients battling cancer
- 1 out of every 83 childbirths will require a blood transfusion
- 3.2% of the blood supply is used to treat pediatric patients
- Patients with sickle cell disease, cancer, and severe anemia rely on regular transfusions to maintain their health and quality of life.

Without a steady blood supply, hospitals and medical facilities would struggle to meet patient needs.

Donating blood is safe, quick, and usually takes less than an hour. When you donate, you will find the process to be simple and easy. We are using OneBlood for the upcoming blood drive in Sedgefield. OneBlood is a non-profit organization that supplies blood and blood products to our community and the surrounding areas. Besides the opportunity to give back to your community, YOU will also receive perks for donating such as tasty snacks, gift cards and other fun items.

Blood donation is a vital act of kindness that saves lives and strengthens communities. By giving blood, donors provide hope to patients in need and help ensure a stable healthcare system. The simple decision to donate can have a profound impact, proving that a small act of generosity can make a world of difference.

#### To be eligible to donate blood you must:

- be at least 17 years old (16 with parental permission in some states)
- meet height and weight requirements (at least 110 pounds based on height)
- be in generally good health

#### Before donating you should:

- get a good night's sleep
- drink plenty of fluids
- eat within 2-3 hours

**We hope to see you at the upcoming blood drive on April 6<sup>th</sup>.  
 The Big Red Bus will be in the church parking lot.**

# The Symbols of Lent



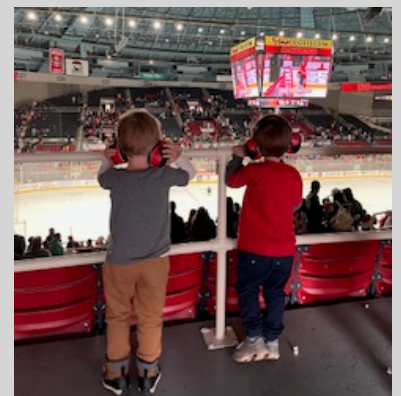
While hanging on the cross, Jesus said "I thirst." Someone put a sponge soaked with wine on a branch and held it up to Jesus to drink. After drinking the wine from the sponge, Jesus said "It is finished." Then he died.



**Sedgefield Church Outing  
at the  
Charlotte Checkers  
Hockey Game**



**Sedgefield Day at the Charlotte Checkers Hockey Game was so much fun! We had 7 children/youth and 7 adults attending the game last Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. It was an exciting game with the Charlotte Checkers winning over Wilkes-Barr/Scranton Penguins 5 – 2. The children and adults enjoyed eating lunch at the game and then enjoying some popcorn and Dipping Dots!**



**Our next Church Outing will be  
on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at the  
Bolero Park 10 Bowling Alley  
1700 Montford Drive Charlotte 28209  
More details later!**

**Blessings!  
Mary Jo Bridges  
Children's Program Director  
704-617-4056**

# Lenten Luncheons

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

Our Final Luncheon is this Wednesday, April 9th  
at 12Noon in Fellowship Hall.

This is your last chance to join us as we gather for a brief time of devotion and fellowship.

Those attending are invited to bring their own lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided by Sedgefield UMC.

**All are Welcome!**





# Easter Lily Information

Order Forms to purchase Easter Lilies are available in the Narthex.

**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](mailto: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.





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.



***You are invited to bring your food donations forward as you receive Communion this Sunday, April 6, 2025.***

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.

**Chamber Music for All Concert**  
**Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Sedgefield United Methodist Church**

**CM4A**

**Chamber Music for All**  
Calin Lupanu & Monica Boboc, Directors

**Brahms Clarinet Quintet**  
**with**

**Sam Sparrow (Clarinet, Charlotte Symphony)**

**CM4A musicians:** Calin Lupanu and Monica Boboc (violins)  
Marcus Pyle (viola) and Sean Hawthorne (cello)

**Tchaikovsky- Quartet no. 1 in D Major op. 11**  
**Brahms- Clarinet Quintet op. 115 in B Minor**

**Sunday, April 6th @ 3pm**

Sedgefield United Methodist

2830 Dorchester Pl. Charlotte, NC 28209

Tickets \$25, Seniors @15

children and students under 18 free admission

for more information or to purchase tickets, please visit

**[chambermusicforall.com](http://chambermusicforall.com)**



Culture For All



**Infusion Fund**  
A Partnership for Arts + Culture

**FOUNDATION FOR  
THE CAROLINAS**

# **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 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Blessings!**

**Mary Jo Bridges  
Children's Director**



## **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.**



## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:annhusk@yahoo.com).

**Thank You!**





## How To Help With WNC CUMC 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 WNC CUMC**

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

**Checks:** Checks can be made out to WNC C 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 WNC CUMC.

## 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.





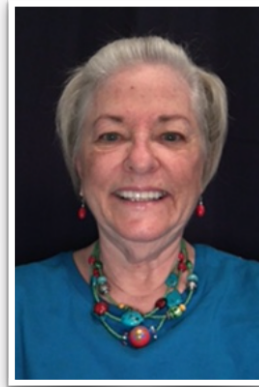
**Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley, Pastor**  
pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org



**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



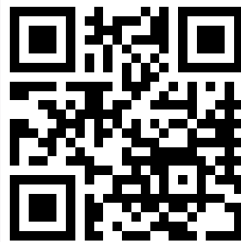
**Mary Jo Bridges**  
Director of  
Children's Ministry



**Ellen Freitas**  
Office Manager



**Bradley Kirksey**  
Youth Director



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