

# THE EPISTLE

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May 16, 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 I will be preaching on Acts 11:12-18 and my title will be “Opening Up.” We will have two High School graduates honored. We will also have a baptism and receive two new members.

Many people see the church (and all organized religion) as slow to change. I think that’s a fair assessment. The church is a large entity with many groups and divisions. Those different groups frequently disagree with each other. Within these groups, there are also disagreements.

When people can’t agree within their divided groups and between the groups, change will always come slowly, if at all. That’s not making excuses. It’s simply the truth.

The early church had similar problems. It was much smaller and geographically limited, yet from the beginning, the people struggled to agree on important issues. In this week’s Scripture, Peter made a significant and controversial move - he opened the church to non-Jews. On Sunday, I will talk about the importance of this change and how it helps us understand our decisions today, both as a church and as individual Christians. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom



## This Sunday in Worship

May 18, 2025  
10:30 a.m.  
Opening Up

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

### Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers for this  
Sunday, May 18, 2025 are in  
honor of our Graduates!

### Future Sermons

*May 25 - Living Up To Your Word*

*June 1 - Jail Break*

*June 8 - Tom Little Preaching*

- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**  
Sunday, May 25, 2025  
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.  
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Church-Wide Bowling Outing**  
Sunday, June 1, 2025  
12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
Bowlero Park 10 Bowling Alley  
1700 Montford Drive, Charlotte

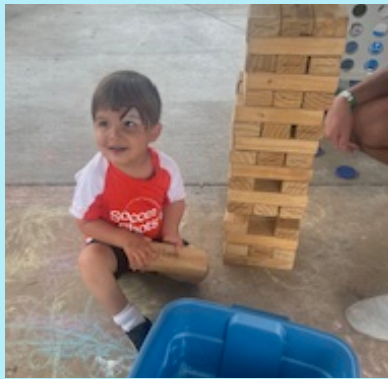
## Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Graduation Recognition**  
Sunday, May 18, 2025  
10:30 a.m.  
Sanctuary  
Reception on the front lawn to follow.
- ▶ **Youth Group**  
Sunday, May 18,, 2025  
12Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
St. Andrew's UMC  
1901 Archdale Drive  
Charlotte NC 28210
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**  
Sunday, May 18, 2025  
4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Bible Study**  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
11:00 a.m. - 12Noon  
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Admin Council Meeting**  
Tuesday May 20, 2025  
6:30p.m.  
Rm 204 Ed. Bldg w/Zoom Option
- ▶ **Trustees Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 21, 2025  
6:30p.m.  
Via Zoom



# Sedgefest Pictures

## Saturday, May 10, 2025



Thank you to Mary Jo Bridges for organizing our Church's participation in Sedgefest by providing three craft tables for the children in the Gazebo. The children had lots of fun coloring, stenciling and of course working with, the ever popular, Play-Doh.

Also thanks to Cathy Neill, Karen Willis, Jean Fostvedt, Joyce Bergantino, Ellen Freitas and Pastor Tom for taking shifts to help out in the Gazebo during the event.







## **Request from Sedgefield Middle School**

**Urgent!** EOG Proctors Needed at Sedgefield Middle School.

Sedgefield needs about 30 proctors per day to test properly.  
Which means we need you!

**For dates, details and to sign up, use the link below:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/  
1FAIpQLSdDIV3u2KasUuFtMRb3jQxl  
JBHuUrjup-p3mBw\\_zz8VoVf4Bw/  
viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDIV3u2KasUuFtMRb3jQxlJBHuUrjup-p3mBw_zz8VoVf4Bw/viewform)

Thank you.



# Church-wide Bowling Event



**Please Join us for our Church-wide Bowling Event.**

**Date:** Sunday, June 1, 2025  
**Time:** 12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Bowlero 10 Park Lanes  
**Address:** 1700 Montford Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28209

Please come and experience an afternoon of fun!

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex!

**Cost is \$27.28 for adults and \$17.28 for children and youth.** This includes 1½ hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and a drink.

**We are required to pay in advance to reserve the space.**

## **New Payment Instructions**

**Please make your payment online via the church website or Zelle. Be sure to note for “children’s ministry/bowling” on whatever payment method you use.**

**Thank you.**

**Mary Jo Bridges  
Children’s Director  
704-617-4056**





## **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 WNCCUMC 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 WNCCUMC**

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

**Checks:** Checks can be made out to WNCC 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 WNCCUMC.

## 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.





## SEDGEFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



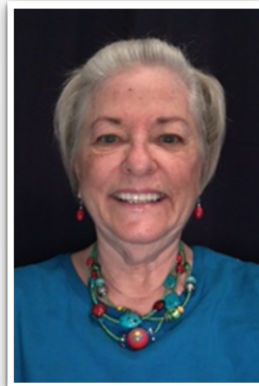
**Rev. Tom Stinson-Wesley**, Pastor  
[pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org](mailto:pastortom@sedgefieldchurch.org)



**Ron Aldridge**  
Worship Leader



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



**Ellen Freitas**  
Office Manager



**Bradley Kirksey**  
Youth Director



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