

The Epistle January 9, 2026



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 Matthew 3:13-17 and my title will be “Humility.” In worship, we will recognize our church leaders and pledge our support for them for 2026.

A new year brings new possibilities, new opportunities, and, unfortunately, new challenges. We began the year remembering the wise men visiting the Christ child. For this week we will jump ahead to Jesus as an adult. In his first recorded public act, Jesus went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. This one simple act speaks volumes about everyone involved - Jesus, John, the others seeking John and baptism, and the religious authorities present.

My focus for the sermon will be the humility of John and of Jesus. Jesus’s desire for baptism is a strikingly humble act. The son of God humbled himself to be baptized like any other human being. John himself was humble, as I mentioned last month, in that he didn’t think he was worth much in comparison to Jesus. Two extraordinary people, Jesus and John, exhibiting outstanding humility. We will talk about how we can follow their example.

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

This Sunday in Worship

January 11, 2026
10:30 a.m.
Humility

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

Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers for Sunday, January 11, 2026 are from Jean Fostvedt in memory of my brother Bobby Fostvedt.

Future Sermons

Jan 18 - A Simple Introduction
Jan 25 - The Second Choice
Feb 1 - Irreplaceable You

- ▶ **SAIL Fitness Class for Older Adults**
Thursday January 15, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Dinner**
Sunday, January 18, 2026
4:45 p.m.
907 W. 1st Street
- ▶ **Admin Council Meeting**
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
6:30 p.m.
Rm 204 in Ed. Bldg. w/ Zoom Option
- ▶ **Serve At Rebound-Breakfast**
Sunday, January 25 2026
7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
907 W. 1st Street

Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Blood Drive**
Sunday, January 11, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Church Parking Lot
- ▶ **Reception for Ellen Freitas**
Sunday, January 11, 2026
11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Missions Meeting**
Sunday, January 11, 2026
11:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Youth Group**
Sunday, January 11, 2026
12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.
St. Andrew's UMC
1901 Archdale Drive
Charlotte NC 28210
- ▶ **Room In The Inn**
Serve Dinner and Host
Sunday, January 11, 2026
5:30 p.m.
Avondale Presbyterian Church
2821 Park Rd, Charlotte 28209
- ▶ **Bible Study**
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **Trustees Meeting**
Wednesday, January 14, 2026
6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall w/ Zoom Option



Sedgefield Church Nursery

In addition to Adriana, our Nursery Attendant, every Sunday we need an adult volunteer to help in the Nursery during worship service to meet our Safe Sanctuary guidelines.

We need volunteers for January!

Please consider signing up to volunteer in the Nursery on a Sunday using the Sign-Up link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4DA5AE29AAF94-59236691-nursery#/>

Thank You.



DONATE BLOOD

Sedgefield United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 11
 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

All donors receive*:
 - **\$20 eGift Card**
 - **Long-sleeved 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://donor.oneblood.org/donate-now) and use **sponsor code 43269**

ID REQUIRED
*One offer per donor per donation. No cash value. Not redeemable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/faq.

oneblood share your power

Donate Blood

Sunday, January 11, 2026
10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.

Sedgefield Church
Parking Lot

Appointments are encouraged.
Use the Link below to Sign up.

[https://donor.oneblood.org/
 donor/schedules/
 drive_schedule/1684165](https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1684165)



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 Sunday, January 11th.
The Big Red Bus will be in the church parking lot.



Sedgefield Church will once again be hosting four Sunday nights at Roof Above. We need Church members and volunteers to host, prepare food and serve on those nights.

We will be using the facilities at Avondale Presbyterian Church, 2821 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28209

Our hosting dates, the second Sunday of each month, are listed below. Arrival time is 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Sunday, February, 8, 2026

Sunday, March 8, 2026

We need your help. Please use the Sign-Up Link below to volunteer or to fill a need.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EACAB23A64-46252965-room>

**If you have any questions,
please contact Ellen Lankford
Email: ewlankford@gmail.com
Cellphone: 980-722-8435**

Thank you.

Gloves & Socks Collection



Beginning this Sunday, January 11, 2026 we will be collecting Gloves & Socks for people in need. You can drop your donated Gloves & Socks in the containers in the Church Narthex or anytime in the Black Trash Bin on the front porch of the Church.

If you prefer, you can make a donation to the Church; please write for Gloves & Socks in the memo of your check. You can also donate online using your usual method be sure to include for Gloves & Socks.

All monetary donations will be used to purchase Gloves and Socks in bulk.

We will be collecting these items through Sunday, January 25, 2026.

Please feel free to call the church at 704-523-0077 or email office@sedgefieldchurch.org if you have any questions.



Donate Altar Flowers

**Use the Sign-up Genius Link Below
to Donate Flowers in 2026.**

**[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/
10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-60388805-2026](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AB2AAB9-60388805-2026)**

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

**You can also just call the 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.**



Serving Meals at Rebound part of the Charlotte Rescue Mission

Rebound provides Christian residential recovery services at no cost for men seeking freedom from drug and alcohol addiction.

A team from Sedgefield Church serves meals twice a month at Rebound, 907 W. 1st Street:

**On the 3rd Sunday of each month
we serve dinner from 4:45pm - 5:45pm.**

**On the 4th Sunday of each month
we serve breakfast from 7:45am - 8:45pm.**

If you are interested in serving at one these meals, please go to the Church Website and click on the Ministries tab, click on Outreach from the dropdown tab, click on the Charlotte Rescue Mission. If you have not volunteered through this Website before, you must create an account.

If you have any questions, please call the Church Office at 704-523-0077 during Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:00am-1:00pm.

Thank you.

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



Church

Mail your check to:

Sedgefield UMC
2830 Dorchester Pl
Charlotte, NC



Online Through

wnccumc.org

Make a credit
card or
electronic
contribution.



FIND
HOPE
HERE

SEDFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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



Ron Aldridge
Worship Leader



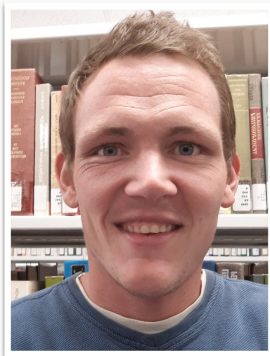
**Mary Jo
Bridges**
Director of
Children's Ministry



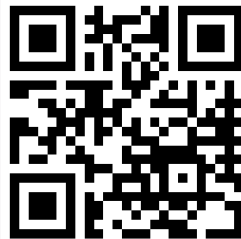
Gladys Escamilla
Office Manager



Adriana Garcia
Nursery Attendant



Bradley Kirksey
Youth Director



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