

Committee Meeting Schedule

<u>Building and Grounds:</u> 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 pm	<u>Christian Education:</u> 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am
<u>Worship:</u> 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm	<u>Congregational Connections:</u> 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am
<u>Finance & Administration:</u> 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm	

Counters

Week 1:		WNF Set-Up	WNF Clean-Up
Joe Novobilski and Sandra Thomas	Week 1		
Week 2:	Week 2	Daoust	Troops 7 & 83
Steve Jewett and Kathy Linker	Week 3		Mitchem/ Carter
Week 3:	Week 4		Whaley/ Glosson
Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 5	Tipton	Tipton/ Earley
Week 4:			
Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds			
Week 5:			
Bob Remsburg and Don Chase			

Stewardship Report

2026 Budget:	\$465,561
Total Given YTD:	\$313,208
Needed Each Month:	\$38,797
Total For September:	\$36,917
Needed Weekly:	\$8,953
Total For September 27:	\$16,332

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Pastor:

The Rev. Dr. Neal Carter
704-455-2479 or 910-280-9688
nealcarter64@gmail.com

Church Administrator:

Macie Melton
704-455-2479
churchadmin@rockyriver.org

Music and Children’s Ministries:

Laura Smith
704-796-3198
laura.rrpc@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

Hailey Lebada
704-455-2479
rockyriveryouth@gmail.com



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, October 4, 2026



World Communion Sunday
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 AM

Rocky River Presbyterian Church • 7940 Rocky River Road • Concord NC 28025
www.rockyriver.org • 704-455-2479

Gathering

The Nursery is available for Infants-Kindergarten.
Please silence your cell phones and refrain from talking.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass the welcome pads located at the end of each pew. You may also sign in electronically by scanning the code.



PRELUDE
CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 19)

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

All: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

One: From east to west, from north to south, God's praise rises among the nations.

All: We gather with sisters and brothers around the world, united by one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

One: Come, let us worship the God whose love knows no borders.

All: Let us worship God!

† HYMN #525 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



HARRISBURG CRISIS
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY
FOOD PANTRY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

FOOD PANTRY



MONDAYS,
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.



Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Est. @ 1751

	Our Session		
	CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Finance & Administration	Sandra Thomas	Shirley Rockel	Jim Pharr
Worship	Priscilla Giuliano	Barbara Whaley	Claudia Bedsole
Congregational Connections	Joe Novobilski, Clerk of Session	Robert Remsburg	Ashelyn Earley
Building and Grounds	Steve Irminger	David Murray	Jimmy Stafford
Christian Education	Theresa Watson	Nicole Schneider	Elaine Tankersley



The Community Carnival and Trunk or Treat are on October 25th from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM. Volunteers are needed for games, trunks, and supervision of the bounce houses. Please see Bob Remsburg, Traci Bird, or Ashelyn Earley to volunteer, or a sign-up sheet is available in the vestibule & at Wednesday Night Fellowship. Please help with candy donations that may be placed in the Lay Office's designated box.

TEN CENTS-A-MEAL



Donations accepted the first
Sunday of each month
and every
Wednesday Night Fellowship
Dinner!



† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, You have called people from every tribe and language and nation to be your vineyard, yet we confess that we have often acted as if your kingdom belongs to us alone. We have built walls where you have opened doors. We have guarded privileges rather than shared grace. We have ignored the cries of neighbors whose lives seem distant from our own. We have forgotten that your table is wider than our imagination and your mercy deeper than our understanding. **Forgive us when we fail to recognize Christ in those who differ from us. Forgive us when fear overcomes hospitality and pride overshadows humility. Gather us again into one body through Jesus Christ, who welcomes all and calls us to bear the fruit of your kingdom.**

† A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON & PASSING THE PEACE

One: Friends believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Let us exchange a gesture of peace with our neighbors, and remain standing for our Response to Forgiveness.

† RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS Gloria Patri #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, Open our ears to hear your Word. Open our minds to understand your truth. Open our hearts to receive Christ anew. As we listen to the Scriptures, unite us with believers around the world who hear these same promises today. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:33–46

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Come Find Forgiveness and Love

Besig and Price

Choir

SERMON

“My Jesus”

Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles’ Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

Help Support Our Youth Mission Fund This October!

Our Bake Sale will be held Saturday, **Oct. 10**, during the Brunswick Stew Event, and we are seeking donations of homemade cakes, pies, cookies, breads, and other baked goods.

Then, on **Oct. 25**, during Carnival + Trunk or Treat, we will hold a Silent Auction. Donations may include gift baskets, gift cards, handmade items, toys, services, baked goods, or other items that would be great for bidding.

You can support either fundraiser or both. To donate, please see Hailey Lebada or email rockyriveryouth@gmail.com.

All proceeds support the Youth Mission Fund, helping our youth serve our community and beyond.



EVERYONE WELCOME!

ANNUAL COMMUNITY

BRUNSWICK STEW & BBQ





4:00 PM – UNTIL

SECOND SATURDAY

IN OCTOBER



The Fall Brunswick Stew and Barbecue is on October 10th starting at 4:00 PM. Invite your friends, family, and anyone in the community to join us for an evening of great food and fellowship. Meals are dine-in only. Donations will be accepted. The Youth Group will have delicious treats at their bake sale as a fundraising activity.

YOUTH MINISTRY

RRPC Youth Fall 2026 Dates

Mark your calendars for a fun and busy fall with RRPC Youth!

Oct. 4 from 3–5 PM – Bowling & Laser Tag

RRPC Youth are heading out for an afternoon of bowling, laser tag, and fellowship! More details will be shared with youth families. Please RSVP to rockyriveryouth@gmail.com.

Oct. 10 - Youth Bake Sale

(During Brunswick Stew Event) – See details on next page!

Oct. 25 @ 3–5 PM - Silent Auction during Carnival & Trunk or Treat

Oct. 25 @ 5:30 PM - Youth Halloween Party & Movie Night

Nov. 7 - Service Day (Details TBD)

Dec. 5 @ 5:30 PM - Youth Christmas Party

Youth Pantry Drive

SEPT.: CEREAL

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO
RRPC!

Questions - Hailey Lebada or email us
at RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com



Join the RRPC Youth Mailing List

Join our mailing list to stay connected and help shape the upcoming programs. Receive our weekly newsletter with updates and quick lessons for all ages. Scan the QR code or email RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com.



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, from your hand comes all good gifts. Receive these offerings and use them for the work of your kingdom throughout the world. Bless the ministries they support, the lives they touch, and the witness they strengthen. May these gifts bear fruit for your glory and for the healing of your people everywhere. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Neal Carter

HYMN #507, Verse 1 *Come to the Table of Grace*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ. Please hold each element until everyone is served; as a sign of our unity in Christ, we will partake on cue from the minister.

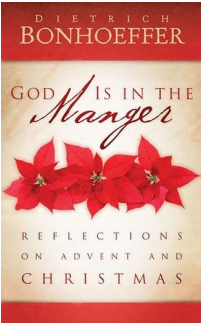
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Gracious God, We thank you for feeding us at your table and joining us to Christ and to believers around the world. Send us now into the world as ambassadors of your peace, servants of your justice, and witnesses to your grace. May the bread we have shared strengthen us for faithful living and joyful service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

- † HYMN #321
- The Church’s One Foundation
- † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- † RESPONSE
- You Shall Go Out with Joy
- #80
- † POSTLUDE

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold



Men’s Advent Study
Tuesdays, 12:30 pm - Session Room
Tuesday, December 1, 2026, weekly until December 22, 2026
Studying: *God Is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

This book can be ordered online. Please register with Macie by Nov. 19th and feel free to bring your own lunch this year.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY



Children’s Christmas Program
December 13, 10:00am

The Children's Christmas Program will begin rehearsals on Oct. 11, 12:15pm-1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch to enjoy together. Rehearsals will continue every week until the program is presented on Dec. 13 at 10:00am. Please see Laura Smith for more details.

Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 7:00 pm, La Unica

Young adults, join Pastor Neal for a casual time of tacos and discussion. Let's Taco 'Bout It!

Questions? Contact Neal Carter, 980-280-9688



Women's Retreat

November 13 - 15, 2026

Montreat Women's Retreat is coming soon, November 13-15th. This year's fees are \$260.00 for a double room, \$320.00 for a single room. With a deposit of \$50.00 due by September 20th. Secure your spot today!

Forms available in the vestibule.
Contact Priscilla Giuliano - ttandsp@gmail.com



Montreat 20 Year T-Shirts

Order forms are available on the table in the vestibule or by contacting Priscilla Giuliano.

ttandsp@gmail.com or calling 704-706-3203



Attendance for Sunday, September 27, 2026

Sanctuary: 121

Online: 96

Online Giving

Scan the QR code to give tithes and offerings online.



Interested in membership?

Contact our Church Administrator to arrange a meeting with Pastor Neal Carter.
704-455-2479 or churchadmin@rockyriver.org

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026

6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: SOUPS

We ask for four people each week to bring a dessert. Please contact Robert Remsburg, rremsburg@yahoo.com.



RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 27

2:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Rocky River to schedule an appointment.



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Oct. 6, 2026 - 9:00 am
Room 214 - 2nd floor

The Tabernacle by Shawn Bernard, M. Div. with Jeanne Whittaker

Starting on October 13, *The Miracles of Jesus* edited by Matt Williams.

For further information contact Barbara Whaley at
rnbwhaley@ctc.net

Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Morning: 10:00 am, Session Room
Evening: 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

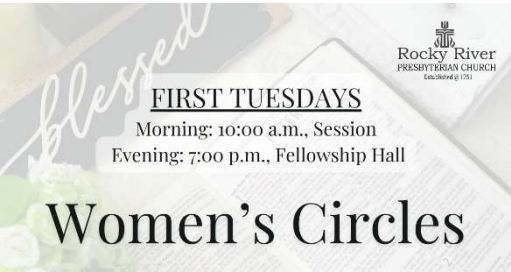
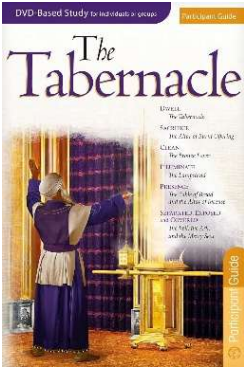
All women are invited to join a circle!
Morning: Linda Clark, 704-458-2472
Evening: Elaine Vincent, 704-575-0396

Game Night

Friday, Oct. 9, 2026, at 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Adults gather for board and card games the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month! No registration required.
All are welcome for a bit of laughs and friendly competition!

Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203

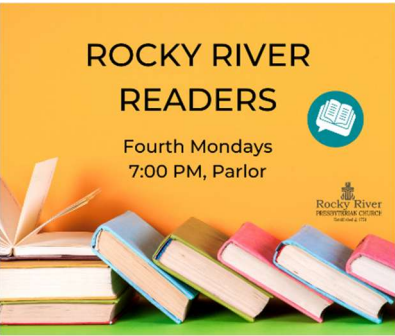


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Oct. 18, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall

Men of all ages are invited to come and share in good food and fellowship. This breakfast is held on the third Sunday of each month.

Questions? Contact Jerry Clark at 704-458-9233



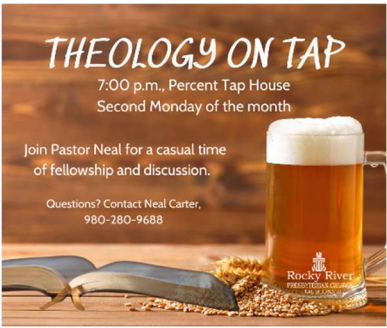
Rocky River Readers

Monday, Oct. 26, 7:00 pm, Parlor

The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife by Anna Johnston

View the 2026 reading list at
www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers.
Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203

****Please note updated dates this month for Theology On Tap and Taco Tuesday.**



Theology On Tap

Monday, Oct. 26, 7:00 pm, Percent Tap House

Join Pastor Neal for a casual time of fellowship and discussion. This gathering is held on the second Monday of each month.

Questions? Contact Neal Carter, 980-280-9688