

Established @ 1751



Morning Worship at Rocky River Presbyterian Church Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 AM

Gathering

The Nursery is available for Infants-Kindergarten.

The Alternative Worship Room (105) is available for those with sensory needs.

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 Lamentations 3)

One: When there seems to be a great deal of hopelessness all around,

All: this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of

the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;

One: they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

All: Therefore, I will hope in him.

† HYMN #59 The Steadfast Love of the Lord

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the Past, the Present and the Future, you fulfill your promise to always be with us. Forgive us for ignoring your presence and not loving you with our whole heart. We confess we have denied your love and have not shared your love with others. As we gather around your table free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† 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.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

10-Cents-A-Meal Offering

Neal Carter

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

ANTHEM "We Are One in the Lord" Joseph M. Martin

Choir

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Lamentations 3:19-26

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Out in the Middle" 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.

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

Gracious God, it is our prayer that this money, symbol of all that we have received as a gift from you, will be used through our church community and beyond to further your never-ending project of renewal in our world.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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.

 \dagger 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)

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament, you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life. So strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #530

One Bread, One Body

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again #542, Verse 1

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025

Sanctuary: 124 Online: 46

Interested in membership?

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

† Please Stand · Congregation reads words in bold.

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** for Sunday, October 5, 2025, following the worship service to elect the new officers.

*Names can be entered from the floor of the meeting by RRPC members.

The RRPC Elder Nominating Committee nominates the following slate to be the elders for the Class of 2028

Jimmy Stafford - Building & Grounds

I have been a member of RRPC for over 15 years. I moved my membership here from Robinson Presbyterian Church, where I served on the board of deacons for three terms. I have previously served as elder here at Rocky River Presbyterian Church. I currently serve on the building and grounds committee here at Rocky River Presbyterian.

Ashleyn Earley - Congregational Connections

Ashelyn Earley has been a member of RRPC for a decade and attended as a child with her grandparents. She served on session years ago and is happy to do so again. She is a nurse at an OB office in Mint Hill. She is married to Brad Earley, and they have one son, Brandon. Ashelyn enjoys spending time with family and friends, loves to travel, and to read.

Claudia Bedsole - Worship

Claudia Bedsole is an active member of Rocky River Presbyterian Church. She is a regular member of the Women's Bible Study, a Women's Circle member, participates in the Worship music ministry through song with an RRPC quartet, and the handbell choir. Claudia enjoys Sunday morning worship, the fellowship of the RRPC book club as well as the Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal. She is a member of one of the Fellowship Meal clean-up teams. Claudia is also a bread maker to welcome visitors and a quilt maker to comfort those in need.

Elaine Tankersley - Christian Education

A lifelong Presbyterian, I joined RRPC in March 1981 by transfer of letter from Mulberry Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. I have served on the Session three times previously, acting as Worship Committee Chairman for several of those years. My love of music has kept me actively involved in the Music Ministry of this congregation whether it be participating in the choir, handbells, or playing the piano/organ. I am currently on the Christian Education Committee and enjoy helping in the Children's Sunday School Class. I enjoy spending time with my family – my husband, two sons and their wives, and my three grandchildren.

Jim Pharr - Finance & Administration

Having been Baptized and raised in Rocky River, I have the urge to serve wherever a positive difference can be made. I served on session here once before and continue to work with the Building and Grounds plus the cemetery committee. For many years I have had the pleasure of working with youth on mission trips. I look forward to continued service to RRPC.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



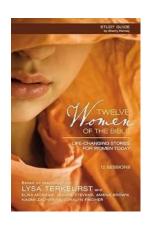
WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, Oct. 8 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: BAKED POTATO BAR

We ask for four people each week to bring a dessert. Please contact Nancy Tipton, ntipton71@gmail.com / 704-309-0369

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study October 7, 2025 - 9:00 AM Room 216 - 2nd floor

Twelve Women of the Bible by Lysa Terkeurst, Elisa Morgan, et.al. Using the study guide by Sherry Harney.

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



Women's Circle Meetings Tuesday, October 7 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



GriefShare 13 - Week Class Tuesdays: Aug. 19 - Nov. 11 10:30 am - 12:00 pm



Questions? Contact Joan Nicholson, jnich1@hotmail.com, 704-239-1573



Game Night Friday, Oct, 10, 2025 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!

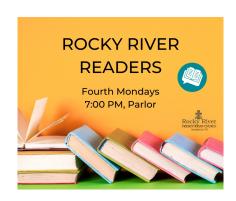
Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203



Men's Breakfast Sunday, Oct. 19, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall

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

Questions? Contact Jerry Clark at 704-458-9233



Rocky River Readers Monday, Oct. 27, 7:00 pm, Parlor

Inheritance by Nora Roberts

View the 2025 reading list at www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers. Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Christmas Program Start October 19, 2025

Rehearsals for the Children's Christmas Program will begin Oct. 19th at 3:30pm. This year's program will be a telling of the Nativity story from the Bible with scripture, music, and costumes!

Christmas Costume Wishlist Delivered by: November 9, 2025

Our children need your help to get new Christmas pageant costumes. To make it as easy as possible, we have chosen specific costumes. Please, use the QR code to purchase directly from our Amazon wishlist. Costumes can be sent to the church, with delivery by Nov. 9th.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Smith, laura.rrpc@gmail.com.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Bake Sale October 11, 2025

The Rocky River Youth are preparing for their Bake Sale during the Fall Festival on Saturday, October 11, and we need your help! We're inviting church members and friends to share their best homemade cakes, pies, cookies, and other goodies.

If you would like to contribute baked goods, please sign up by emailing rockyriveryouth@gmail.com.

All proceeds from the sale will go directly to support the Youth Mission Fund. Thank you for <u>baking a difference</u> in the lives of our youth!

Youth Pantry Drive OCT.: BABY WIPES

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO RRPC!

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

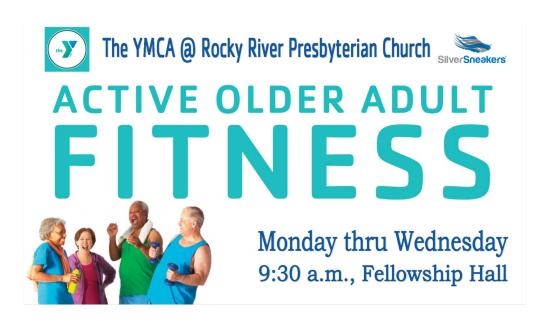




Join the RRPC Youth Mailing List

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.





BUILDING & GROUNDS MINISTRY

NEW PLAYGROUND PROJECT!

RRPC's Building & Grounds Ministry has begun work to rebuild our playground!

Your donations will help provide a safe, functional place for children to play.

Scan the code to donate, write "Playground" on your check, or give online at www.rockyriver.org/give



Our Session					
CLASS OF 2025	CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027			
Scott Jones	Sandra Thomas	Shirley Rockel			
Finance and Administration	Finance & Administration	Finance & Administration			
Reggie Hunnicutt	Priscilla Giuliano	Barbara Whaley			
<i>Worship</i>	<i>Worship</i>	<i>Worship</i>			
Nancy Tipton, Clerk of Session	Joe Novobilski	Robert Remsburg			
Congregational Connections	Congregational Connections	Congregational Connections			
Billy Carriker Building and Grounds	Steve Irminger Building and Grounds	David Murray Building and Grounds			
Amy Huster	Theresa Watson	Nicole Schneider			
Christian Education	Christian Education	Christian Education			

COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE Building and Grounds: Worship: Finance & Administration:

Christian Education:
Congregational Connections:

The 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Volunteer Schedules

V 010-1100 01 00100-100					
	Counters		WNF Set-Up	WNF Clean-Up	
Week 1:	Joe Novobilski and Sandra Thomas	Week 1:	C3 and Gero	Irminger and Gero	
Week 2:	Steve Jewett and Kenza Mitchem	Week 2:	Daoust	Troops 7 and 83	
Week 3:	Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 3:	(Open)	Mitchem / Carter	
Week 4:	Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds	Week 4:	(Open)	Whaley/ Bedsole/ Glosson	
Week 5:	Bob Remsburg and Don Chase	Week 5:	Tipton	Tipton / Earley	

STEWARDSHIP REPORT				
2025 BUDGET:	\$459,641			
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$331,409			
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,303			
TOTAL FOR SEPT.:	\$34,413			
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,839			
TOTAL FOR SEPT. 28:	\$9,994			

Rocky River Presbyterian Church • 7940 Rocky River Road • Concord NC 28025

www.rockyriver.org • 704.455.2479 • fax: 704.455.2489

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 Wilson • 704.455.2479 • rockyriveryouth@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.