Committee Meeting Schedule

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

Counters

Week 1:
Joe Novobilski and Sandra Thomas
Week 2:
Steve Jewett and Kathy Linker
Week 3:
Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas
Week 4:
Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds
Week 5:
Bob Remsburg and Don Chase

	WNF Set-Up	WNF Clean-Up
Week 1		
Week 2	Daoust	Troops 7 & 83
Week 3		Mitchem/ Carter
Week 4		Whaley/ Glosson
Week 5	Tipton	Tipton/ Earley

Stewardship Report

2026 Budget YTD:	$396,923
Total Given YTD:	$351,169
Needed Each Month:	$38,797
Total For November:	$11,854
Needed Weekly:	$8,953
Total For November 1:	$11,854

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

Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established @ 1751

Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 8, 2026



All Saints' Sunday
Twenty-Fourth 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 78:1–7)

One: Give ear, O people of God, to the teaching of the Lord; incline your hearts to hear the words of life.

All: We have come to remember the mighty acts of God and to give thanks for God's steadfast love.

One: From generation to generation, God has been faithful. We gather to tell the stories of God's grace, mercy, and saving power.

All: We will not hide them from our children, but will proclaim the glorious deeds of the Lord.

One: Christ calls us to live as people who are ready—watchful in faith, steadfast in hope, and abundant in love.

All: We place our hope in God, that we may walk faithfully in the way of Jesus Christ.

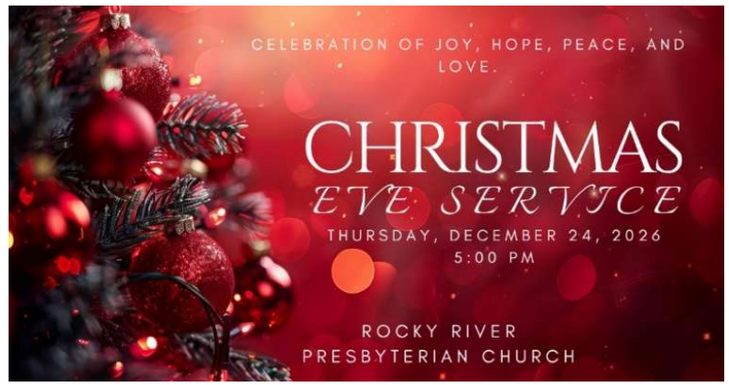
One: Come, let us worship the living God!

All: Let us worship God!

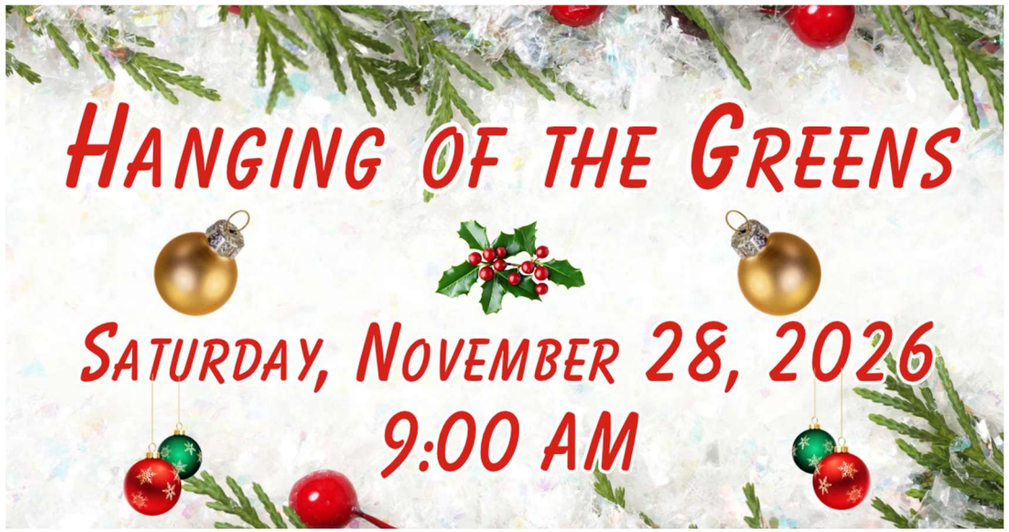
† HYMN #634 *To God Be the Glory*

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.





	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





† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God,

You have been faithful to every generation, yet we confess that we are often forgetful people. You call us to live each day with expectant hope, but we become distracted by the worries of the world. We fill our calendars yet neglect our souls. We prepare carefully for tomorrow while failing to seek your kingdom today.

Forgive us, Lord, when we presume there will always be more time to follow you more closely, to love our neighbors more deeply, and to trust you more completely. Too often we postpone obedience, delay compassion, and neglect the ordinary practices that keep our faith alive.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit. Kindle within us the oil of faith that is nourished through worship, prayer, Scripture, service, and love. Make us people whose lives are marked by joyful readiness—not because we fear your coming, but because we long to welcome Christ with faithful hearts.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

Amen.

† A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† 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 Laura Smith

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, by your Holy Spirit, open our ears to hear your Word, our minds to understand your truth, and our hearts to receive your grace. As we hear again the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, teach us what it means to live faithfully while we wait for Christ. May your Word not simply inform us but transform us, that we may become people whose lives bear witness to your kingdom every day. Through Jesus Christ, the living Word. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:1-13

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

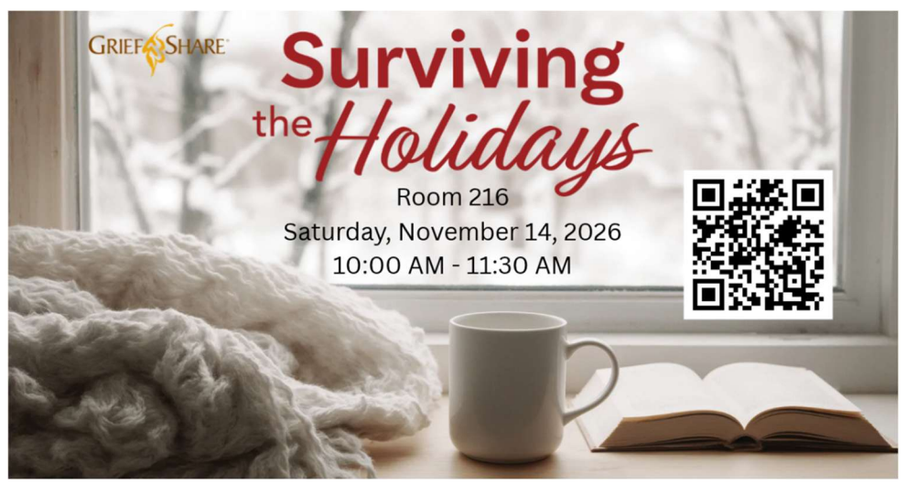
† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold

Rocky River Presbyterian Church cookbook, *Come to the Table*, is finished!

Thank you to everyone who shared recipes, family favorites, and memories to help make this cookbook such a special reflection of our church family. You can browse the entire cookbook online, along with the newly digitized 1989 Rocky River Recipes booklet. Print copies of *Come to the Table* are also available for purchase through the website.

We are so grateful to everyone who helped preserve these recipes and stories for generations to come!

View via the QR Code below or via the website:
https://rrpccookbook.netlify.app/



Lobster Dogs Food Truck

Friday, November 13, 2026

4:00 PM to 6:30 PM

They will be in the RRPC lot serving up a delicious dinner!



GGC Smokehouse Food Truck

Wednesdays - 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Make sure to give them a follow!
@ggcsmokehouse

SANCTUARY POINSETTIA DONATION

We will soon be ordering Poinsettias for the decoration of the sanctuary during Advent. If you would like to make a **$12** donation in honor or memory of someone, please complete the form below and place it with your check or cash in the offering plate or give it directly to the church office.

A list of those honored and remembered will be in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Funds collected will benefit the Harrisburg Crisis Assistance Ministry Food Pantry at RRPC. Submit your order by scanning the code or picking up an order form in the vestibule.

DEADLINE for ordering is Sunday, December 6



ANTHEM	*Be Still and Know* Choir	Chapman, arr. by Fettke
SERMON	"Keep That Lamp Burning"	Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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.

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.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, every good and perfect gift comes from your hand. You have blessed us beyond measure with your grace, your mercy, and the gift of life in Jesus Christ. Receive these our offerings as signs of grateful hearts. Use them to proclaim the good news of your kingdom, to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, comfort the lonely, teach the faith to another generation, and bear witness to your love in this community and throughout the world. Teach us that stewardship is not simply about what we give, but about how we live. Make our whole lives an offering pleasing to you, so that when Christ comes, he may find us faithfully serving with joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #350 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *You Shall Go Out with Joy* #80

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, November 1, 2026

Sanctuary: 133 **Online: 63**

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

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

RRPC Youth Fall 2026 Dates

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

Nov. 15 - Salvation Army Youth Volunteer Night
Our youth will spend the evening serving tacos at the Salvation Army and helping care for members of our community. This is a meaningful opportunity to serve together and share Christ's love through action. Additional details will be shared with the youth and families participating.

Dec. 5 @ 5:30 PM - Youth Christmas Party
Celebrate Christmas with RRPC Youth! Join us for food, fellowship, and a White Elephant gift exchange. Please bring a fun or silly wrapped gift to participate. More details will be shared as we get closer.

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.

COMMUNITY OFFERINGS

RRPC Salvation Army Dinner

November 15-21, 2026

Every year, for one week in November, the Rocky River Presbyterian Church Community serves dinner at the Salvation Army. The Scouting groups, choir, youth, Women of the Church, and the Lectionary Sunday School class volunteer to prepare these meals. This is an outreach ministry that provides an opportunity to share the love of Christ with members of our community. Please pray for those who will be serving this year.



Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Children's Christmas Program

December 13, 10:00am

The Children's Christmas Program rehearsals are on Sundays, 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Pantry Drive

NOV.: GRAVY & CRANBERRY SAUCE

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO RRPC!

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

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: Beef/ Chicken Enchiladas

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



RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, Nov. 24
2:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Rocky River to schedule an appointment.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



Game Night

Friday, Nov. 13, 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

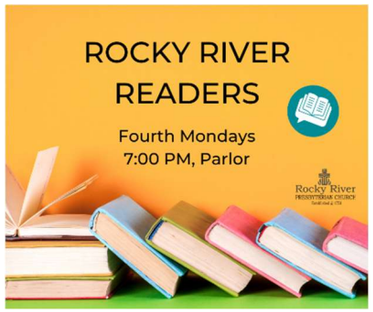


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Nov. 15, 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

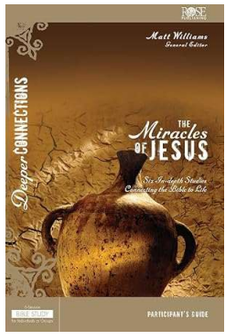


Rocky River Readers

Monday, Nov. 23, 7:00 pm, Parlor

Black Cake **by Charmaine Wilkerson**

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

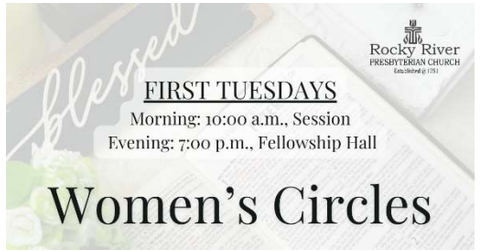


Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Will resume Dec. 1, 2026 - 9:00 am
Room 214 - 2nd floor

The Miracles of Jesus **edited by Matt Williams.**

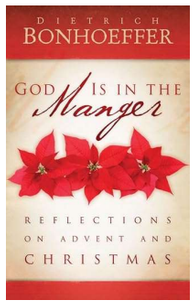
For further information contact Barbara Whaley at rnbwhaley@ctc.net



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, Dec. 1
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

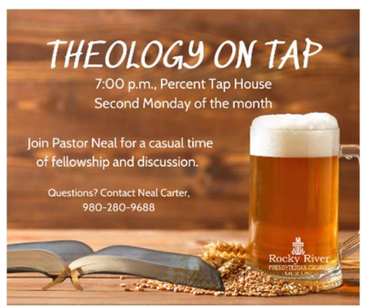


Men's Advent Study

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.



Theology On Tap

Monday, Dec. 7, 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