

Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, November 9, 2025
Twenty Second 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 Psalm 65)

One: Praise is due to you, O God, for you are the hope of all the earth.
All: You hear our prayers and forgive our transgressions.
One: You bless all the earth and all creation.
All: All creation shouts and sings together for joy!
One: In your goodness, O Lord, you provide for all creation.
All: We come to offer you our thanks and praise!
One: Let us worship God—
All: The One who answers prayer, renews the earth, and fills our hearts with joy.

† HYMN #645 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have trusted in our own righteousness and looked down on others whom you also love. We have been quick to see the faults of others and slow to recognize our own. Forgive us, Lord. Like the tax collector, we come before you now, calling out: “God, be merciful to us, sinners.” Restore in us the joy of your salvation and teach us again the way of humility and grace, that we may walk in your mercy and share your compassion with all. Amen.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† 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

Laura Smith

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God, you resist the proud and give grace to the humble. By the
power of your Holy Spirit, open our hearts and minds to your Word. Silence
every voice but your own, so that in hearing your truth we may see ourselves
clearly, turn from our pride, and receive your mercy with joy. Through Jesus
Christ, our redeemer, we pray. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 18:9-14

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“ Shout to the Lord ”

Zschech, arr. by Anderson & Huggins

Laura Smith

† Please Stand • **Congregation reads words in bold.**

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Confession of 1967)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of mankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves them to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which all know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand except God's grace.

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.

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

Merciful God, you welcome the humble and lift up the lowly. All that we have comes from your generous hand, and all that we are belongs to you. Receive these gifts, O Lord—our offerings, our time, our hearts—as signs of our gratitude and devotion. Use them to bring your mercy to those in need, your justice to those who are oppressed, and your grace to those who long to know your love. Make us humble servants of your kingdom, that in all we do, your name may be praised. Through Jesus Christ, who came not to exalt himself but to give himself for the world. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #238

Thine Is the Glory

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

#542, Verse 1

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, Nov. 2, 2025

Sanctuary: 128 Online: 53

Interested in membership?

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

Salvation Army Meal Week

Different groups will take a day throughout the week starting Sunday, November 16, 2025, to serve meals at the Salvation Army.

Christmas Open House

*The Manse open house will be Sunday, December 14, 2025
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM*

† Please Stand • **Congregation reads words in bold.**

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

Wednesday Night
Fellowship Meal

TUMBLEWEED CHICKEN

Nov. 12, 2025
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

\$10/PERSON -
\$15/COUPLE - \$25/FAMILY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, Nov. 12
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: TUMBLEWEED CHICKEN

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



**American
Red Cross**
Blood Drives

RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, Nov. 25
2:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

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



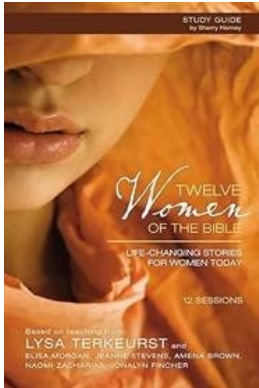
SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Men's Advent Study
12:30 pm - Session Room

The Men's Advent Study will begin on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, and be each week until December 23, 2025.

Studying: *The Weary World Rejoices* by Kate Bowler

This 24-day devotional points toward a future we can almost glimpse. Copies will be in the vestibule beginning Sunday, November 9, 2025, for pick up.



Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Nov. 11, 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 mbwhaley@ctc.net



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, Nov. 14, 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

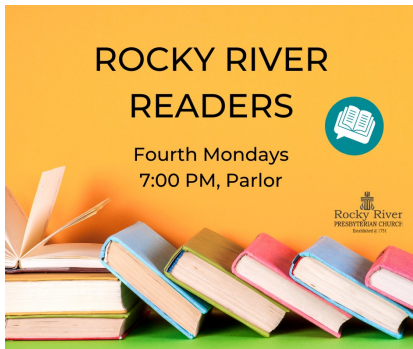


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Nov. 16, 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, Nov. 25, 7:00 pm, Parlor

***One More for Christmas* by Sarah Morgan**

View the 2025 reading list at

www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers.

Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, December 2

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Christmas Program Every Sunday - 3:30 PM

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

The program will be presented December 14, 2025 at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

YOUTH MINISTRY

After Church Fellowship: The Book of Daniel Sunday, November 9, 2025

We'll have lunch, watch a movie (The Book of Daniel), and then have a brief discussion on the movie's main themes.

Sign Up for the 2026 Youth Mission Trip **June 21–26, 2026**

Join us for the 2026 Youth Mission Trip, happening June 21–26 in Western North Carolina.

Open to youth ages 14+ and adult leaders, this trip will focus on disaster relief efforts in communities still recovering from Hurricane Helene. The total cost is \$245 per person, with a \$100 deposit due by November 28 to hold your spot, with final payment due Feb. 27. We'll spend the week working on repair projects, sharing meals, worshiping together, and building lasting connections.

Sign up via the newsletter link or scan the QR code.
Questions? Contact Hailey Lebada at RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com.



Youth Salvation Army Meal Day (Serving) **Sunday, November 16, 2025**

Our youth will help serve a meal at the Salvation Army. A meaningful opportunity to give back and share Christ's love in action.

Youth Pantry Drive **NOV.: CANNED VEGGIES**

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.

Veteran's Christmas Tree
Return bags before Dec. 7th

1. Select a tag from the tree
2. Sign out the tag on the forms on the table next to the tree. Just put your name on the line next to the veteran's name, they are listed alphabetically. If you are not a member of RRPC, please put down a phone number.
3. Shop for the items on the list. You do not have to buy everything listed on the tag, these are suggestions.
4. Place them in a gift bag and put the tag on the bag so that it doesn't get detached and is visible. Please use a gift bag so we can add any extra items that are donated.
5. Return the bags to the church on or before December 7th.

You are welcome to add a Christmas card if you desire. Our veterans ask for very little, please feel free to add items not on the tag. Personal hygiene items, socks, candy and gift cards are always good ideas. Gift cards to Walmart are the best since the stores are everywhere and they can use them for goods, groceries and prescriptions.

You can donate items even if you can't adopt a whole tag or extra items in a grocery bag marked Extra.

If you have any questions or need help, please contact Ben Schneider at bschneider73@gmail.com or 980-258-9267



**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



The YMCA @ Rocky River Presbyterian Church



ACTIVE OLDER ADULT FITNESS



Monday thru Wednesday
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

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

COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE	Building and Grounds:	The 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
	Worship:	The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
	Finance & Administration:	The 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
	Christian Education:	The 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
	Congregational Connections:	The 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Volunteer Schedules

Counters		WNF Set-Up	WNF Clean-Up
Week 1:	Joe Novobilski and Sandra Thomas	Week 1: C3	Irminger
Week 2:	Steve Jewett and Kathy Linker	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:	\$362,332
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,303
TOTAL FOR OCT.:	\$30,923
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,839
TOTAL FOR OCT. 26:	\$4,940

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 Lebeda • 704.455.2479 • rockyriveryouth@gmail.com

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