



**Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Scout Sunday
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

SCOUT SUNDAY

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What does the Lord require of us?

All: **To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

One: Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit... blessed are the peacemakers."

All: **We come to learn the ways of Christ, the true leader of our lives.**

One: Today we give thanks for the ministry of Scouts and all who guide them.

All: **God calls each of us—young and old—to serve with courage, compassion, and integrity. Let us worship God!**

† HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

† CALL TO CONFESSON

† PRAYER OF CONFESSON

Gracious God, You call us to walk humbly, yet we often seek our own way. You call us to do justice, yet we too easily accept what is easy instead of what is right. You call us to love kindness, yet we confess that our words and actions sometimes wound rather than heal. Forgive us, O Lord. Forgive our half-hearted service, our timid faith, and our reluctance to follow where Christ leads. Shape us into people who bear witness to Your love—in our homes, our community, our troop and pack, and everywhere You send us. In Jesus' name we pray. 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*

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

Holy God, By Your Spirit, open our hearts and minds to Your Word. As we hear the prophet's call, the apostle's proclamation, and our Lord's blessing, form us into disciples who seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You—for the sake of the world You so love. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT
THE EPISTLE LESSON
THE GOSPEL LESSON

Micah 6:6–8
1 Corinthians 1:18–31
Matthew 3:13–17

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“ Sing Them Over Again To Me ”

Bliss, arr. by Martin

SERMON

“ It is the Point ”

Neal Carter

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from 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, release to the captives, teaching by word and deed, and blessing the children.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image.

We trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In life and in death we belong to God. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCOUTS RESPONSE

One: Today we give thanks to God for the ministry of Scouting—for young people who grow in wisdom and strength, and for leaders who guide them with patience and care.

All: **We remember that all our promises begin with God, whose faithfulness is our foundation and our hope.**

SCOUTS OATH

One: Scouts promise: "*On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God...*"

All: **We give thanks for the One who first calls us—the God who loves, guides, and strengthens us.**

One: "*...and my country...*"

All: **God, teach us to seek the welfare of our communities and to serve our neighbors with humility.**

One: "*...to help other people at all times...*"

All: **Make us a people shaped by Christ's compassion, serving others with joy and justice.**

One: "*...to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.*"

All: **By Your Spirit, renew our bodies, minds, and hearts, that we may walk in Your ways.**

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

SCOUTS LAW

One: Scouts strive to be **trustworthy**, because God is faithful.
All: **Lord, help us speak truth and live with integrity.**

One: Scouts strive to be **loyal**, because You remain loyal to Your people.
All: **Teach us to stay committed to Your ways of love.**

One: Scouts strive to be **helpful**, because Christ showed us the path of service.
All: **Make our hands ready to bless others.**

One: Scouts strive to be **friendly**, because in Christ we are called friends.
All: **Shape us into a community of welcome and grace.**

One: Scouts strive to be **courteous**, because You call us to gentleness.
All: **Let kindness be our way of life.**

One: Scouts strive to be **kind**, because You are rich in mercy.
All: **Open our hearts to care for all Your children.**

One: Scouts strive to be **obedient**, seeking wise guidance.
All: **Help us listen for Your Word and follow Jesus faithfully.**

One: Scouts strive to be **cheerful**, because joy is a gift of Your Spirit.
All: **Fill our service with gladness, even in challenging tasks.**

One: Scouts strive to be **thrifty**, using resources wisely.
All: **Make us good stewards of Your creation.**

One: Scouts strive to be **brave**, because You strengthen the faint-hearted.
All: **Give us courage to stand for what is right.**

One: Scouts strive to be **clean**, honoring life and creation.
All: **Purify our hearts and renew our commitments.**

One: Scouts strive to be **reverent**, acknowledging Your presence and grace.
All: **Teach us to worship You in all we do and to seek Your will above all else.**

One: God of every generation, You call us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You. Bless the Scouts and leaders among us that their service may shine with Your light.
All: **Guide us all in the path of Christ, that we may grow in faith, hope, and love.**
Amen.

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

Generous God, all we have comes from Your hand. Receive these gifts and use them to build up Your church, encourage the young, strengthen our community, and bless the world You love. Make us faithful stewards of Your grace, that our service—like our gifts—may reflect Your justice, Your mercy, and Your humble love. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #829 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *May the God of Hope Go with Us* #765

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026

Sanctuary: :) Online: 101

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.

2025 Giving Statements

Please make sure you stop in the vestibule to receive your 2025 Giving Statement. They are in alphabetical order by last name. They will be mailed out to the address on file if they are not picked up.

***If you do not see your statement please contact the Church Administrator:
Macie Melton, churchadim@rockyriver.org, 704-455-2479***

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



Drop your donation in the pot Sunday, February 8!

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL *Bon appetit!*
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
ASSORTED SOUPS
Join us for dinner at 6:00pm - Fellowship Hall
Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Established 1773

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY MEAL

**Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2026
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall**

Menu: SOUPS

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

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



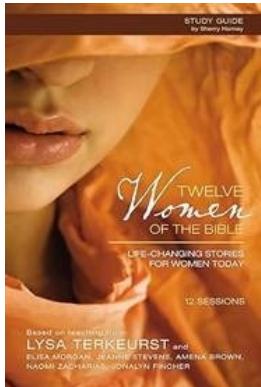
RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, Feb. 24
2:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

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



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

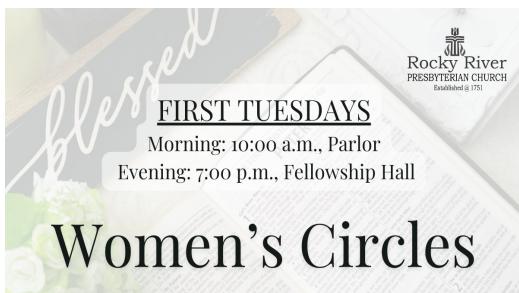


Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Feb. 3, 2026 - 9:00 AM
Room 216 - 2nd floor

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

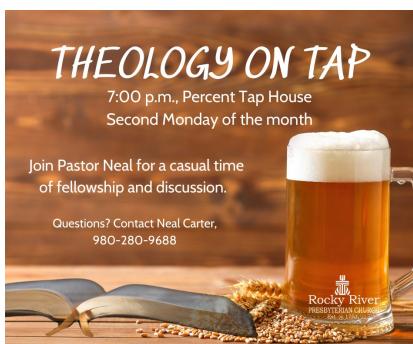
For further information contact Barbara Whaley at rnbwhaley@ctc.net



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, Feb. 3
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



Theology On Tap

Monday, Feb. 9, 7:00 p.m., Percent Tap House

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

Questions? Contact Neal Carter, 980-280-9688

Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7:00 p.m., 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



Game Night

Friday, Feb. 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

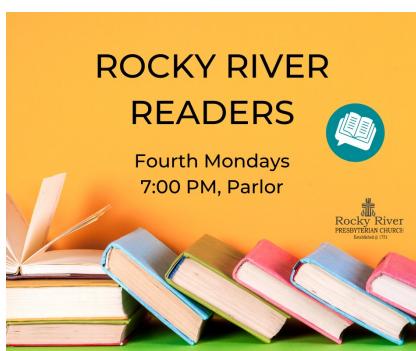


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Feb. 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 the third Sunday of each month.

Questions? Contact Jerry Clark at 704-458-9233



Rocky River Readers

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

Traveling Through History by Janet Morrison

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Faith and Fellowship

Feb. 1, 2026 – 12:15 PM

Room 215

We have a new schedule for 2026! CF&F returns on Feb. 1st at 12:15pm. Elementary-aged children are invited to join us in Room 215 (Children's Sunday School classroom) for games, crafts, Bible lessons, and lunch. Parents and adults will have the opportunity to sign up to provide a simple lunch for the group each month. Moving forward after February, CF&F will meet on the second Sunday of each month at 12:15pm.

For more information, contact Laura Smith, laura.rrpc@gmail.com

Children's Communion Class

Feb. 22, 2026 – 12:15 PM

Room 215

All elementary aged children are invited to come learn about the sacrament of communion. Pastor Neal will be joining us to teach about why we take communion and the meaning behind the sacrament. Lunch will be served.

Please let Laura know if you will be joining us, laura.rrpc@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Pantry Drive

FEB.: CANNED FOOD



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.

Youth Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser
Saturday, February 7, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Join us for a heartwarming evening at our Valentine's Dinner hosted by the RRPC Youth. Enjoy a delicious meal featuring your choice of spaghetti and meatballs or fettuccini Alfredo, along with salad and dessert. Our youth will prepare and serve the meal, and all proceeds support the Youth Mission Budget. The evening will also include a Silent Auction with exciting items to bid on, making this a wonderful way to support our youth while enjoying fellowship and great food.

We are now collecting food donations and Silent Auction items!

If you are able to donate a menu item or a silent auction item, service, or experience, please use the Donations & Silent Auction QR code to sign up. This single QR code is used for both food donations and silent auction contributions.

Reservations are highly encouraged. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Seating is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot early! To make a reservation, please use the Dinner Reservation QR code, where you can select your entrée and preferred seating time (4:00 PM or 5:30 PM).

Donations & Silent Auction



Dinner Reservation



Questions about donating, please email Hailey Lebada at rockyriveryouth@gmail.com.

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

COMMITTEES	Building and Grounds:	The 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
MEETING	Worship:	The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
SCHEDULE	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:	Irminger
Week 2:	Steve Jewett and Kathy Linker	Week 2:	Troops 7 and 83
Week 3:	Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 3:	Mitchem / Carter
Week 4:	Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds	Week 4:	Whaley/ Glosson
Week 5:	Bob Remsburg and Don Chase	Week 5:	Tipton / Earley

STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
2026 BUDGET:	\$465,561
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$23,244
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR JAN.:	\$23,244
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR JAN. 25:	\$7,965

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 Lebada • 704.455.2479 • rockyriveryouth@gmail.com

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