

**Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Souper Bowl 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

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 112)

One: Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in God's commandments.

All: **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

One: They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

All: **Their righteousness endures forever; their light shines in the darkness.**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

All: **Let us worship God.**

† HYMN #612

We Praise You, O God

† CALL TO CONFSSION

† PRAYER OF CONFSSION

Merciful God, you call us to be salt and light, yet we confess that we often prefer safety to faithfulness. We hide our light when it might cost us, and we lose our saltiness when we blend in too easily. We have neglected justice, withheld mercy, and settled for a righteousness that looks good but asks little of us. Forgive us, O God. Renew us by your grace, and restore in us the joy of obedient faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Hailey Lebada

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. By your Holy Spirit, open our minds to understand the Scriptures and our hearts to receive your truth, that we may be formed as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:13–20

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Ben Burr

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

SERMON "Salt, Light, and the Ordinary Weight of Faithfulness " Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From The Confession of 1967)

God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ is the ground of the peace, justice, and freedom among nations which all powers of government are called to serve. The church, in its own life, is called to practice the forgiveness of enemies and to commend to the nations as practical politics the search for cooperation and peace. 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, you have given us light to see and salt to season the world with grace. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and use them to strengthen your work of justice, mercy, and faithful witness in this community and beyond. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

Sending

† HYMN #700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

May the God of Hope Go with Us

#765

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026

Sanctuary: :) Online: 133

Interested in membership?

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

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, churchadmin@rockyriver.org, 704-455-2479



Drop your donation in the pot Sunday, February 8!

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

BEEF/ CHICKEN ENCHILADAS

Feb. 11, 2026
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

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

 Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established 1792



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, Feb. 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.



**American
Red Cross**
Blood Drives

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

THEOLOGY ON TAP

7:00 p.m., Percent Tap House
Second Monday of the month

Join Pastor Neal for a casual time of fellowship and discussion.

Questions? Contact Neal Carter,
980-280-9688



 ROCKY RIVER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established 1792

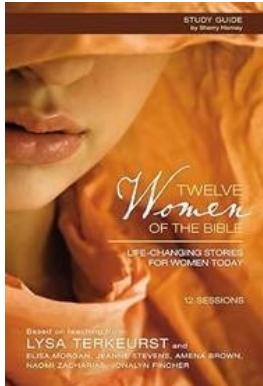
Theology On Tap

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

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



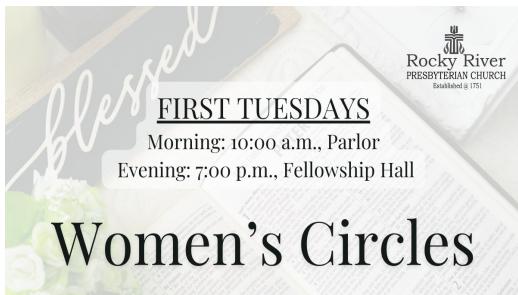
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Feb. 10, 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 Circles

Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, Feb. 10

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

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

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



RRPC MEN'S BREAKFAST

Third Sundays
9:00 am - Fellowship Hall

Men of all ages are
welcome!

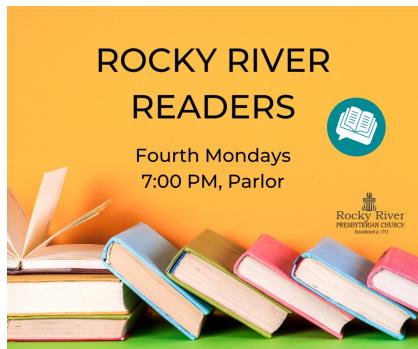
Contact Jerry Clark at 704-458-9233

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

Fourth Mondays
7:00 PM, Parlor



Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Founded 1771

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

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!

March 1, 2026 – 2:30 PM

Families of all ages are invited to join us for The Uwharrie Players' production of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs* on Sunday, March 1st. Please use the QR code to sign up for tickets by February 22nd. Tickets are free for ages 13 and under and \$10 for those over 13. Once you reserve your tickets, Laura will make the group purchase and distribute them to you. We will meet at The Albemarle Neighborhood Theatre at 2:30 PM to get seats together. Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

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

Upcoming Youth Events

Mark your calendars! Join us for fun, faith, and service—games, movies, Bible talks, and planning ways to bless our church and community.

Save the Dates:

- Feb. 8 | Souper Bowl Sunday
 - Feb. 22 | 12:30–2 PM
 - March 15, 22 | 12:30–2 PM

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.



GGC Smokehouse Food Truck
Every Wednesday



***** Super Bowl Specials *****

2.8.26 - 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Wednesdays - 12:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Make sure to give them a follow! - [@ggcsmokehouse](https://www.instagram.com/ggcsmokehouse)



The YMCA @ Rocky River Presbyterian Church



**ACTIVE OLDER ADULT
FITNESS**



**Monday thru Thursday
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 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.