



# Rocky River PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



**Morning Worship**  
**at Rocky River Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**11:00 AM**

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

## 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 (from Psalm 121)

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills—

**All: From where will my help come?**

One: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**All: The Lord will not let your foot be moved; the one who keeps you will not slumber.**

One: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**All: The Lord will keep you from all evil; the Lord will keep your life.**

One: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in, from this time on and forevermore.

**All: Let us worship God.**

#### † HYMN #39

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

#### † CALL TO CONFESSION

#### † PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we love darkness more than light. We cling to old ways when you offer new life. We trust our own understanding rather than your Spirit. We resist the change your grace demands. Forgive us, O God. Breathe new life into us. Create in us hearts open to your transforming love, 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      10-Cents-A-Meal Offering      Neal Carter

## **The Word**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy God, send your Spirit to move among us, to open our hearts and minds,  
that we may hear your Word not as information, but as life-giving truth.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON      John 3:1-17

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM      *Jesus Messiah*      Carson, Cash, Reeves, Tomlin  
Tammi Remsburg

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

## 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.**

### 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 new life through grace alone. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them to bring light where there is darkness, hope where there is despair, and love where the world resists it. We offer ourselves with these gifts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Sending

- † HYMN #649                      *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*
- † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- † RESPONSE (refrain)              *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*                      #203
- † POSTLUDE

## Attendance for Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026

**Sanctuary: 130    Online: 75**

### **Interested in membership?**

Contact our Church Administrator to arrange a meeting with Pastor Neal Carter.  
704-455-2479 or [churchadmin@rockyriver.org](mailto:churchadmin@rockyriver.org)

## WORSHIP AHEAD

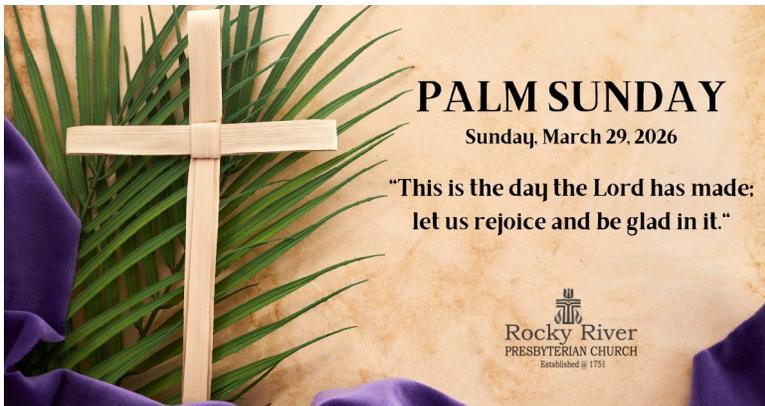


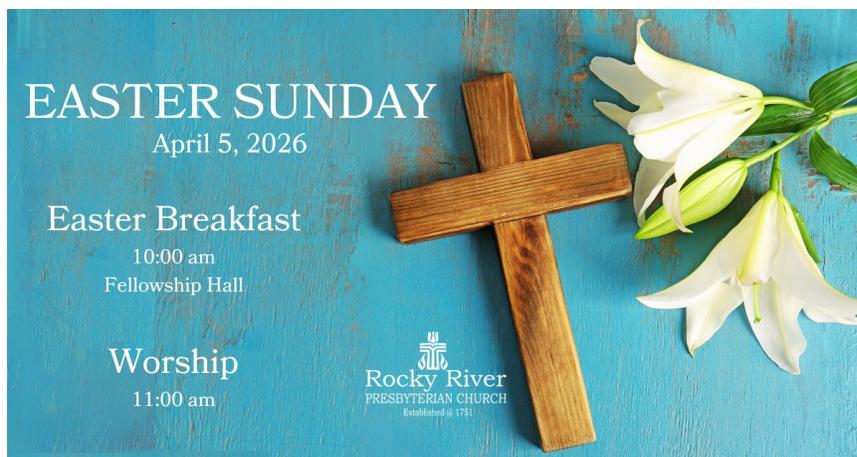
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**EGG DONATIONS NEEDED**

RRPC is collecting candy-filled Easter egg donations for our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt! If you'd like to contribute, please drop off your donations in the vestibule. We need several volunteers to help with crafts between 9:30 and 10:00 prior to the Egg Hunt. Please let Bob Remsburg know if you are willing to help with crafts.





**CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY**



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY MEAL**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026  
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall**

**Menu: SOUPS**

We ask for four people each week to bring a dessert. Please contact Robert Remsburg, [rremsburg@yahoo.com](mailto:rremsburg@yahoo.com).



### RRPC Blood Drive

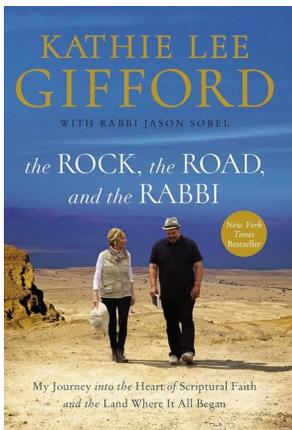
Tuesday, March 24

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

Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: Rocky River to schedule an appointment.



## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



### Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

March 3, 2026 - 9:00 am

Room 214 - 2nd floor

**The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi** by Kathie Lee Gifford  
with Rabbi Jason Sobel

For further information contact Barbara Whaley at  
[mbwhaley@ctc.net](mailto:mbwhaley@ctc.net)



### Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, March 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



**Men's Lent Book Study**  
**March 11, 17, 24, & 31 - Session Room**

This year, bring your own lunch. Discussion guides are available in the vestibule. \*\*\* NOTE: First day will be a Wednesday and following days will be on Tuesday.

Week 1: Lent Week 01      Week 3: Lent Weeks 04 & 05  
 Week 2: Lent Weeks 02 & 03      Week 4: Lent Week 06

**Taco Tuesday**  
**Tuesday, March 10, 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



**Game Night**

**Friday, March 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



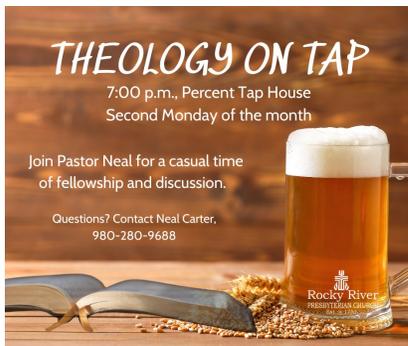
**Men's Breakfast**

**Sunday, March 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



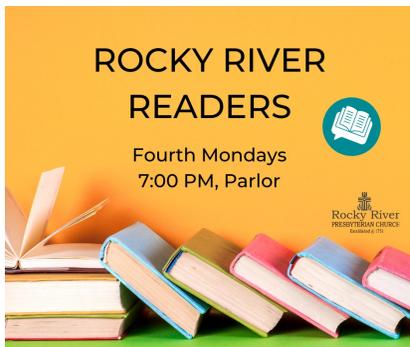


### Theology On Tap

Monday, March 16, 7:00 pm, 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



### Rocky River Readers

Monday, March 23, 7:00 pm, Parlor

Where the Rivers Merge by Mary Alice Monroe

View the 2026 reading list at

[www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers](http://www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers).

Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



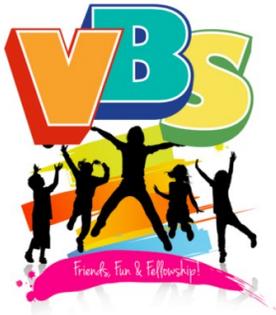
### Children's Faith and Fellowship

March 8, 2026 – 12:15 PM

Room 215

Children, K-5, are invited for a time of learning and fun! Lunch will be provided.

Please email Laura Smith to be counted for lunch.  
laura.rrpc@gmail.com



## SAVE THE DATES!

This year's VBS will be July 12-16.  
More information coming soon!

## 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:

- **Sunday, March 1** | 12:30–2 PM: Fun and Fellowship
- **Sunday, March 22** | 12:30–2 PM: St. Paddy's Day Party!
- **Saturday, March 28** | 8 AM to 2 PM: Easter Hunt Fundraiser Breakfast
- **Sunday, April 12** | 12:30–2 PM: Pre-Mission Trip Meeting (Mandatory for Participants)
  - **Sunday, April 26** | 1 –3 PM: Picnic at Pharr Mill Park

### Youth Pantry Drive

#### MARCH: LAUNDRY DETERGENT

**SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO RRPC!**

Questions - Hailey Lebada or email us at [RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com).

## Our Session

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Sandra Thomas <i>Finance &amp; Administration</i>	Shirley Rockel <i>Finance &amp; Administration</i>	Jim Pharr <i>Finance &amp; 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>

<b>COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE</b>	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.	
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## 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:	Daoust	Troops 7 and 83
Week 3:	Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 3:		Mitchem / Carter
Week 4:	Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds	Week 4:	Bedsole	Whaley/ Glosson
Week 5:	Bob Remsburg and Don Chase	Week 5:	Tipton	Tipton / Earley

STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
2026 BUDGET:	\$465,561
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$54,712
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR FEB.:	\$31,767
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR FEB. 22:	\$7,738

**Rocky River Presbyterian Church • 7940 Rocky River Road • Concord NC 28025**  
[www.rockyriver.org](http://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](mailto:nealcarter64@gmail.com)  
 Church Administrator: Macie Melton • 704.455.2479 • [churchadmin@rockyriver.org](mailto:churchadmin@rockyriver.org)  
 Music and Children's Ministries: Laura Smith • 704.796.3198 • [laura.rrpc@gmail.com](mailto:laura.rrpc@gmail.com)  
 Youth Ministry: Hailey Lebada • 704.455.2479 • [rockyriveryouth@gmail.com](mailto:rockyriveryouth@gmail.com)

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