



Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Lent
11:00 AM

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

One: The Spirit of the Lord brings us into this place.

All: We come seeking breath and life.

One: God meets us in valleys of uncertainty and loss.

All: We trust the One who restores hope.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

All: We worship the God who brings life out of death.

† HYMN #288

Spirit of the Living God

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life, we confess that we often settle for despair. We name bones as final, valleys as permanent, and loss as the end of the story. Forgive us for limiting your power to what we can imagine or control. Breathe new life into us. Restore our trust in your promises. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, send your Spirit upon your Word. As Ezekiel spoke to dry bones,
speak to us now. Open our hearts to hear, our minds to understand, and our
lives to be changed. Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1–14

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow

Sparrow-Simpson, Williams, arr. by Butler

Choir

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

Faithful God, receive these gifts as signs of our trust. Use them to bring breath to dry places, hope to weary hearts, and life to your world. We offer ourselves with them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, March 29, 2026

**“This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.”**


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MAUNDY THURSDAY
Thursday, April 2, 2026

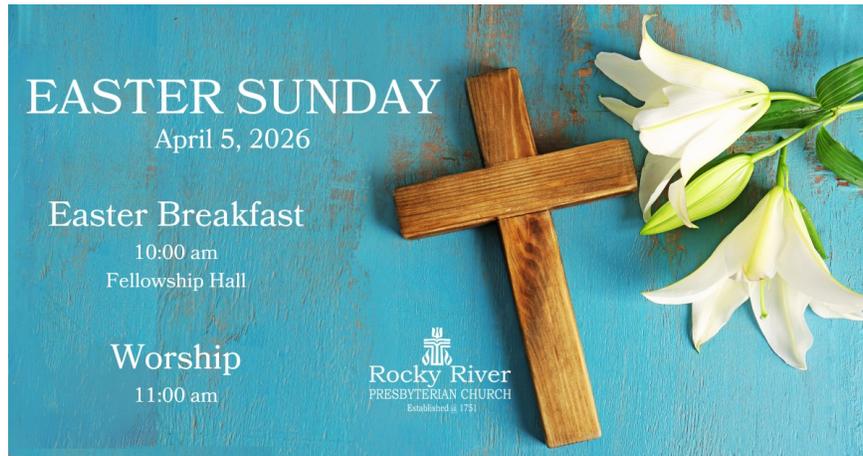
Communion-To-Go **Worship Service**
10:30 am - 12:00 pm 7:00 pm


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Flowering of the Cross
Easter Morning
9:45 am


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Forms are located in the vestibule. Please submit during worship or online by Palm Sunday, March 29.

The 2026 RRPC College Scholarship Applications are open!

2026 Graduates who are interested in applying will be sent one upon request.

The scholarship is a one-time award of \$1,000. Up to three scholarships will be awarded this year. To be eligible, the student must be an active, confirmed member of the congregation.

Interested students can reach out to the contact below for questions and application.

All scholarship forms must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on May 28th to the church office.

Questions - Contact Shirley Rockel, rockelshirley1@yahoo.com.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL



Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

BAKED ZITI

March 25, 2026
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

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



Wednesday, March 25, 2026
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: **BAKED ZITI**

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



**American
Red Cross**
Blood Drives

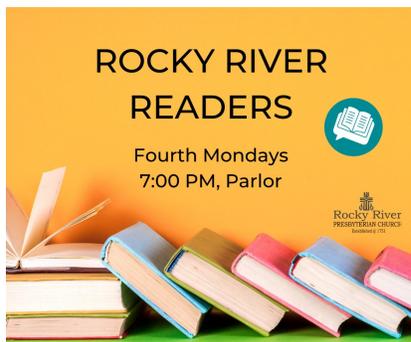
RRPC Blood Drive

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

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



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



ROCKY RIVER READERS

Fourth Mondays
7:00 PM, Parlor



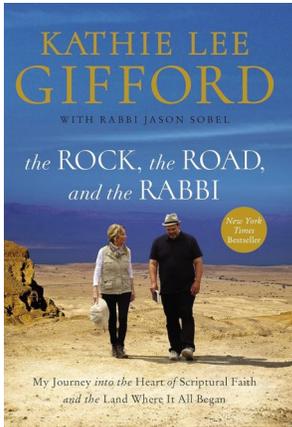
Rocky River
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Rocky River Readers

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.
Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203



Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

March 24, 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



Men's Lent Book Study

March 24, & 31 - Session Room - 12:30 pm

This year, bring your own lunch. Discussion guides are available in the vestibule.

Week 3: Lent Weeks 04 & 05

Week 4: Lent Week 06



Game Night

Friday, March 27, 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



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, April 7

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 Breakfast

Sunday, April 19, 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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Children's Faith and Fellowship

April 12, 2026 – 12:15 PM

Room 220

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



Vacation Bible School Snowball Mountain Challenge July 12 - 16, 2026

This year's VBS is "Snowball Mountain Challenge." Children will learn that God is the source of their strength. Look for more information on how you can get involved coming soon!

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13

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 22** | 12:30–2 PM: St. Paddy's Day Party!
- **Saturday, March 28** | 8 AM to 2 PM: Easter Egg 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 Lebeda 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.

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 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.
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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:	\$74,589
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR MARCH:	\$19,876
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR MARCH 8:	\$5,391

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.