



# Rocky River PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



**Morning Worship**  
**at Rocky River Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, March 8, 2026**  
**Third 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 electronically by scanning the code.*



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are thirsty.

**All: We come seeking living water.**

One: Come, all who are weary.

**All: We come seeking rest and truth.**

One: God meets us where we are.

**All: Let us worship the God who knows us and loves us.**

† HYMN #65

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we seek satisfaction in shallow wells. We cling to what is familiar rather than what is faithful. We avoid the truth when it feels costly, and we draw boundaries where you cross them. Forgive us, O God. Meet us in our thirst. Tell us the truth in love, and give us the courage to receive it. 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, as Jesus spoke with the woman at the well, speak with us now.  
Open our hearts to hear your Word, our minds to understand your truth, and  
our lives to be changed by your grace. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 4: 5-42

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Written in Red*

Jensen, arr. by Kirkland

Claudia Bedsole, Scott Jones, David Murray, Laura Smith

## Responding to the Word

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (PCUSA)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God, who met people where they were and loved them into new life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 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 water that truly satisfies. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude. Use them to bring life, healing, and hope to a thirsty world. We offer ourselves with them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Sending

† HYMN #754

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (refrain)*

#203

† POSTLUDE

## Attendance for Sunday, March 1, 2026

**Sanctuary: 114    Online: 67**

### **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

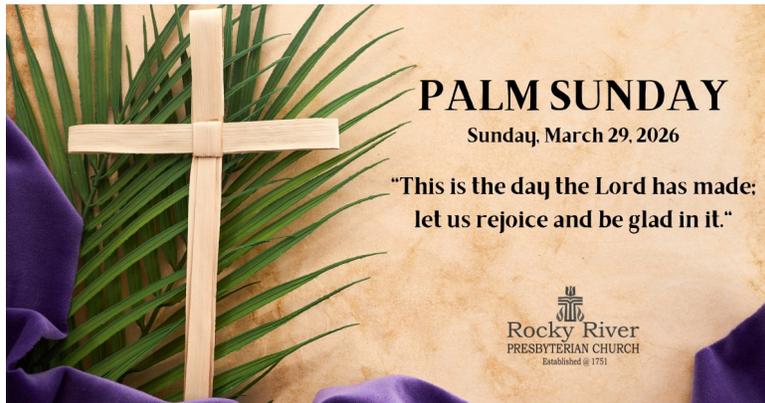


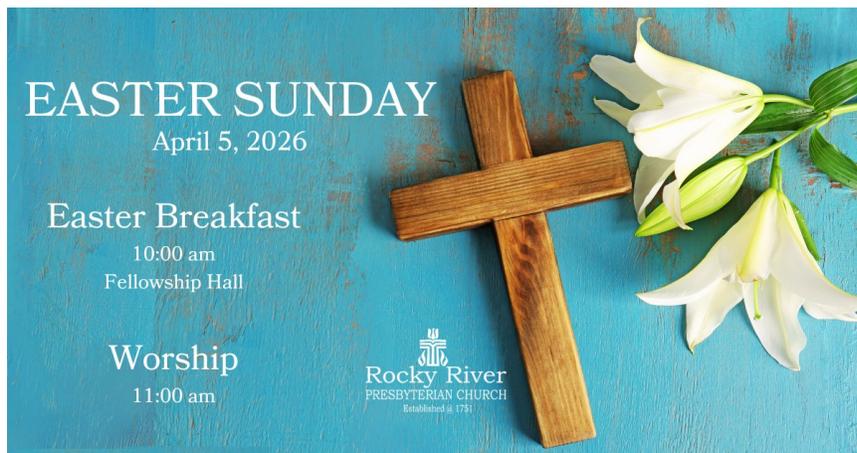
† Please Stand • **Congregation reads words in bold.**



### 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 or Lay Office. 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 MEAL

**Wednesday, March 11, 2026**  
**6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall**

**Menu: PASTA PRIMAVERA**  
**W/ GRILLED CHICKEN**

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

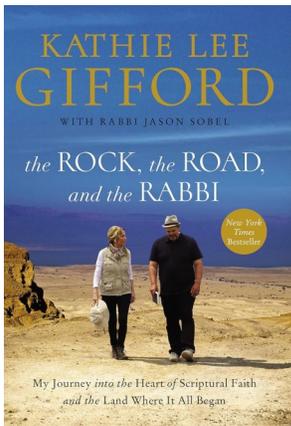
Tuesday, March 24

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

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



## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



### Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

March 10, 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)



### 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 on a Wednesday and the 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*

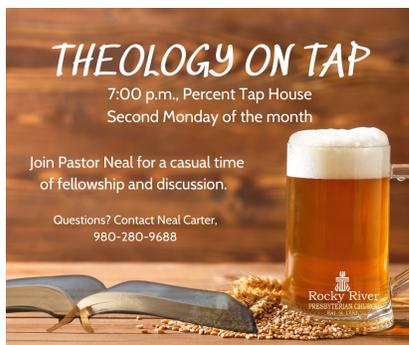


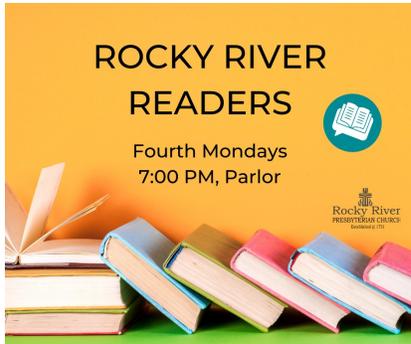
**Theology On Tap**

**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



**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

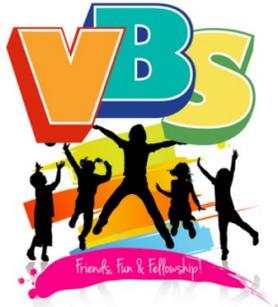
**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**



**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](mailto: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 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: Worship: Finance & Administration: Christian Education: Congregational Connections:	The 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m. 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:	\$64,062
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR MARCH:	\$9,350
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR MARCH 1:	\$9,350

**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.