



Rocky River PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Graduation Sunday
11:00 AM

Gathering

*A 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

† HYMN #300 *We Are One in the Spirit*

† HYMN #12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we have not loved you as you command us to love. We confess that we have not loved our neighbors as you command us to love. We ignore the pain of those around us. We refuse your call to care for others around us. Incline your ear to hear us. In your steadfast love, rescue us and redeem us. In the name of Jesus Christ, may we know your forgiveness. Amen.

† 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.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

*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

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Neal: Friends, today we celebrate a significant milestone—the graduation of
some of our young people. We rejoice and give thanks for Lily
Carriker, Eva Spicer, Anna Talton, and Kingston Young, who have
committed themselves to the pursuit of wisdom and growth. Today, we
acknowledge their achievements with both joy and thanksgiving.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Hailey: Let us thank God for the journey these graduates have traveled.

**Congregation: For the knowledge they have gained, for every challenge they
have overcome, and for the friendships they have cherished.**

Neal: For the commitment of their teachers, the guidance of their mentors,
and particularly the support of their families.

**Congregation: For the steadfast support and love that has sustained them on
this journey.**

Hailey: For the example they set, inspiring each of us in faith and dedication.

**Congregation: May their passion for discovery and understanding continue to
illuminate their paths.**

PRESENTATION OF QUILTS

Presbyterian Women

The women of Rocky River Presbyterian Church graciously bestow
these quilts to our graduates. Let these quilts symbolize the warmth,
comfort, and enduring love of our congregation.

PRESENTATION OF DEVOTIONALS

LISTENING TO YOUR LIFE:
DAILY MEDITATIONS WITH FREDERICK BUECHNER
By Frederick Buechner

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

PRAYER

Neal: Gracious God, as these graduates venture into new beginnings, we commend them to Your loving care. Direct their steps, fill them with wisdom, and bless them with courage and compassion. Empower them to use their gifts and knowledge to better the world. We pray in Your holy name. Amen.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, through your Word and by your Spirit, open our hearts and minds this day. May we hear your truth, receive your wisdom, and follow where Christ leads. Let your Word become light for our path and life for our souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:1-11

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Glory to God on High
Choir

de Giardini, Ipson

SERMON

“The Real Lord’s Prayer ”

Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A New Creed* - a Creed used often at Montreat Youth Conference

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. 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*

For the wondrous gift of life, we are thankful, O God. Your generous outpouring of mercy reminds us of the life of grace we are called to share. May these gifts of time and labor, therefore, embody our desire to share and contribute to your coming reign among us. Amen.

* (Source: Words4Worship)

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

Sending

- † HYMN #662 *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*
- † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- † RESPONSE *Amen* #600
- † POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, May 10, 2026

Sanctuary: 130 Online: 52

Interested in membership?

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

The 2026 Elder Nomination Committee is asking for your suggestions of members to nominate for the Class of 2029 Elders.

Nominations may be submitted by returning the paper form located in the vestibule to the Church Admin Box on the door.

Nominating Committee: Pricilla Giuliano, Dave Murray, Tammy Remsburg, Brandon Earley, and Kinley Robinson

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Wednesday, May 20
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Scout Night! Come out and support our Scouts as they serve us an excellent meal!

Menu: BREAKFAST

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



† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



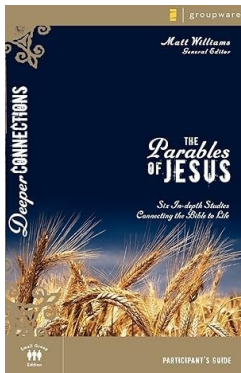
RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, May 26

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

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

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



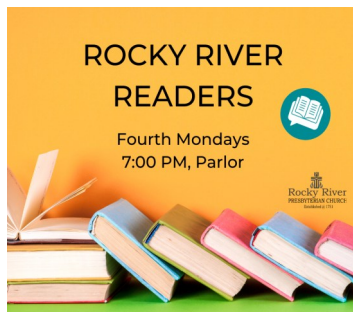
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

May 19, 2026 - 9:00 am

Room 214 - 2nd floor

The Parables of Jesus edited by Matt Williams

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

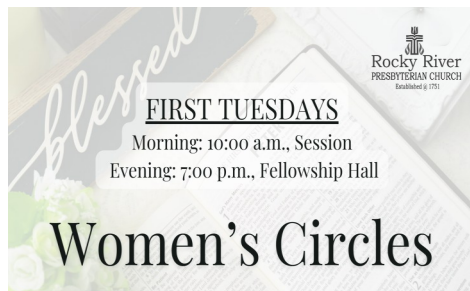


Rocky River Readers

Monday, May 25, 7:00 pm, Parlor

Three Days in June by Anne Tyler

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



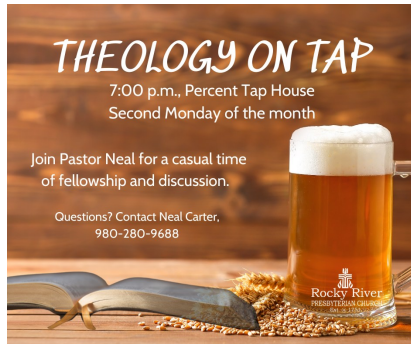
Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, June 2

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, June 8, 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, June 9, 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



Men's Breakfast

Sunday, June 21, 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

Family Picnic
May 17, 2026 – 3:00 PM
Frank Liske Park



Families are invited to join us for fun and fellowship at Frank Liske Park in the Wildlife Shelter. Please bring your own picnic dinner. Playground areas are available. Some available activities may have an added cost, but they are optional. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Bible Trivia Game:
June 7, 2026 – 12:00 PM
Fellowship Hall



All elementary-aged children are invited to join us for lunch and a Bible trivia game. Please email Laura Smith with how many will be attending for lunch, laura.rrpc@gmail.com.



Volunteer Here!



Register Here!

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

Registration is open for Snowball Mountain Challenge! Children age 3 through finishing 5th grade are invited to come and learn that God is the source of their strength. Please use the appropriate QR for either registering or for volunteering to help. Forms can also be found at rockyriver.org. Contact Laura Smith for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Pantry Drive MAY: FLOUR

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

Wednesdays - 12:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Make sure to give them a follow! - @ggcsmokehouse

FOOD PANTRY

HARRISBURG CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY
FOOD PANTRY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

MONDAYS,
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Est. @ 1781

**RRPC
Farmers
MARKET**

Wednesdays
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

HOMEMADE PRODUCTS, FRESH PRODUCE, BAKED GOODS, AND MORE!

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

**RRPC
PLAYGROUND
FUN
RAISER**

Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SCAN TO 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 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

2025 BUDGET:	\$465,561
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR MAY	\$
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR MAY 10:	\$

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 Wilson • 704.455.2479 • rockyriveryouth@gmail.com

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