



Rocky River

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, June 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
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 (Psalm 13)

One: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

All: How long must we bear pain in our souls?

One: Consider and answer us, O Lord our God; give light to our eyes.

All: We trust in your steadfast love.

One: Our hearts shall rejoice in your salvation.

All: We will sing to the Lord, because God has dealt bountifully with us.

† HYMN #267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you come to us in ways we do not expect, yet we fail to receive you. We confess that we have overlooked your presence in others. We have been too busy, too distracted, too comfortable to make room. We have chosen convenience over compassion, judgment over welcome, and distance over relationship. Forgive us. Open our eyes to see Christ in those around us. Open our hearts to receive with grace. Open our lives to reflect your love. In Jesus' name we pray. 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

**Holy God, your Word comes to us in the ordinary and the unexpected. By
your Spirit, open our eyes to recognize your presence, open our hearts to
receive your truth, and open our lives to respond in faith. Through Christ our
Lord. Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
THE GOSPEL LESSON

Jeremiah 28:5-9
Matthew 10:40-42

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Swing Low

arr. by Hart Morris

Handbells

SERMON

“ Even the Ants are Busy ”

Neal Carter

† 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 to us abundantly, even in the smallest gifts. Receive these offerings— tokens of our gratitude and trust. Use them to extend your welcome in the world, to bring refreshment to those in need, and to bear witness to your grace. And send us, O God, to live as people who receive and give freely, in the name of Christ. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #203 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *May the Love of the Lord* #549

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, June 21, 2026

Sanctuary: 120 Online: 78

Online Giving

Scan the QR code to give tithes and offerings online.



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 #106.

Nominating Committee: Priscilla Giuliano, David Murray, Tammi Remsburg, Brandon Earley, and Kinley Robinson

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

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY MEAL

Wednesday, July 1, 2026
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: SALADS

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



RRPC Blood Drive

Tuesday, July 28
2:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

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



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, July 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



Game Night

Friday, July 10 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

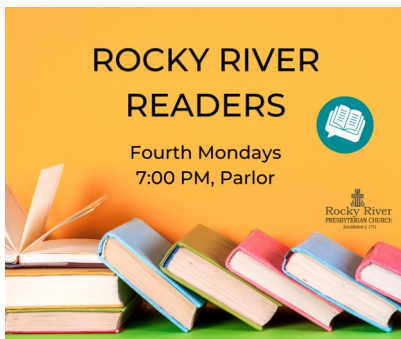


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, July 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

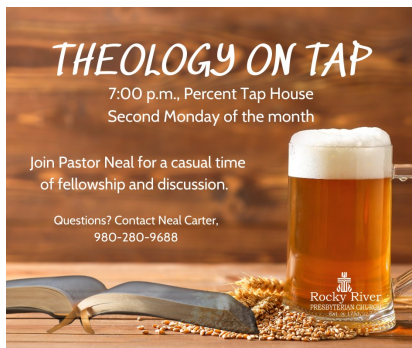


Rocky River Readers

Monday, July 27, 7:00 pm, Parlor

All the Broken Places by John Boyne

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



Theology On Tap

Monday, Aug. 10, 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.

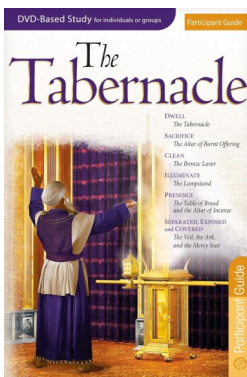
Questions? Contact Neal Carter, 980-280-9688

Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 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



Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Sept. 1, 2026 - 9:00 am

Room 214 - 2nd floor

The Tabernacle by Shawn Bernard, M. Div. with Jeanne Whittaker

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Register Here!



Volunteer 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.

School Supplies Drive

July 12 - Aug. 2

We will be collecting donations to support Rocky River Elementary School again this year. The teachers at the school have shared with us a specific list of their most needed items, which is available in the vestibule. A donation box will be available during VBS July 12-16 and continuing until Aug. 2. Thank you for any help you can provide.

VBS Donations

Needed by July 11th

We need your help! There are some items we need to borrow for our VBS activities. Almost all of them will be returned after VBS. If you have any of the following items that we can use, please contact Laura Smith, laura.rrpc@gmail.com to arrange delivery details. We need all supplies by July 11th.

- Strips of fabric (will return only what is not used for crafts)
 - Stuffed animals/Dolls (need 15-20)
- Two of each: scarves, winter hats, coats, pairs of gloves/mittens, pairs of adult-sized snow boots
 - Children's chess board and pieces

YOUTH MINISTRY

SUMMER BREAK!

We look forward to this summer's upcoming Youth Mission Trip! Wishing everyone a great summer break. Look out for upcoming events in the bulletin and newsletter once we return.

Youth Pantry Drive

JUNE: CANNED VEGGIES

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.

COMMUNITY OFFERINGS



GGC Smokehouse Food Truck

Wednesdays - 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Make sure to give them a follow! - @ggcsmokehouse



ACTIVE OLDER ADULT FITNESS



**Monday thru Thursday
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

GRIEF SHARE: 13-WEEK SERIES

Tuesdays, August 18 - November 10, 2026
10:30 am - 12:00 pm , Room 216

You don't have to go through
the grieving process alone.



Scan to Register!

GriefShare Facilitators Needed

Have you experienced the deep grief of losing a loved one to death? Have you learned valuable lessons and experienced healing from the hurt? Would you like to help others do the same? Our GriefShare group is looking forward to adding more Facilitators to our team. Please prayerfully consider joining us! Call or email to learn more about the opportunities with our GriefShare ministry. Joan Nicholson: jnich1@hotmail.com or 704-239-1573.

BUILDING & GROUNDS MINISTRY

THE PLAYGROUND IS ALMOST FINISHED!

We are close to the finish line of completing the playground. Please feel free to donate what you can to help us get across the line! We are so thankful to all who have made this dream come true for our fellowship and community.



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: 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:	\$207,976
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR June:	\$40,562
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR June 21:	\$22,370

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.