



# Rocky River

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established @ 1751



**Morning Worship**  
**at Rocky River Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, June 7, 2026**  
**Second 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 electronically by scanning the code.*



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 50)

One: Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you.

**All: We come to listen for the voice of God.**

One: Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your offerings are continually before me.

**All: God does not desire empty ritual, but hearts turned in mercy.**

One: Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

**All: We call upon the Lord, who is gracious and merciful.**

† HYMN #757                      *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you call us to follow, yet we remain seated in the places that feel safe. You invite us to your table, yet we draw lines around who belongs. We confess that we prefer sacrifice to mercy, control to compassion, and comfort to transformation. We have judged others while excusing ourselves. We have heard your Word without letting it change us. Forgive us. Call us again, O Christ. Interrupt us where we sit. Give us the courage to rise and follow you. In your mercy, receive us. 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

10-Cents-A-Meal Offering

Neal Carter

## The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy God, your Word calls us from where we are into the life you intend for  
us. By your Spirit, open our ears to hear your voice, open our hearts to  
receive your grace, and open our lives to follow where you lead. Through  
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 9:9–13

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*God Chose Use*

Williams, Martin

Choir

SERMON

“ Get Up ”

Neal Carter

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

## Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

**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, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. 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 called us from where we are and welcomed us to your table. Receive now these gifts—signs of our gratitude for your grace. Use them to extend your mercy in the world, to reach those who feel unseen, and to gather others into your fellowship. And send us, O God, not just with offerings, but with open hearts and willing lives, ready to follow where Christ leads. Through him we pray. Amen**

## Sending

† HYMN #749

*Come! Live in the Light*

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

*May the Love of the Lord*

#549

† POSTLUDE

## Attendance for Sunday, May 31, 2026

**Sanctuary: 90      Online: 64**

### 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

## CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY



**Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal**

**Chicken Salad-Pasta Salad**

June 10, 2026  
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

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



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026  
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall**

**Menu: CHICKEN SALAD/ PASTA SALAD**

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

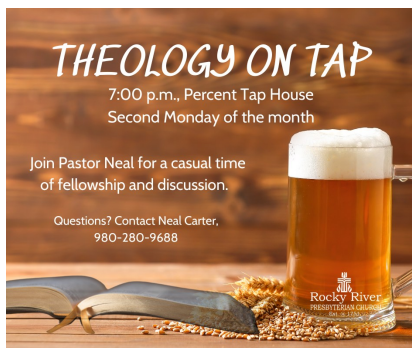
Tuesday, June 23

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



### Theology On Tap

Monday, June 8, 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, June 9, 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, June 12, 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



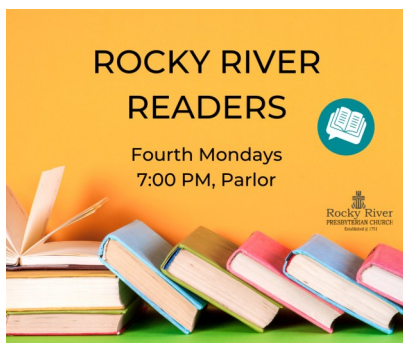


### Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, 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*



### Rocky River Readers

**Monday, June 22, 7:00 pm, Parlor**

**Finding Chika, a Little Girl, an Earthquake, & Making of a Family by Mitch Albom**

*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, July 7**

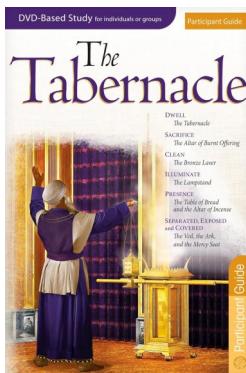
**Morning: 10:00 am, Session Room**

**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*



### 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](mailto:rnbwhaley@ctc.net)*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



**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.



**Children's Faith and Fellowship**  
**June 14, 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



**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](http://rockyriver.org). Contact Laura Smith for more information.

# 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 Lebeda 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 GOAL: \$5,000

Your generosity helps fund mission trips, service projects, and faith-building experiences for our youth.

- 1 SELECT AN ENVELOPE**  

\$5	\$20	\$50
\$10	\$25	\$75
\$15	\$30	\$100
\$40	\$60	\$250
- 2 DONATE THAT AMOUNT**  
  
Donate the dollar amount written on the outside.
- 3 PLACE YOUR ENVELOPE**  
  
Place your filled envelope in the drop box in the vestibule.

**YOUR GIVING IS AMAZING!**  
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH AND THEIR MISSION!

### RRPC Youth Envelope Fundraiser

Help support the RRPC Youth Mission Fund! Visit the envelope board in the vestibule, choose any envelope, and donate the dollar amount written on the outside. Place your filled envelope in the drop box next to the poster. Every gift helps our youth participate in mission trips, service projects, and faith-building experiences. Thank you for supporting our youth and their mission!

## COMMUNITY OFFERINGS

### GRIEFSHARE: 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](mailto:jnich1@hotmail.com) or 704-239-1573.

## MORNING COFFEE CART!



Provided By:  
Wonderfully Made Bakery &  
Coffee Co.

Wednesday & Friday  
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM



## GGC Smokehouse Food Truck

Wednesdays - 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Make sure to give them a follow! - @ggcsmokehouse

The YMCA @ Rocky River Presbyterian Church  
SilverSneakers  
**ACTIVE OLDER ADULT  
FITNESS**  
Monday thru Thursday  
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

RRPC  
**Farmers  
MARKET**  
Wednesdays  
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
HOMEMADE PRODUCTS, FRESH PRODUCE, BAKED GOODS, AND MORE!

## 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.

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 &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:	\$167,419
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR MAY:	\$39,535
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR MAY 31:	\$14,065

**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.