

Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, July 19, 2026
Eighth 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 (Based on Psalm 119:105–112)

One: Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

All: We come seeking the light of Christ to guide our way.

One: In a world of uncertainty and distraction, God speaks truth and life.

All: We will not forget God's teaching, for it is our joy and delight.

One: Let us worship the God whose Word gives life.

All: Let us worship God!

† HYMN #612

We Praise You, O God

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God, you sow the seed of your kingdom generously, casting your Word upon every kind of soil. Yet we confess that our hearts are often crowded and distracted. Some days we are hardened by disappointment. Some days we are shallow, eager for blessing but reluctant for discipleship. Some days the worries of life, the pursuit of comfort, and the demands of this world choke out your truth within us. Forgive us, O God. Break up the hardened places within us. Deepen our faith. Clear away what competes for our devotion. Plant your Word anew within us, that our lives might bear fruit worthy of your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† 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.

*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, by your Spirit open our ears to hear, our minds to understand,
and our hearts to receive your Word. As seed is scattered upon the earth,
scatter your truth among us this day. Break through our resistance, quiet our
anxieties, and cultivate within us lives rooted deeply in your grace. May your
Word take hold in us and bear fruit for the sake of your kingdom. Through
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Wayfaring Stranger

Neal Carter

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

† 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.

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 sown your gifts among us abundantly. Receive these offerings, which we return with gratitude and joy. Use these gifts and our lives to bear fruit for your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Neal Carter

HYMN #507, Verse 1

Come to the Table of Grace

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ. Please hold each element until everyone is served; as a sign of our unity in Christ, we will partake on cue from the minister.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Gracious God, We thank you for feeding us with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. You have planted your grace within us, nourished us with your presence, and renewed us through your Spirit. Send us now into the world as those who have been fed at your table. May the seed of your Word take root in our hearts and bear fruit in lives of faithfulness, generosity, and love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #370 *This Is My Father's World*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

† POSTLUDE

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

Attendance for Sunday, July 12, 2026

Sanctuary: 113 Online: 84

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

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL



**Wednesday Night
Fellowship Meal**

**Chicken Salad -
Pasta Salad**

July 22, 2026
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

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




Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rocky River, TN

**Wednesday, July 22, 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.



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

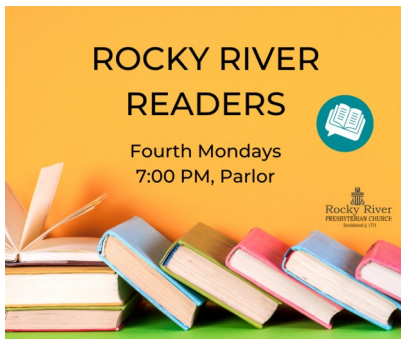


Game Night

Friday, July 24, 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



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



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, Aug. 4

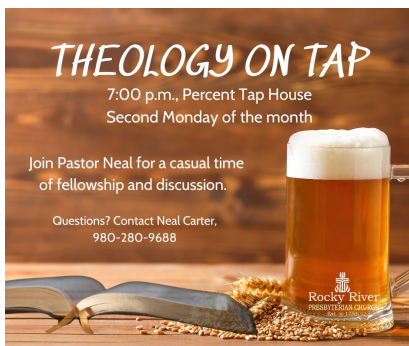
Morning: 10:00 am, Session Room

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, 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



Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Aug. 16, 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



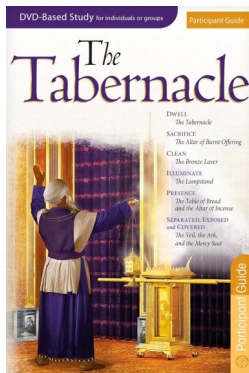
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

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

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.

Sorting School Supplies

Aug. 2 - 12:15 pm

Please have children meet after worship for lunch and to sort the school supplies that have been collected. We ask that each family **bring their own lunch**. Contact Laura Smith for more information.



Children's Faith and Fellowship

Aug. 9, 2026 – 12:15 pm

Room 215

Children, K-5, are invited for a time of learning and fun! Lunch will be provided.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, Aug. 9, 2025, 11:00 AM Worship

All are invited to bring their backpacks or work bags for a special blessing!



YOUTH MINISTRY

RRPC Youth Mission Trip Video

Our 2026 Youth Mission team spent the week in Del Rio, Tennessee, helping continue the restoration of Del Rio Baptist Church after the damage left behind by Hurricane Helene. Through hard work, prayer, laughter, and the support of our church family, this church has now been restored and made ready for service again. Scan the QR code to watch a short video celebrating the mission, the people we served alongside, and the many ways God worked through this week. Thank you, RRPC, for your prayers, gifts, snacks, cookies, and words of encouragement. We truly could not have done this without you.



Youth Pantry Drive

JULY: CANNED TUNA/ CHICKEN

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

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.

GRIEF SHARE



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.



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.

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:	Troops 7 and 83
Week 3:	Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 3:	Mitchem / Carter
Week 4:	Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds	Week 4:	Whaley/ Glosson
Week 5:	Bob Remsburg and Don Chase	Week 5:	Tipton / Earley

STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
2026 BUDGET:	\$465,561
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$226,848
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,797
TOTAL FOR July:	\$13,305
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,953
TOTAL FOR July 12:	\$5,606

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.