

Committee Meeting Schedule

<u>Building and Grounds:</u> 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 pm	<u>Christian Education:</u> 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am
<u>Worship:</u> 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm	<u>Congregational Connections:</u> 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am
<u>Finance & Administration:</u> 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm	

Counters

Week 1:
Joe Novobilski and Sandra Thomas
Week 2:
Steve Jewett and Kathy Linker
Week 3:
Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas
Week 4:
Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds
Week 5:
Bob Remsburg and Don Chase

	WNF Set-Up	WNF Clean-Up
Week 1		
Week 2	Daoust	Troops 7 & 83
Week 3		Mitchem/ Carter
Week 4	Bedsole	Whaley/ Glosson
Week 5	Tipton	Tipton/ Earley

Stewardship Report

2026 Budget:	\$465,561
Total Given YTD:	\$290,856
Needed Each Month:	\$38,797
Total For September:	\$14,565
Needed Weekly:	\$8,953
Total For September 13:	\$6,527

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

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



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 20, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 AM

Rocky River Presbyterian Church • 7940 Rocky River Road • Concord NC 28025
www.rockyriver.org • 704-455-2479

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 105:1–6, 37–45)

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on God’s name.
All: We will make known God’s deeds among the peoples.
One: Sing to the Lord; sing praises to God.
All: We will tell of all God’s wonderful works.
One: Glory in God’s holy name.
All: Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
One: Seek the Lord and God’s strength.
All: We will seek God’s presence continually.
One: Remember the wonderful works God has done, The miracles, and the judgments God has spoken.
All: We are servants of the living God, Children of the covenant of grace.
One: God led the people out with joy, And guided them with steadfast love.
All: God remains faithful from generation to generation.
One: Let us worship the Lord.
All: Let us worship God together.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



HARRISBURG CRISIS
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY
FOOD PANTRY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

FOOD PANTRY



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



Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Est. @ 1751

	Our Session		
	CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Finance & Administration	Sandra Thomas	Shirley Rockel	Jim Pharr
Worship	Priscilla Giuliano	Barbara Whaley	Claudia Bedsole
Congregational Connections	Joe Novobilski, Clerk of Session	Robert Remsburg	Ashelyn Earley
Building and Grounds	Steve Irminger	David Murray	Jimmy Stafford
Christian Education	Theresa Watson	Nicole Schneider	Elaine Tankersley

TEN CENTS-A-MEAL



Donations accepted the first
Sunday of each month
and every
Wednesday Night Fellowship
Dinner!



ACTIVE OLDER ADULT FITNESS



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

† HYMN #610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we often resemble Jonah more than Jesus. You call us to love our enemies, but we prefer judgment to mercy. You call us to forgiveness, but we cling to resentment. You call us to compassion, but we hold tightly to anger. We confess that we are glad to receive grace for ourselves, yet hesitant to believe others deserve it too. We draw lines that your mercy refuses to honor. We decide who is worthy of compassion, and who should be left outside your care. Forgive us when we confuse our bitterness with righteousness. Forgive us when fear hardens our hearts. Forgive us when we forget that we live only by your mercy. Teach us again that your grace is wider than our prejudice, deeper than our anger, and stronger than our desire to divide the world into saints and enemies. By your Holy Spirit, soften our hearts, renew our minds, and teach us to rejoice whenever your mercy brings life. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. 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.

*Let us exchange a gesture of peace with our neighbors, and remain standing for our
Response to Forgiveness.*

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† 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, by your Spirit open our hearts and minds this day. As the
Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, deliver us from shallow
judgment and fearful anger. Teach us to see the world through the
wideness of your mercy. Give us courage to hear difficult truth, and
humility to receive your grace anew. Through Christ, the Living Word.
Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Jonah 3:10–4:11
One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Receive the Glory Kauflin, arr. by Ross
Choir

SERMON “The Fish Ain’t The Story” Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept
ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all
believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who
inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.



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.



The Fall Brunswick Stew and Barbecue is on October 10th starting at 4:00 PM. Invite your
friends, family, and anyone in the community to join us for an evening of great food and
fellowship. Meals are eat-in only. Donations will be accepted. The Youth Group will have
delicious treats at their bake sale as a fundraising activity.



The Community Carnival and Trunk or Treat are on October 25th from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM.
Volunteers are needed for games, trunks, and supervision of the bounce houses. Please see
Bob Remsburg, Traci Bird, or Ashelyn Earley to volunteer or a sign-up sheet is available in the
vestibule & at Wednesday Night Fellowship. Please help with candy donations that may be
placed in the Lay Office’s designated box.

YOUTH MINISTRY

RRPC Youth Fall 2026 Dates

Mark your calendars for a fun and busy fall with RRPC Youth!

Sept. 26 at 6:30 PM – Youth Weenie Roast + S'mores

Join us for a fun fall evening of hot dogs, s'mores, and fellowship at Julie Alexander's house! Please RSVP by Wednesday, Sept. 23, to rockyriveryouth@gmail.com so we can plan for food.

Oct. 4 from 3–5 PM – Bowling & Laser Tag

RRPC Youth are heading out for an afternoon of bowling, laser tag, and fellowship! More details will be shared with youth families. Please RSVP to rockyriveryouth@gmail.com.

Oct. 10 - Youth Bake Sale (During Brunswick Stew Event)

Oct. 25 @ 3–5 PM - Silent Auction during Carnival & Trunk or Treat

Oct. 25 @ 5:30 PM - Youth Halloween Party & Movie Night

Nov. 7 - Service Day (Details TBD)

Dec. 5 @ 5:30 PM - Youth Christmas Party

Youth Pantry Drive

SEPT.: CEREAL

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO
RRPC!

Questions - Hailey Lebada or email us
at RockyRiverYouth@gmail.com



through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. 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.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, all that we have comes from your gracious hand. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them for the healing of the world, for the welcome of the stranger, for the feeding of the hungry, and for the proclamation of your mercy in every place. Keep us from small hearts and narrow vision. Teach us to give as those who have already received more grace than we deserve. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *You Shall Go Out with Joy* #80

† POSTLUDE

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY



Jocko's Mini Golf & Sno Cones
Sept. 27, 3:00pm

Families of all ages are invited to meet us at Jocko's Mini Golf - 259 N Cannon Blvd, Kannapolis, NC 28083 - by 3:00pm on 9/27/26. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Costs for all children and one adult per family will be covered. The cost for all others is \$10 per person and should be turned into Laura Smith.

Contact - laura.rrpc@gmail.com



Children's Christmas Program
December 13, 10:00am

The Children's Christmas Program will begin rehearsals on Oct. 11, 12:15pm-1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch to enjoy it together. Rehearsals will continue every week until the program is presented on Dec. 13 at 10:00am. Please see Laura Smith for more details.

Montreat 20 Year T-Shirts

Order forms are available on the table in the vestibule or by contacting Priscilla Giuliano.

tttandsp@gmail.com or calling 704-706-3203



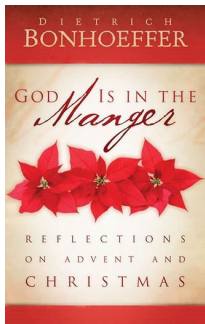
Men's Advent Study

Tuesdays, 12:30 pm - Session Room

Tuesday, December 1, 2026, weekly until December 22, 2026

Studying: *God Is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

This book can be ordered online. Please register with Macie by Nov. 19th and feel free to bring your own lunch this year.



Quilts of Love

Have you noticed a small rack of quilts in the corner of the vestibule? These are lap quilts made by women of the church and are available for anyone who is going through a difficult experience. You are welcome to take a quilt for someone you know who needs the comfort of God during a hard time.

For more information, or if you would like to make a quilt, contact Carol Lyerly at 704-455-5892



Attendance for Sunday, September 13, 2026

Sanctuary: 122

Online: 87

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, Sept. 23, 2026

6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Menu: Bruschetta Chicken

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



RRPC Blood Drive

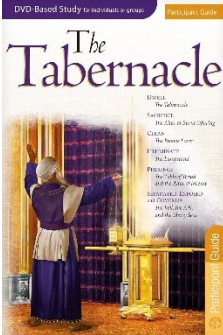
Tuesday, Sept. 22

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
Sept. 22, 2026 - 9:00 am
Room 214 - 2nd floor

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

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

Game Night

Friday, Sept. 25, 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!

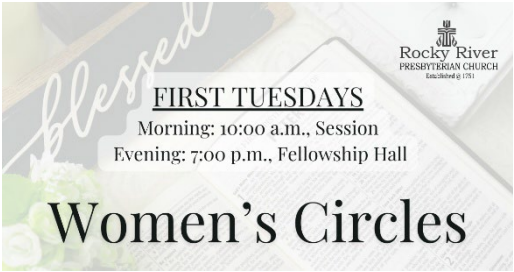
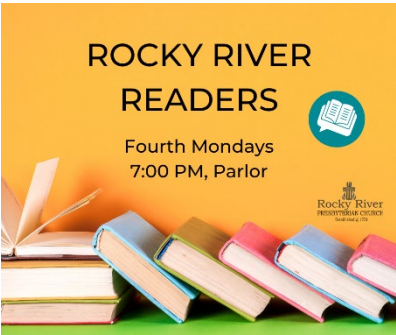
Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203



Rocky River Readers
Monday, Sept. 28, 7:00 pm, Parlor

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

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, Oct. 6

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



Men’s Breakfast

Sunday, Oct. 18, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall

Men of all ages are invited to come and share in good food and fellowship. This breakfast is held on the third Sunday of each month.

Questions? Contact Jerry Clark at 704-458-9233

Women’s Retreat
November 13 - 15, 2026

Montreat Women's Retreat is coming soon, November 13-15th. This year's fees are \$260.00 for a double room, \$320.00 for a single room. With a deposit of \$50.00 due by September 20th. Secure your spot today!

Forms available in the vestibule.
Contact Priscilla Giuliano - tttandsp@gmail.com

