



Rocky River
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established @ 1751



Morning Worship
at Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 AM

Gathering

The Nursery is available for Infants-Kindergarten.

The Alternative Worship Room (105) is available for those with sensory needs.

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 139)

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

One: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

All: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

One: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

All: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

One: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

All: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

One: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

All: even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

One: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

All: Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

One: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

All: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end - I am still with you.

One: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

All: See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

† HYMN #409

God Is Here!

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

Faithful God, You know each one of us. You see us. You listen to us. And yet, we still run. *Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?* Holy One, we know the answer, and yet, we keep running. So, forgive us for doubting your faithfulness. Forgive us for doubting the gifts you have bestowed upon us. Forgive us and help us to forgive ourselves and each other. 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.*

† 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.

* based on Psalm 139 from Tea and Theology.com

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

10-Cents-A-Meal Offering

Neal Carter

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 14:25-33

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“ Joyful Rhythm ”

Kevin McChesney

Handbell Choir

SERMON

“ Coeburn’s Rusty Steele ”

Neal Carter

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.

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

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

We offer our gifts, given from your abundance, that they may be used to proclaim your love and to bring healing and hope to all who are in need. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* #542

† POSTLUDE

Attendance for Sunday, Aug. 31, 2025

Sanctuary: 116 Online: 52

Interested in membership?

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

† Please Stand • Congregation reads words in bold.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL SCOUT NIGHT



Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

**Burgers w/
pasta salad**



Sept. 10, 2025
Fellowship Hall - 6:00pm

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


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**Wednesday, Sept. 10
6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall**

Menu: Burgers w/ pasta salad

We ask for four people each week to bring a dessert. Please contact Nancy Tipton, ntipton71@gmail.com / 704-309-0369

September Meeting

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Worship • Food • Fellowship




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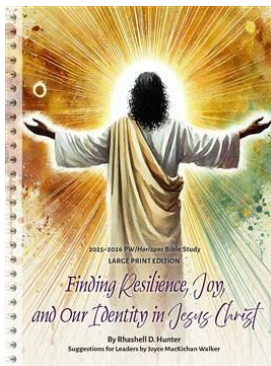


SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

September 9, 2025 - 9:00 AM

Session Room - 2nd floor



Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity in Jesus Christ
by Rhashell D. Hunter

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



GriefShare 13 - Week Class

Aug. 19 - Nov. 11

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Questions? Contact Joan Nicholson, jnich1@hotmail.com, 704-239-1573



Game Night

Friday, Sept. 12, 2025 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

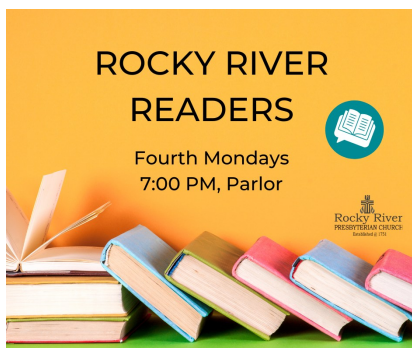


Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Sept. 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, Sept. 22, 7:00 pm, Parlor

***The Women* by Kristin Hannah**

View the 2025 reading list at

www.rockyriver.org/connect/rocky-river-readers.

Questions? Contact Priscilla Giuliano, 704-706-3203



Women's Circle Meetings

Tuesday, October 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



Women's Retreat

November 7 - 9, 2025

This is our 19th year, so come and join us for a weekend of spiritual enlightenment, fellowship, and fun.

Double room \$240.00 each - Single room \$300.00

*includes meals. \$50.00 deposit due by September 14, 2025.

Forms available in the sanctuary.

Contact Priscilla Giuliano - tttandsp@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Faith & Fellowship

Sunday, Sept. 21 - 3:30 pm

Room 215

Children, K-5, are invited for a time of learning and fun!



Lunch & Mini Golf

Sunday, Sept. 28 - 12:00 pm



All families are invited to join us for lunch after worship. We will leave the church around 1:15pm to go to Jocko's Mini Golf in Kannapolis to be there for our 2:00pm reservation. All children need to be accompanied by an adult. Each family must provide their own transportation to and from Jocko's. If you plan to join us, please sign up by 9/24/25.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Fellowship Lunch **September 7, 2025 - 12:00 PM**

Stay after church for youth fellowship until 2:00 PM. We'll share lunch, games, and a short devotional together.

Carowinds Day **September 27, 2025**

We're headed to Carowinds! Spend the day riding coasters and enjoying fellowship. Details on tickets and departure times coming soon.

Youth Pantry Drive **SEPT.: SPAGHETTI SAUCE**

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE & SHIP DIRECTLY TO RRPC!
Questions - Hailey Wilson 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.

Morning Coffee Cart

Provided By:


Wonderfully Made Bakery and Coffee Co.

Wednesday & Friday:

6:30 AM - 10:00 AM








the **Y** MCA


ROWAN-CABARRUS YMCA

The YMCA @ Rocky River Presbyterian Church



SilverSneakers®

ACTIVE OLDER ADULT FITNESS



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

A sign for the Harrisburg Crisis Assistance Ministry Food Pantry, set against a background of shelves stocked with various food items like canned goods and bags of rice. The sign is white with blue and green text and graphics.


HARRISBURG CRISIS
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY
FOOD PANTRY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

FOOD PANTRY



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


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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

A sign for the RRPC Playground Fun Raiser, featuring a background of green grass. On the left is a photo of a playground with a slide and a sandbox. In the center is a QR code with the text 'SCAN TO GIVE' and an arrow pointing to it. On the right, the text 'RRPC PLAYGROUND FUN RAISER' is written in large, white, serif capital letters.


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SCAN TO GIVE




**RRPC
PLAYGROUND
FUN
RAISER**

Our Session		
CLASS OF 2025	CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027
Scott Jones <i>Finance and Administration</i>	Sandra Thomas <i>Finance & Administration</i>	Shirley Rockel <i>Finance & Administration</i>
Reggie Hunnicutt <i>Worship</i>	Priscilla Giuliano <i>Worship</i>	Barbara Whaley <i>Worship</i>
Nancy Tipton, Clerk of Session <i>Congregational Connections</i>	Joe Novobilski <i>Congregational Connections</i>	Robert Remsburg <i>Congregational Connections</i>
Billy Carriker <i>Building and Grounds</i>	Steve Irminger <i>Building and Grounds</i>	David Murray <i>Building and Grounds</i>
Amy Huster <i>Christian Education</i>	Theresa Watson <i>Christian Education</i>	Nicole Schneider <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:	C3 and Gero	Irminger and Gero
Week 2:	Steve Jewett and Kenza Mitchem	Week 2:	Daoust	Troops 7 and 83
Week 3:	Shirley Rockel and Darrell Thomas	Week 3:	(Open)	Mitchem / Carter
Week 4:	Scott Jones and Frank Reynolds	Week 4:	(Open)	Whaley/ Bedsole/ Glosson
Week 5:	Bob Remsburg and Don Chase	Week 5:	Tipton	Tipton / Earley

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2025 BUDGET:	\$459,641
TOTAL GIVEN YTD:	\$297,000
NEEDED EACH MONTH:	\$38,303
TOTAL FOR AUG.:	\$48,058
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$8,839
TOTAL FOR AUG. 31:	\$5,142

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.