



And together we'll spread the news  
That God is in our land  
All praise to the Father  
From whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one

*Refrain*

† HYMN #104 *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† LITANY OF CONFESSION

One: We gather here as a fellowship of people who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord. One of the major marks of this fellowship is the sense of joy we experience as we gather to worship God, to give thanks for Jesus Christ and to witness to the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Yet, we admit that there are times when we feel afraid, abandoned, and lonely; when faith leads to doubt and questions rather than a sense of joy or peace of mind. Lord Jesus Christ, unlike those first disciples, we cannot touch you or see you, and so it is all too easy to become downcast and given to despair.

**All: Forgive us when, like the disciples, we find the truth of Easter hard to believe.**

One: Come to us, risen Christ, come through the closed doors of our hearts and minds and take away our fears and doubts;

**All: Come to us, risen Christ, breathe on us and fill us with the joy and peace of your presence.**

One: Bless us all as people who have not seen you,

**All: but who believe that you are truly the risen Christ, Son of God. Amen.**

*Time of Silent 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 word of peace with our neighbors and remain standing for our Response to Forgiveness*

## Children's Ministry

Sharon Vanpelt, Director of Christian Education - [dce@rockyriver.org](mailto:dce@rockyriver.org)

**Sunday School - Sunday morning at 10:00am. Godly Play**

**Kindergarten thru 2nd grade Room 203, 3rd thru 5th grade Room 206.** The Godly Play approach helps children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond. **Questions? Contact Sharon Vanpelt at 704-455-2479/dce@rockyriver.org**

**Lord's Prayer devotional activity at Wednesday Night Fellowship**

During Lent we have had casual table discussions and activities on the Lord's Prayer. There have been some interesting conversations overheard, and some people were very competitive with the trivia questions! Most of all, we hope that these discussions help us to consider what we are really saying when we say the Lord's Prayer each week.

## Youth Ministry

JD McNutt, Youth Director - [youthrrpc@gmail.com](mailto:youthrrpc@gmail.com)

**Sunday School—Sunday Morning at 10:00am down in the basement (Room B-6) - Middle School and High School youth gather each week before worship service.**

**Bible Study every Wednesday at 6:45pm after dinner**

**Youth Calendar:**

**April 8** - Youth (Arts in worship 5, youth 6)

**April 15** - Youth (Arts in worship 5, youth 6)

**April 22** - Earth Day celebration

**April 28** - Escape Artist!!!

**YOUTH MISSION TRIP!!! JUNE 17—23 • Frakes, Kentucky**

JD and the Youth will be heading to Henderson Settlement, in Frakes Kentucky for their mission trip this summer. We will be needing adult chaperones to go on this trip as well. \$50 Deposit will be due April 29th. See JD if you want to go on the mission trip or if you can chaperone. Cost is \$250.



**FAMILY COOKOUT AND EARTH DAY!! Sunday, April 22**


What is better than hamburgers and hot dogs cooked on the grill? Enjoying them with your church family after worship service!! We have planned a Family Cookout to support the Youth Mission Trip and give our members yet another reason to gather and EAT! JD and the Youth will also be sharing Earth Day activities and information with the congregation. The youth will supply the burgers and hot dogs, chips and drinks. If you would like to bring a dessert to share please do! Donations to the Mission Trip will be accepted.

Thank you to Reggie Hunnicutt for organizing the cooking! If anyone would like to help set up and/or man the grills please contact **Reggie at [reghunnicut@gmail.com](mailto:reghunnicut@gmail.com) or 704-763-0638**

## Announcements


### Join us for the 10th Annual Spring Pottery Tour!

Ramblers plan to take a trip to Seagrove, NC for the 10th Annual Spring Pottery Tour on April 21st. This is a studio tour offering fresh new ideas and a great way for the potters to jump start the season. During this special event, over 50 shops will host kiln openings, studio tours, demonstrations, and special events. Participate in The Card Stamp program and be entered to win a \$150 gift certificate to use at one participating shop of your choice! We plan to visit Benn Owen, Cristal King, Terry King, Travas Owens (Jugtown Pottery), And Phil Morgan. Lunch is planned at Westmore Restaurant. We will use the church van, leaving at 7am on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a small cost for gas., and all are welcome! **Questions? Please contact Steve Mitchem at (704)995-7178/mitchem.steven@gmail.com**



The Ramblers invite you to join us for a trip to Greensboro to the Barn Theater **May 12th.** We will leave that afternoon at 3:30, and return that night. We will take the church bus and overflow will carpool. The cost is \$49 per person, for a group rate with at least 20 going plus \$5 each for gas, and we already have 16 signed up! Contact Shirley Rockel if you would like to go! **rockelshirley1@yahoo.com or 319-850-1370**

**The Healing Touch Clinic** will be held TODAY Sunday, April 8 from 3pm to 5pm. A Sign up sheet will be in the vestibule. Additional appointments will be available with Julia Alexander on Wednesday afternoons by calling to schedule individually. There is no charge for this service. Donations to the building fund will be accepted. *The clinic is held the second Sunday of each month and is open to the public.* **Questions? Please contact Julia Alexander, 704-455-9753/2jralex@ctc.net**



**The Men's Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 15, at 9:00a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** As always, we welcome ALL men to join us—husbands, fathers, sons, grandfathers and brothers. What a great opportunity for fellowship among our men! We would love to see some new faces at the breakfast. **I challenge each of you to invite someone new to join you for breakfast this month.**

**Presbyterian Women Evening Circle** - will meet Tuesday, April 10 at 7:00pm at the home of Julia Alexander. All of the women of the church are invited and encouraged to be a part of the Presbyterian Women Circle and Bible Studies. We strive to minister to the congregation as a whole and to the women in particular through Bible study, prayer and fellowship. **Questions? Please contact Priscilla Giuliano at 704-706-3203/tttandsp@gmail.com**

† RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS *Gloria Patri* #579  
**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.**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE Co-Directors

## The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison) (by Stephen Fearing)

**Resurrected God,**  
**though we have hidden ourselves in a locked room and huddled together as ones who build barriers, send your Living Word through our locked doors and into our guarded hearts that we might be witnesses of your grace and couriers of your goodness. By the power of your Holy Spirit, grant us the trust to believe the Gospel not because we see it but because we have been seen by it and transformed through it. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 4:32-35 (page 122)

One: The Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN Joey Dulin

ANTHEM

THE GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31 (page115)

One: The Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Our Distinctive Mark* Neal Carter

## Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A New Creed)

**We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

† HYMN #106 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

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 (include First Fruits Offering)

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #592  
**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

**Gracious God, you are faithful and just! Through the resurrection of your Son Jesus, you have given great grace to us all. You call us to share the word of eternal life with others so that our joy may be complete. Light the way for us as we seek to live in fellowship with Christ. May these offerings reflect the grace of our risen Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**Sending**

† HYMN # 332 *Live Into Hope*

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep us forever; Grant us peace, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor; Lift up your eyes and see His face, love will leave you never; May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep us forever.**

POSTLUDE

† Please stand if you are able

**Rocky River Presbyterian Church**

**Sunday, April 8, 2018**

**Welcome, guests and friends!**

**What a blessing that God led you to worship with us today!**

*Visitors—please sign our friendship pad, and let us know if there is anything we can do for you. We invite you to join us for our Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner. We serve at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5 per person \$15 per family. Menu: Chicken Parm/Pasta*

**Worship Packets for preschool** children are available in the vestibule and located in our red activity bags. These packets are designed to help children participate in worship. Please return the bags to the vestibule as you leave the service.

**Nursery and childcare services** are always available during service for infants through Kindergarten.

**Interested in membership?** Contact our Church Administrator, Cyndi Conway, to arrange a meeting with our Pastor, Neal Carter. 704-455-2479 or churchadmin@rockyriver.org

**Please Keep in Your Prayers:**

Julia Wainwright, friend of Alice Williams; Jim Avery, friend of Cyndi Conway (recently diagnosed with cancer) Ashelyn Earley; Roman Shepard; Mary Alexander; Michelle Pena Clark, daughter-in-law of Jerry and Linda Clark; Ann Glosson; Phyllis Griffin; Teresa Faw, family of Alice Williams; Kay Jenkins, friend of Jerry Clark; David Rowan, co-worker of Bob Carter; Margaret Earley; Neil Cochran; Amber Ritter, co-worker of Deb Carter; Kathleen Baczewski, mother of Joseph Baczewski; Joan Nicholson; Harley and Teresa Vea, friends of Janet Little; Margaret Hale; Bob D'Ameilo, friend of Laura Milliken; Anna Melvin; Shorty McCachren; Mandy Ide; Clai McNutt; Lavada Freeman; Pat McDonald; Marie Hildreth; Bob Boswell, father of Dori Swaringen; Wes and Ree Abernathy; Benita Schirtzinger, mother of Darren Bird; Sam Peterson, friend of Priscilla Giuliano; Alan Cochran, brother of Neil Cochran; Ann Jones, daughter of Ray and Priscilla Clawson; Sonya Moorehead, friend of Jerry Clark; Lindy and Helene Linenberger; Ouida Harman; Jim Busse, friend of Stephanie Campbell; Amy Hicks; Brendan Milliken; Seville Funk; Marlene Howard; Kay Nalbhone; Jimmy McDonald; Linda Modzelesky; Bob Brombacher; Teresa Williams; Zackie Moore.

**VISITS FROM THE PASTOR—** Please remember to let us know if someone is in the hospital, is ill, or just needs a visit from the pastor. This ministry is so important to Neal and to our church—knowing that your pastor and church family are here to support you in your time of need is one of the blessings of being a member at RRPC. Call the office at 704-455-2479 or Neal directly on his cell phone (**REALLY—CALL HIS CELL PHONE!**) at **910-280-9688**.

| Loan Status  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Education Building Loan as of:   |                  |
| 3/31/2018  | <b>\$439,594</b> |
| Minimum Monthly Payment  | \$5,110          |
| <i>We will announce the total amount pledged to reduce this debt today! God is good!</i> |                  |

| Stewardship Report     |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 2018 Budget            | \$379,548 |
| Total given YTD        | \$ 29,992 |
| Amt. needed per month: | \$ 31,629 |
| Total for April        | \$ 9,530  |
| Amount needed Weekly   | \$ 7,299  |
| Total for April 1      | \$ 9,530  |