

Healing Touch Clinic

The Healing Touch Clinic will resume on Sunday, January 13. A Sign up sheet will be in the vestibule today for 30 minute sessions beginning @ 3pm. 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. Please spread the word to your family and friends—members of the community are welcome to the clinic.

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

Youth Calendar - Bible Study every Wednesday at 6:45pm after dinner

January 6 - Churchwide Epiphany Party

January 13 - 1st youth meeting of 2019!!!! Predictions!!! Ski Trip Sign up!

January 20 - Youth 6-7:30pm

January 27 - Carillon after church + movie



Family Game Night!! We are resuming Family Game Nights this month! Our first one for this year will be Friday, January 11th at 7:00pm. Bring your favorite card or board game, a snack to share and your competitive spirit and let's have some fun!! Invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

Worship Ministry

Choir Chime Ringer, Today: James Ide

Next Week: Anna Talton

Worship Assistant Today: Kathy Linker

Next Week: Gigi Hunnicutt

Ushers, Today: Butch & Ruth Ann McDonald, Danny Tankersley, Mike/Betsy Biggers

Next Week: Jim Pharr, Patrick Spickard, Dave Mowery, Bob Windell, Ted Dickason

A Time for Children, Today: Sharon Vanpelt

Next Week: Neal Carter

Nursery Volunteers, Today: Alice Williams and Linda Clark

Next Week: Kathy Dulin and Pam McCachren

Bread Ministry Baker, This Week: Ann Glosson

Next Week: Jean Hager

Godly Play I: Sharon/Mandy (Jesus is Baptized) **Godly Play II:**

Next Week: Godly Play I: Janet/Joey (Jesus in the Wilderness)

Godly Play II: Julie/Magan (A New Teaching)

Rocky River Presbyterian Church • 7940 Rocky River Road • Concord NC 28025

www.rockyriver.org • 704-455-2479 • fax: 704-455-2489

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Neal Carter • 704-455-2479 or 910-280-9688 • nealcarter64@gmail.com

Church Administrator: Cyndi Conway • 704-455-2479 • churchadmin@rockyriver.org

Director of Christian Education: Sharon Vanpelt • 704-455-2479 • dce@rockyriver.org

Youth Director: JD McNutt • 704-455-2479 • youthrrpc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 9:00 to 4:00 and Friday 9:00 to 12:00

Morning Worship Sunday, January 6, 2018 Epiphany of the Lord 11:00 a.m.



**Rocky River Presbyterian Church
7940 Rocky River Road
Concord, NC 28025
704-455-2479**

Gathering

(Let us prepare our hearts for worship • Please silence your cell phones)

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

James Ide

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from *The Visit of the Magi—Epiphany Sunday*, on The Calvin Institute of Christ Worship)

One: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

All: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!

One: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

All: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!

One: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

All: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!

One: O come, let us worship the Lord,

All: for God has done wondrous things!

† HYMN #66

We Three Kings

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION (From the *Book of Common Worship* - PCUSA)

Gracious God,

God of Glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Rocky River Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 6, 2019

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 Wednesday Night Fellowship. Dinner is served at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Cost \$5 per person/ Maximum \$15 for family Menu: Sesame Pork/Chicken You can RSVP by indicating the number of guests coming when you sign the Friendship Pad.


Worship Packets for preschool and elementary 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: The Windsor Family, family of Susan Jones; Steven Mowery, father of Dave Mowery; Kylie Wilson, friend of the Giuliano's; Kathy Hoover; Theresa Hively and Jacob Roberts, friends of Traci Bird; Rick Rhodes, uncle of Traci Bird, Linda McCachren; Randy Baker, father of Delaney who attends our youth group; Don and Pat Bechtol, parents of Chris Bechtol; Frank Graham (former member); Keith Long, son of Darlene Chase; Buddy Holson, friend of Jimmy Stafford and Mary Litteral; Michelle Pena Clark, daughter-in-law of Jerry and Linda Clark; Phyllis Griffin; Teresa Faw, family of Alice Williams; Kay Jenkins, friend of Jerry Clark; Neil Cochran; Amber Ritter, co-worker of Deb Carter; Harley and Teresa Vea, friends of Janet Little; Margaret Hale; Bob D'Ameilo, friend of Laura Milliken; Anna Melvin; Shorty McCachren; Mandy Ide; Pat McDonald; Marie Hildreth; Bob Boswell, father of Dori Swaringen; Wes Abernathy; Benita Schirtzinger, mother of Darren Bird; Sam Peterson, friend of Priscilla Giuliano; Ann Jones, daughter of Ray and Priscilla Clawson; Sonya Moorehead, friend of Jerry Clark; Lindy and Helene Linenberger; Jim Busse, friend of Stephanie Campbell; Amy Hicks; Brendan Milliken; Marlene Howard; Kay Nalbhone; Jimmy McDonald; Linda Modzelesky; Bob Brombacher; Teresa Williams.

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.**

 Epiphany Party will be held TODAY Sunday, January 6th at 6:00pm. Come explore the story of the Magi (Wisemen) and the mysterious star that led them to the Christ Child. Dinner will be served and we will have activities for all ages. Bring your three wiseman (magi) to the party for

Church Work Day!!!Decorations will be taken down on Saturday, January 12 at 9:00am. We can use lots of volunteers to help with this project! The more people we have the less time it will take—hope to see you here!! Also—if you donated money for the poinsettias please take one (or two) home with you today!! We don't want to have to throw them away!!!



DECLARATION OF ORDINATION (AND INSTALLATION)

Neal: Allison, Carol, Cindy, King and Robert, you are now elders in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

WELCOME

CHARGE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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 (unison)

God of glory and strength, we share this offering with You as a response to Your powerful acts in our own lives. We share our financial resources with You because of the many ways that You have blessed us. Your spirit fills our lives like the waters fill the oceans. All glory is given to You, Lord God. In Your powerful name, we pray.

† 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.

Sending

† HYMN #525 *Here I Am, Lord*

† 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

† 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

† 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.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Sharon Vanpelt

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, by your scriptures and your Holy Spirit to your presence, where we may see your glory and by change by it. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12 (page 2)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What Happened to Those Wise Guys?

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.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Neal: We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as elders, and as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Scott: Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the session of Rocky River Presbyterian Church now ordains Robert (Bo) Geist, Cindy Spickard, and Allison Harris to the office of ruling elder, and installs them to active service. The session also installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: King McCachren and Carol Lyerly.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Neal: Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Elders: **I do.**

Neal: Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Elders: **I do.**

Neal: Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Elders: **I do and I will.**

Neal: Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Elders: **I will.**

Neal: Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Elders: **I will.**

Neal: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Elders: **I will.**

Neal: Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Elders: **I do.**

Neal: Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Elders: **I will.**

Neal: Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Elders: **I will.**

Scott: Do we, the members of the church, accept Allison, Carol, Cindy, King and Robert as elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We do.

Scott: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

Congregation: We do.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION - We welcome all ordained elders to join us at this time.

Those gathered around candidates for the office of elder lay hands on them.

Neal: God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on Allison, Carol, Cindy, King, and Robert, that they may be your faithful elders in the church. Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word. Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit, that they may exercise the ministry of discipline with humility and compassion. Guide them in governance, on this session and in every court of the church, that they may be servant leaders following Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life to set others free. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.