

Our Session		
CLASS of 2018	CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020
Steve Jewett <i>Finance &amp; Administration</i>	Shawnee Wakeman <i>Finance &amp; Administration</i>	Glenn Jones <i>Finance &amp; Administration</i>
Nancy Thomas <i>Worship</i>	Marie Morrison <i>Worship</i>	Scott Jones <i>Worship</i>
Candice Shepard <i>Congregational Connections</i>	Ben Schneider <i>Congregational Connections</i>	Reggie Hunnicutt <i>Congregational Connections</i>
Jim Rockel <i>Building &amp; Grounds</i>	Billy Carriker <i>Building &amp; Grounds</i>	Jim Pharr <i>Building and Grounds</i>
Dave Mowery <i>Christian Education</i>	Thomas Heavey <i>Christian Education</i>	Kathy Dulin <i>Christian Education</i>

Congregational Connections meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm  
 Building and Grounds meets the 1st Monday of each month at 6:30pm  
 The Worship Team meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm  
 Christian Education meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00am

Loan Status	
Education Building Loan as of: 2/28/2018	<b>\$443,410</b>
Minimum Monthly Payment	\$5,110
<b>Commitment Sunday is March 25th.</b>	
<b>We hope you are prayerfully considering making a pledge to help us reduce this debt.</b>	

Stewardship Report	
2018 Budget	\$382,667
Total given YTD	\$ 62,914
Amt. needed per month:	\$ 31,888
Total for March	\$ 12,109
Amount needed Weekly	\$ 7,358
Total for March 11	\$ 3,462
<i>Thank you for your faithful giving.</i>	

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*  
 Mark 6:21



**Morning Worship**  
**Sunday, March 18, 2018**  
**5th Sunday in Lent**  
**11:00 a.m.**

## Gathering

PRELUDE - Handbells *(Let us prepare our hearts for worship • Please silence your cell phones)*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Isabella Rockel

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Ephesians 2:1-10)

One: Sisters and brothers, remember: once we were dead!

**All: Once we ran blindly after the things of this world.**

One: We were selfish. We lived to please ourselves.

**All: To put it bluntly, we were under evil's spell.**

One: Yet, miracle of miracles, even though dead God still loved us.

**All: God's grace saved us!**

*Choir: There Is a Redeemer (Verse 1)*

One: God redeemed us and raised us up with Christ.

**All: God made us citizens, not of the world but of heaven...**

One: not of this time, but for all eternity.

**All: So we are saved by grace through faith. Not our doing, but God's. Praise God! Let us worship God!**

*Choir: There Is a Redeemer (Verse 2)*

**All:** (Sing the refrain with the choir)

***Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.***

**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. 9:30 to 4:30 and Friday 9:30 to 12:30**  
**(PLEASE NOTE NEW OFFICE HOURS)**

† HYMN #461

*God Is Here!*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We tend to like the darkness, Lord. In the darkness our sins and our misdeeds might not be noticed so readily. Perhaps we fear the light of your love because of our guilt and embarrassment about not following you. You sent the light into the world that all might see your love and learn how to live in the light. But we have stumbled, fallen, and failed far too often. Sometimes we just want to give up. Reach through the darkness and let your light and hope shine on us and eventually in us, that we might bring others to the Light. For you sent your Son that we would be redeemed. Heal and forgive us for our waywardness. Pick us up and put us on the right path, the path to the Cross and beyond where we will serve you by serving your world. In Jesus' Name, we pray. 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*

† 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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Scott Jones

## The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

† Please stand if you are able

## 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](mailto:dce@rockyriver.org)

**Godly Play training** for leaders will be held **TODAY** March 18 at 12:30 (after the Spaghetti Dinner) and should be finished by 2:30.

Questions? Contact Sharon Vanpelt at 704-455-2479/[dce@rockyriver.org](mailto:dce@rockyriver.org)

## 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:**

**March 18** - Youth (Arts in Worship 5pm; Youth 6pm) Prepare eggs for Easter Egg Hunt

**March 24** - Help with Spring Fling

**March 25** - Carillon and Movie

Questions? Contact JD McNutt at 704-287-6732/[youthrrpc@gmail.com](mailto:youthrrpc@gmail.com)

**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. Mark your calendars!! More details will be coming in the weeks ahead!



**Confirmation Class - Sundays at 5:00pm in the Session Room**

**March 18, March 25, April 15, April 22, April 29, May 6.**

A new Confirmation class began last week for grades 8 and older who have not yet been confirmed. The class is led by Neal Carter and Sharon Vanpelt, and it will be a time to explore the Christian faith and how we live out that faith as Presbyterians.

Questions? Contact Sharon Vanpelt at [dce@rockyriver.org](mailto:dce@rockyriver.org).

**The North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society** will be in the beautiful city of Wilmington for its Spring Tour on **Friday and Saturday, April 6-7**. Tour will include historic churches and sites such as the magnificent Bellamy House Museum. Registration begins Friday at noon at Thalian Hall; the cost is \$20. The schedule, registration form, and motel information will be on the website at [www.ncphsociety.org](http://www.ncphsociety.org) after March 15, or contact Program Chair Steve McRae at [smcrae@stevemcraelaw.com](mailto:smcrae@stevemcraelaw.com) or (336) 693-1929. Transportation will be provided by van from Raleigh for \$15; if you would like a seat, please contact Barbara Cain, [bcain@nc.rr.com](mailto:bcain@nc.rr.com), 919-782-0944.

## Announcements

### Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser—TODAY from 12pm to 2pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Come and support The Shepard family and help them bring Roman home! All proceeds from this luncheon will go towards the expenses incurred in adopting and bringing their little boy home from the Ukraine. A donation will be accepted at the door. We will be serving spaghetti, meatballs, salad, rolls, and dessert. The food will be delicious and you'll be supporting a great cause!



**CHILI COOKOFF** Chili Cookoff Fundraiser!! **WOW!! Just WOW!! Thank you to everyone that came and supported the Youth Chili Cookoff Fundraiser!** It was so much fun, the chili was delicious and there was quite a variety! Neal Dulin decided that his chili (with dad Joey) had to be fire station hot—and it WAS!! He got the most votes with 69 tickets, Jerry Clark came in second with 67 tickets and Shirley Rockel took third place with 45 tickets. We raised \$1590!!! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!



**FAMILY GAME NIGHT!!** Friday March 23 at 7:00pm - Bring your favorite game and a snack to share! We meet in the Fellowship Hall and welcome you to bring friends and neighbors. All ages are encouraged to come!! Questions? Please contact Priscilla Giuliano at 704-706-3203/tttandsp@gmail.com

**Maundy Thursday Service** - will be held at Bellefonte on Thursday, March 29 at 7:00pm. We hope to see many of you there.

### Spring Fling and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!!

Saturday, March 24th

Cub Scout Pack 83  
Pancake Breakfast

8am to 11am

Fellowship Hall

\$5 per person ALL YOU CAN EAT  
Pancakes and fixins!

Rumor has it the Easter Bunny will make an appearance!

### RRPC Spring Fling

10am to 12pm - Grove

Face Painting, Crafts and Games at  
10:00am

Interactive Easter Story at 11:00

Egg Hunt at 11:30



EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

**9:30am** - Flowering of the Cross  
(outside Sanctuary)

**10:00am** - Breakfast  
(Fellowship Hall)

**11:00am** - Worship  
(Sanctuary)

**We are asking for volunteers to bring the following food items to the breakfast: breakfast casseroles, fresh fruit platters, and muffins or pastries. We will supply the juice, coffee and tea! Please be intentional in inviting friends and neighbors who may be looking for a church home to join us!**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jerry Clark

ANTHEM

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10 (page 192)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Grace of God is Glue*

Neal Carter

## Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

† HYMN

*There Is a Redeemer*

(see insert)

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 (performed by our Hand Bell Choir - Betsy Biggers, Traci Bird, Linda Clark, Susan Jones, Kathy Linker, Shirley Rockel, Elaine Tankersley, and Stephanie Campbell)

† 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.**

† Please stand if you are able

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God,  
You are rich in mercy, sharing your great love with us, making us alive together with Christ—by grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is the gift from you — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. So, out of complete gratitude we give our offerings to you. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #280 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

† 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

Worship Ministry

**Choir Chime Ringer, Today:** Isabella Rockel **Next Week:** Nathan Spickard  
**Worship Assistant, Today:** Emma Wakeman **Next Week:** Gigi Hunnicutt  
**Ushers, Today:** Chip Wells, Tim or Dianne Savelle, Steve Jewett, Joey Dulin, Joe Novobilski, Scott Swaringen  
**Next Week:** Reggie Hunnicutt, Chris Bechtol, Dave Miller, Jimmy Stafford, King McCachren, Traci Bird  
**A Time for Children, Today:** Jerry Clark **Next Week:** Neal Carter  
**Nursery Volunteers, Today:** Beau & Jane Talton; Dave and Phyllis Miller  
**Next Week:** Rex & Ashley Carriker; Tommy & Erica Heavey  
**Bread Ministry Baker, This Week:** Laura Milliken **Next Week:** Joan Nicholson  
**Godly Play:** Erica Heavey/Mandy Ide; Janet Little/Dave Mowery  
**Next Week:** Joey Dulin/Dave Mowery; Robin Hartsell/Niki Schneider

**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.**

Rocky River Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 18, 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/Broccoli and Rice

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:

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; Jeff Barbee; Harley and Teresa Vea, friends of Janet Little; Margaret Hale; Bob D’Ameilo, friend of Laura Milliken; Anna Melvin; The David Luther Family, friends of Vance and Brenda Horton; 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 Nalbone; Jimmy McDonald; Linda Modzelesky; Bob Brombacher; Teresa Williams; Zackie Moore.

Celebration of Seagrove Potters

The 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 church at 7am on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a small cost for gas. **All are welcome to join us!!**

Contact Steve Mitchem at mitchem.steven@gmail.com or 704-995-7178

