

Our Session		
CLASS of 2018	CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020
Steve Jewett <i>Finance & Administration</i>	Shawnee Wakeman <i>Finance & Administration</i>	Glenn Jones <i>Finance & 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 & Grounds</i>	Billy Carriker <i>Building & 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
 Finance meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

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

Stewardship Report	
2018 Budget	\$382,667
Total given YTD	\$ 70,141
Amt. needed per month:	\$ 31,888
Total for March	\$ 19,336
Amount needed Weekly	\$ 7,358
Total for March 18	\$ 7,227
<i>Thank you for your faithful giving.</i>	

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

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)



Morning Worship
Sunday, March 25, 2018
Palm Sunday
11:00 a.m.

Gathering

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

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Nathan Spickard

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *from Matthew 21:1-11; Luke 19:28-38; John 12:12-19*

One: Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem. And the people cried,

All: "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

One: Fearing his influence on the people, the Pharisees sought ways to be rid of Jesus. And the people cried,

All: "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

One: Jesus performed many miracles and healings and people followed him. And the people cried,

All: "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

One: Following Jesus' orders, the disciples borrowed a donkey and brought it to Jesus. And the people cried,

All: "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

One: Jesus rode on the donkey's back into Jerusalem. The people waved palm branches before him, saying,

All: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

One: And the people cried,

All: "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

† HYMN #88

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

† CALL TO CONFESSION
† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus,
we are a fickle people, quick to turn away. We are quick to flock to you when all is well, but we are prone to scatter when there is opposition or criticism. Too often we have kept silent before you, afraid to proclaim your praise.
It is easy to join the crowd as you ride triumphantly into Jerusalem—singing our joys and expectations, dancing our hopes and dreams. It is far more difficult to stand by you as the crowd cries for your crucifixion. Forgive our weakness when we turn away. Strengthen us for the journey ahead as we relive your suffering and death, that we might stay beside you to the end. Give us the courage to shout our hosannas, not only today, but each and every day. 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 Shawnee and Emma Wakeman

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS Co-Directors

TIME FOR PLEDGES

CLOSING PRAYER Kathy Dulin

† Please stand if you are able

Children's Ministry

Sharon Vanpelt, Director of Christian Education - 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

Youth Ministry

JD McNutt, Youth Director - 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 25 - Carillon and Movie

April 1—Easter Sunday, No Youth Activities

April 8— youth (Arts in worship 5, youth 6)

Questions? Contact JD McNutt at 704-287-6732/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.

Worship Ministry

Choir Chime Ringer, Today: Nathan Spickard

Next Week: Nathan Spickard

Worship Assistant, Today: Gigi Hunnicutt

Next Week: Gigi Hunnicutt

Ushers, Today: Reggie Hunnicutt, Chris Bechtol, Dave Miller, Jimmy Stafford, King McCachren, Traci Bird

Next Week: Robin Hartsell, Butch McDonald, Danny Tankersley, Jim Pharr, Ruth McDonald, Patrick Spickard

A Time for Children, Today: Neal Carter

Next Week: Sharon Vanpelt

Nursery Volunteers, Today: Rex & Ashley Carriker; Tommy & Erica Heavey

Next Week: Kenza Mitchen & Heather Linker; Susan Geist

Bread Ministry Baker, This Week: Joan Nicholson

Next Week: Shirley Rockel

Godly Play: Joey Dulin/Dave Mowery; Robin Hartsell/Niki Schneider

Next Week: NO CLASS—EASTER BREAKFAST

Announcements

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser—Thank you doesn't seem to be enough. Y'all overwhelm us with your kindness and generosity. We earned enough yesterday to pay for most of our flights to go get Roman! So, although it is woefully inadequate, thank you thank you thank you!
The Shepard Family



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



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!

Sign up at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a45afaa2eabfe3-easter>

Or call Cyndi in the office.

We also need help setting up and cleaning up!



The Ramblers invite you to join us for a trip to Greensboro to the Barn Theater on **May 12th**. We will leave that afternoon, probably around 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 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 after March 15, or contact Program Chair Steve McRae at 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, btcain@nc.rr.com, 919-782-0944.

Rocky River Readers - will meet Monday, March 26th at 7:00pm in the parlor. We will be discussing *The Stolen Marriage* by Diane Chamberlain. We welcome new members at any meeting. Next month we will be reading *A Mother's Promise* by Sally Hepworth.
Questions: Contact Marie Morrison at morrison1960@windstream.net

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God,
whose word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Neal Carter

ANTHEM

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 11:1-11 (page 47)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Donkey Fetchers

Neal Carter

Responding to the Word

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Apostle's 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(The litany portion of today's Prayers of the People is a prayer from Joe Seremane, South Africa)

One: You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purpose. I gave them for a moment, then withdrew them for the work was hard.

All: **You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice. I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused.**

One: You asked for my eyes to see poverty. I closed them for I did not want to see.

All: **You asked for my life that you might work through me. I gave a small part that I might not get too involved.**

† Please stand if you are able

One: Lord, forgive my calculated efforts to serve you only when it is convenient for me to do so, only in those places where it is safe to do so, only with those who make it easy to do so.

All: Lord, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument that I might take seriously the meaning of your cross.

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" #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

What can we offer that you have not already offered us? What can we do that you have not already done for us? Lord Jesus Christ, in your gifts to us, you have provided us the way to live and serve you. In both your triumph and your suffering, you deserve our praise. Through the gifts we now offer, we express our longing to serve and to follow wherever you go. Amen.

Sending

† HYMN #89 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

† 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

Rocky River Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 25, 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 FREE Community Dinner on Wednesday. The Women of the church are serving a baked potato bar. We serve at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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:

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; 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 Nalbhone; 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 21st. 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

