

The Pulse

Rocky River Presbyterian Church



“The people were restrained from bringing (their offerings); for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work” (Exodus 36:7).

In Chapter 36 of the Book of Exodus, the Lord says to Moses, *“Tell the Israelites to take for me an offering: from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for me” (Exodus 25:1-2).* This offering that is initiated by God is for the purpose of building a tabernacle that will serve as a visible, daily sign, of God’s presence among his people. The tabernacle is to be a place of gathering, a place of worship for the people of God while living in the wilderness.

Keep in mind, this request is directed to a group of people who had very quickly packed and left their homes in Egypt, so none of them would have had much to give. But here in Exodus, not long after the people had left their captivity in Egypt for the freedom but also hardship of the wilderness, Moses is asked to collect an offering that reflects the people’s gratitude for God’s provision for them.

These were challenging and uncertain times. Food and water were scarce, opportunities to earn money were slim, but God continued to provide for their needs. So, they responded to Moses’s request with generous enthusiasm. The people not only donated their time and skills to the building of the tabernacle, they gave of their possessions and their finances. Moses collected that offering and a few chapters later, in chapter 36, we are told *“What they had brought was more than enough to do all the work” (Exodus 36:7).*

They responded in this way because of God’s grace. They realized, in this moment, that they were unworthy to be God’s people, yet God claimed them as his own anyway. God was providing for them, not because they deserved it, but because God chose to love them.

On Sunday, November 9, we are giving you, members and friends of the Rocky River Presbyterian Church, the opportunity to make a similar response to God’s grace. On this day we are given the chance to respond with gratefulness, knowing we do not deserve God’s favor, but that God has still chosen to love us.

NOVEMBER 2: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On this day we will be remembering the gift of the lives of members and those associated with our congregation who have passed away since the previous All Saints Sunday last year. During the worship service there will be a reading of the names of the deceased and the date of their passing. The text for the sermon is Hebrews 12:1-3, and the message is called "Saints Great and Small." We will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on this day.

NOVEMBER 9: COMMITMENT SUNDAY

The text for this Sunday when we offer our financial commitments to the church is Luke 19:1-10. The sermon message is called "Claimed By Grace." Please remember to bring your Estimate of Giving Cards for the Stewardship Dedication portion of the worship service.

NOVEMBER 16

Luke 15:11-32 is a familiar story about a father who had two sons, one is obedient and the other is rebellious. How the father treats each of them considering their behavior leaves us with questions. The message is called, "What Kind of Father is This?"

NOVEMBER 23: HARVEST SUNDAY

On this day we will welcome Rev. Joyce Lawson. She and Pastor Peter will be switching pulpits this day. This day marks the last day of the liturgical calendar before the new liturgical year begins with the First Sunday of Advent. This is also our Harvest Sunday, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, and is a time for us to acknowledge the abundance we have received.

NOVEMBER 30: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This First Sunday of Advent begins the season of anticipation, as we reflect on the coming of Jesus and the fulfillment of God's purpose. The text for sermon is 2 Peter 3:8-13 and the message is called, "Are We There Yet?" This day will also include a Service of Infant Baptism for Charlie Watts, the son of Eric and Hilary Watts.

Bonnie Erickson	11/01
Kevin Watts	11/01
Henry Ward	11/01
Grace Ward	11/01
Marion Good	11/01
Chloe Alvis	11/03
Marshall Zinda	11/05
Lee Sabolich	11/05
Lisa Mach	11/06
Lynn Stohr	11/06
Chase Prudhoe	11/09
Megan Smith	11/10
Marion McBride	11/16
Tatiana Kisilewicz	11/16
Scarlett Stavole	11/16
Sue Hustek	11/22
Jonathan Sakai	11/24
Janice Brochhagen	11/24
Phil Schickel	11/26
Michael Esdon	11/29
Matthew Esdon	11/29
Mary Schulz	11/30
Kamryn Wilson	11/30



NOVEMBER 2025 LIBRARY LINGO

Mary Schulz, Librarian

DISPLAYS:

New books
Thanksgiving books
Fall books



NEW ITEMS FOR CHILDREN: NONFICTION PICTURE BOOKS

Noah's Ark

j222.11 PIN

Beautifully illustrated by 4-time Caldecott Honor recipient Jerry Pinkney, this book retells the story of the great flood and how Noah and his family faithfully responded to God's call to save life on earth.

The House on the Rock

j226.209

A retelling of the Parable told by Jesus about the wise and foolish builders.

Thanks Be to God: Prayers from Around the World

j242.8 THA

Prayers of praise and thanksgiving from around the world have been collected in this handsome book. They were selected for the clarity, simplicity, and beauty of their language as well as for what they say.

Marguerite de Angeli's Book of Favorite Hymns

j783.9 DEA

The author's knowledge of the Biblical setting is evident in this book of hymns, combined with the gentle pictures of children, animals, flowers, sunsets – all of nature's beauties.

Now I Can Read Bible Stories series:

Noah's Story

j222.11 BAC

David and Goliath

j222.43 BAC

Daniel and the Lion's Den

j224.5 PIP

BOARD BOOKS

Pop-Up Book series:

The Creation Story

BOARD CRE

Joseph and the Dreams

BOARD JOS

The Story of Moses

BOARD STO

HAPPY READING AND VIEWING!!

(All descriptions have been taken from book jacket, title page verso, or review article)

Christian Education

bpeterson@riverpres.org

Adult Education: Sundays 9:00 -10:00 AM in the West Room. Coffee and tea are available.

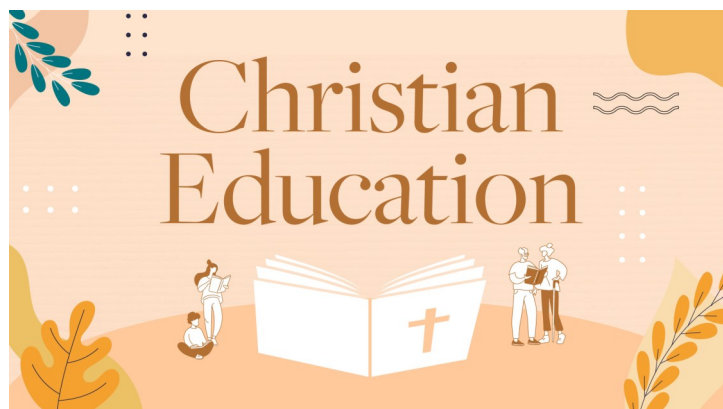
Please join us in our exploration with Kathy Hartzel as she guides us through the book ***See No Stranger***. This is a 4-week series (it started on October 26). You are welcome to join us for the remaining 3 sessions. You do not need to have the book to join us.

A study of the concept of “Revolutionary Love” as presented in the book *See No Stranger* by Valerie Kaur, a renowned Sikh activist, filmmaker, and civil rights attorney. As stated in the summary, Valerie describes revolutionary love as the call of our time, a radical, joyful practice that extends in three directions: to others, to our opponents, and to ourselves.

Youth Fellowship: Generally, it is the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, 6 – 7:00 PM in the Youth Room. This is for 6-12 graders. We encouraged our students to bring in their friends to come and join us too!

We are currently watching and discussing the video, ***Who is This Man?*** It takes a look on Jesus’ teachings and the impact that he continues to have on world in so many ways.

Sunday School: Thank you to Melanie Fredrickson for teaching our youngest. We have helpers Diane Beer and Susan Penning. They each participate once a month. Would you please consider to be an assistant or teaching one Sunday a month? Everything is there for you to teach. The preparation work is done. We just need YOU to present and teach the children. We are a church family and what a wonderful way for you to get to know our littlest family members. Please connect with Emily Zinda or Brenda Peterson. Thank you.



Sometimes

By Marcia Updyke

Sometimes,

Memories are like rain showers
Sprinkling down upon you
Catching you unaware.
And then they are gone,
Leaving you warm and refreshed.

Sometimes,

Memories are like thunderstorms
Beating down upon you,
Relentless in the downpour.
And then they will cease,
Leaving you tired and bruised.

Sometimes,

Memories are like shadows
Sneaking up behind you,
Following you around.
Then they disappear,
Leaving you sad and confused.

Sometimes,

Memories are like comforters
Surrounding you with warmth,
Luxuriously abundant.
And sometimes they stay,
Wrapping you in contentment.

Bereavement Magazine May 1990

Parish Advisor – bpeterson@riverpres.org

The 17th Annual Alternative Christmas Charity Bazaar **at Rocky River Presbyterian Church**



Who needs another ugly sweater? Make a donation to a charity to honor your loved one or friend.

The 17th Annual Alternative Christmas Charity Bazaar will be held on Sunday, November 23, 2025 from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at Rocky River Presbyterian Church, 21750 Detroit Road in Rocky River, OH.

Come visit over 10 charities and 1 Fair Trade business all in one place. Donations to the charities at the Alternative Christmas Charity Bazaar are financial contributions to non-profit missions given as “Christmas presents” in honor of family and friends.

How does it work? Visit booths where representatives for each charity will be present to explain their services. Select one or several charities to make your cash (or check) donation to and receive a custom-designed greeting postcard with a description of the gift’s ministry. Donate to one charity or to all 17. The cards can then be given to your family, or friends telling about the charitable gift selected by you and given in their honor! 100% of all donations go directly to the charity and your gifts will be tax deductible.

Visit more than 10 missions and 1 Fair Trade Business include: Cuyahoga Co. Habitat for Humanity, Cuyahoga Co. Animal Shelter, The Gathering Place, Shriners Children’s Hospital in Erie, PA and Cincinnati, OH, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Fisher House, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, The Cleveland Food Bank, Dougbe River Liberian School, National Assoc. of Mental Illness, and the One World Shop.

You can be “God’s hands and heart” as you honor loved ones in meaningful ways.

If you have any questions, please call us at 440-333-4888.

Featuring David McCarroll, violin

Sunday, November 23rd, 2025, at 3:00 PM RRPC Sanctuary

Waves of Passion

Brouwer: The Art of Sailing at Dawn

Copland: Music for the Theatre

Beethoven: Concerto for Violin in D Major, Op. 61

We embark on an emotional journey that begins on Lake Erie at sunrise, in Cleveland composer Margaret Brouwer's peaceful tone poem The Art of Sailing at Dawn. Then flow to the jazzy undercurrent of Music for the Theatre, an early work by Aaron Copland, written during the Roaring Twenties. Finally, we arrive at the "King of Violin Concertos," with David McCarroll, Concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, as soloist in Beethoven's monumental 1806 Violin Concerto, an unappreciated sleeper during the composer's lifetime that became one of the most beloved works ever written for violin. Join us and immerse yourself in a vast musical voyage navigated via the baton of maestro Daniel Meyer.

BlueWater
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

November's Mission

North Church is collecting hygiene products to give their parishioners. We will be collecting the following for the kits.

Razors
Nail clippers
Skin lotion
Small mirrors

On Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 – 12:00 we will be helping North Church create the hygiene kits. Join us for a trip to North Church on that day.

Mission Focus Calendar

- * November Alternative Christmas Charity Bazaar
- * December Christmas Joy Special Offering (during Advent)
Mitten Tree (youth group project)



**Rocky River Presbyterian Preschool
ButterBraid Fundraiser is Back!
Don't forget to place your orders.**



Return Order form & payment: Wednesday, November 5

Delivery/Pickup: Tuesday, November 18

Make checks payable to: Rocky River Presbyterian Preschool

Profits will be used to supplement tuition and allow us to provide the best possible experiences for the children throughout the year.

Thank you for your support!

Questions: Contact Amanda Tabar **(440) 935-2293**

amandamarieleigh@gmail.com

FOR ONLINE ORDERING.

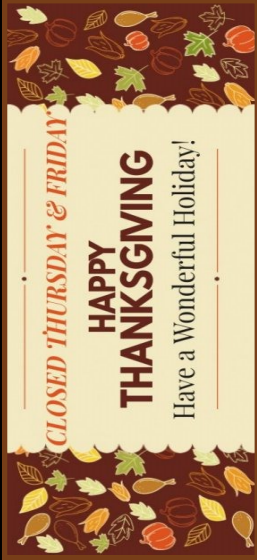


Church Office News :

Volunteers needed. On rare occasions, such as vacations or unplanned time away, we may need members of the congregation to cover church office or facilities duties, like answering phones or set up and take downs after events. This may involve some brief training. Anyone willing to help out if such a need arises, please reach out to Colleen Timm in the office. Your help is very much appreciated. 440-333-4888



November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:00 pm Altered Attitudes
2 Allsaints Sunday Food Sunday/Communion Sunday 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 Worship	3 7:00 pm Women's AA Group	4 8:00 pm CE Committee Mtg.	5 7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Com, 7:00 pm Worship Committee 7:30 pm Men's AA	6	7 7:00 am Friday Morning Men's Bible Study	8 7:00 pm Altered Attitudes
9 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 6:00 Youth Fellowship	10 7:00 pm Women's AA Group 7:00 pm Deacons	11 10:00 am Expressions of Faith	12 7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Com, 7:30 pm Men's AA	13	14 7:00 am Friday Morning Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Senior Men's Bible Study	15 11:00 am Ken Grady Celebration of Life 7:00 pm Altered Attitudes
16 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship	17 7:00 pm Women's AA Group 7:00 pm Session Mtg.	18	19 7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Com, 7:30 pm Men's AA	20 7:00 pm PW Priscilla Circle	21 7:00 am Friday Morning Men's Bible Study	22 7:00 pm Altered Attitudes
23 9:00 am Adult Ed. 0:30 am Worship 11:30 am Alternative CCB 3:00 pm BlueWater	24 7:00 pm Women's AA Group	25 10:00 am Expressions of Faith	26 7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Com, 7:30 pm Men's AA			29 7:00 pm Altered Attitudes
30 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship						

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - SAVE THE DATE

The holidays are sneaking up and will be upon us before we know it! Please plan to be at church on Sunday, December 7th when we will “Deck the Halls” following worship that day. Many hands make light work so we will need “All Hands on Deck” to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.



We welcome new member John Butcher to the RRPC Family. If you see John (look for the bow tie and snappy dress on Sundays) please say hello!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR KEN GRADY:

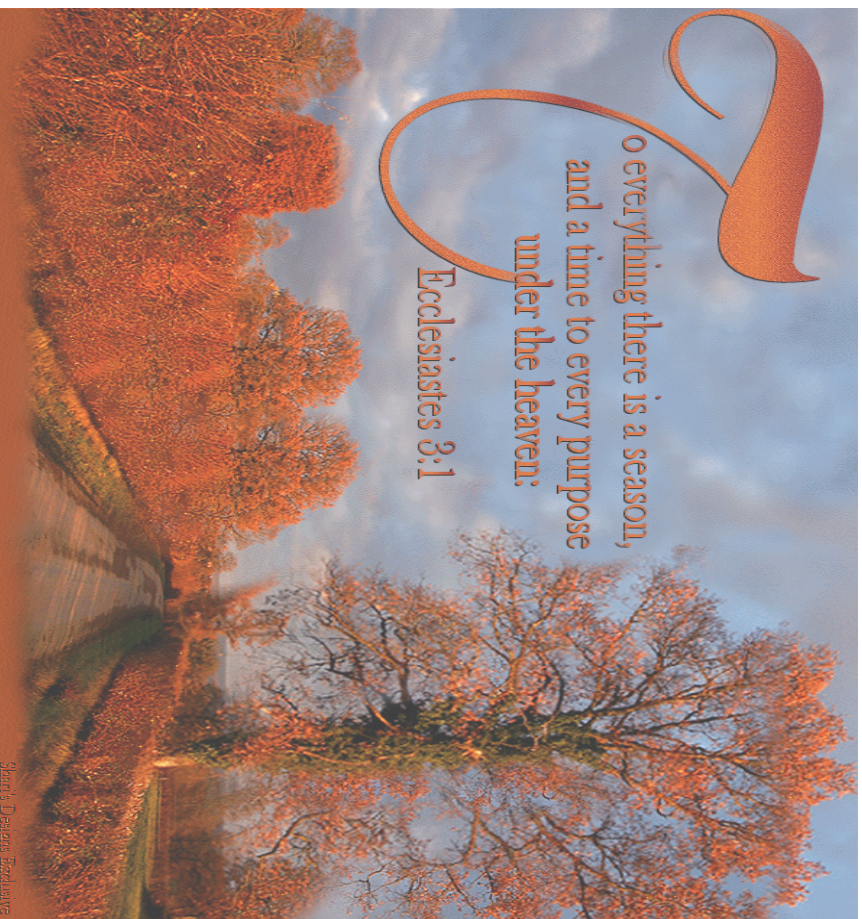
Please join us on Saturday, November 15th, 2025 at 11:00 am at Rocky River Presbyterian Church for a celebration of the life of Ken Grady. Luncheon to follow in Fellowship Hall.



“The Pulse”

**the monthly newsletter of
Rocky River Presbyterian
Church**

November 2025



Rocky River Presbyterian Church

Rev. Peter Lawson, Pastor

21750 Detroit Road

Rocky River, OH 44116-2220