

RPC NEWSLETTER



Just These Thoughts My Friends...

“And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest.”

Mark 14:53-54

Just recently I had an opportunity to preach on the “quieter but active” faith of Andrew. And, of course, we remembered that Andrew was the brother of Peter. Peter’s faith wasn’t a quiet one. It was bold and courageous and memorable. But it wasn’t a perfected faith. And we see this in the Easter story. After sharing a meal with his disciples in the upper room, and then spending a number of difficult hours praying in the garden, Jesus was arrested and led away to face a group of self-righteous, indignant individuals who had already made up their minds about him and his fate. Judas’ decision to betray his friend had helped with this. Jesus is now one step closer to the cross, one step closer to the grave, and one step closer to glory.

In this critical moment, Mark tells us that Peter followed Jesus as far as the courtyard of the high priest. Likely he could hear the taunting and jeering that Jesus faced inside. He could begin to understand the truth of what Jesus had told his disciples about having to go to Jerusalem and be crucified. He could probably feel the weight of Jesus’ warning to him, that he would deny him three times. But he was there, in that courtyard, just steps away from his Lord.

Peter’s faith wasn’t perfect. Not in the courtyard, where he denied knowing Jesus. Not out on the sea, where he attempted to walk to Jesus on the water. Not even when he declared with great confidence who Jesus was, then in the next breath attempted to alter the Savior’s divine plan. But while he had his struggles, and while his faith wasn’t yet perfected, he was there, close to Jesus.

So, likely you and I can relate. Like Peter, our faith is also not perfect. We don’t always get right what he has called us to. And none of us ever will, this side of Heaven. There are days when our faith is strong and confident, and there are days when we are tested, and our faith falters. Yet, in light of our imperfect lives, Jesus goes to the cross to make it possible for us to receive new life; a life meant to be lived close to him. Which is where Peter and Andrew lived. And where we should always be, even when our faith is not yet perfected.

On the journey with you...

Dr. Chris Leonard

YOUTH! YOUTH! YOUTH!



**YOUTH SUNDAY
MAY 10TH**

**DURING BOTH
9AM AND 11AM SERVICES
IN THE MPB**



The Pastors' "Hot Ones" Challenge

IMPORTANT DATES!!

postponed

- Planting Trees at Church
May 2
- Youth Sunday
May 10
- Senior Recognition RFS
May 20
- Lake Day at Gasque's
May 31

Sunday Night Live

Rock JAM

ROCK JESUS AND ME

May Activities :

May 3: Rock JAM, 5-6:30pm
Dinner provided

May 10: No Rock JAM
Happy Mother's Day! Youth Sunday both services!
(No 2nd Sunday Children's Service)

May 17: Bike & Scooter Party@ RPC!
5-6:30pm (See flyer for details)

May 24: Children's Pentacost Processional
@ beginning of the 9am & 11am services
No Rock JAM - Happy Memorial Day!

May 31: RPC FAMILY LAKE DAY!
for Rock JAM & Youth families! (See flyer for details)



Rock JAM & YOUTH:
Year End Celebration at the Lake!
Sunday, May 31, 11:30-4:30

Your entire family is invited for some LAKE FUN
(swimming, kayaking, fishing, cornhole, or chilling in a chair)
and LUNCH
at Jim & Deana Gasque's
199 Gasque Road, Cross Hill

THINGS TO BRING:

- LIFEJACKETS
(must be worn in the water - we have several to share)
- FOOD to share:
CHIPS - family name starts with A-M
DESSERT - family name starts with N-Z
- Folding chairs & towels for your family

Please RSVP to Deana @ 864-349-9731 by May 25

Rock JAM

Bike & Scooter PARTY!

SUNDAY, MAY 17 AT 5PM

Bring your bikes & helmets, clothes you can get wet in & a towel for some parking lot wheels and water FUN!

RPC VBS 2026

JOIN US FOR ROCK PRES VBS!
JUNE 8 - 11, 9AM - NOON
RIISING 4K - 5TH GRADE
Rock Presbyterian Church, ECO
REGISTER @ www.rpcgwd.org or scan QR

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD

We are excited to announce our 2026 RPC VBS...

Snowball Mountain Challenge!

This VBS program will transform our church into a snowy mountaintop experience filled with laughter, life lessons, and lasting faith. As children face their challenges and discover their strength in God, you'll hear them say, "Challenge accepted – with God I am strong."

Here's the link to register:

<https://forms.gle/CRddKWv47bZ6omN18>



Calling all church family!!! Help us celebrate Jacob Sienkiewicz as he graduates from high school this year!! The menu is pulled pork, mac & cheese, baked beans, Cole slaw, and banana pudding. Children’s menu is hot dogs, mac & cheese, and fruit. Gluten free options available. Cost is \$5/adult, \$3/children, and Free/under 2. Childcare available.

Stewardship

ASK CHUCK:



CROWN™
Advancing God's Principles of Stewardship and Life.

Help Your Elderly Family Avoid Getting Scammed

<https://www.crown.org/all-resources/ask-chuck-help-your-elderly-family-avoid-getting-scammed/>

Will the Coronavirus Impact My Finances?

<https://www.crown.org/all-resources/ask-chuck-too-little-money-or-too-much-lifestyle/>

Check out www.crown.org for other financial resources.

Copy and paste links in web browser to read articles

Worship

May Childcare



Date	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
May 3	Susan Chasteen	Nealy Shiles	Debbie Leonard
May 10	Shelley Botchie	Patty Clark	Kathryn Luke
May 17	Elizabeth Hinson	Lauren Sullivan	Darlene Mallow
May 24	Ginny Edwards	Amy Williams	JoAnn Wolf
May 31	Patty Reagin	Ann Stevenson	Diane Easterlin

May Sermons *Livestream available on Facebook/YouTube at 9:00 a.m..*

May 3, Women's Sunday Communion	RPC Women of the Church	9:00 a.m.—Jeanne Cornelsen 11:00 a.m.—Judy Lentz
May 10, Youth Sunday Mother's Day		RPC Youth
May 17	<i>Sometimes We Just Have to Wait</i> Acts 1:1-5	Rev. Dr. Chris Leonard
May 24 Pentecost Sunday	<i>When Waiting Leads to Work</i> Acts 2:1-4	Rev. Dr. Chris Leonard
May 31	<i>But Now</i> Ephesians 2:13-22	Rev. Marshall Steinle

May Ushers: *Bill & Darlene Mallow

May Communion: 9:00 a.m. Kaye & Tammy Brock
11:00 a.m. Susan Chasteen, Linda Kellam

Childcare is available for all services.



Music Notes from the Piano Bench ...

Welcome Kamryn, RPC Choir Accompanist!!

We are very excited to have Kamryn Brock join our staff in May as Church Accompanist. She is a music educator from Ninety Six, South Carolina. Kamryn earned her Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Lander University and was a Teaching Fellow scholarship recipient. Kamryn has experience teaching band, percussion, and choir at both middle and high school levels, and she is passionate about helping students grow through music in a positive and supportive environment. In her free time, she likes spending time with her bulldog, friends, and family, as well as kayaking and traveling.





What a wonderful year it has been for the RPC Women! We've had an amazing year of fellowship in our circles, at family suppers, our Christmas Casserole Dinner, and with a retreat and in-treat! As some of us take a break for the summer, consider joining a circle in the fall. The sisterhood you gain from being a part of a circle celebrating and studying more about about our Savior is one of the most wonderful, uplifting times you can have!

Also, don't forget the

WOC SALAD SUPPER, Thursday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the MPB.

All women are invited for fellowship, food, and reflection of the past year, as we look ahead to what the Lord has for us next! Bring a dish to share and come!!



Miscellaneous Church News

Welcome New Covenant Partners



Grat & Welma Horn
Joined April 2026

Thank you so much to each of you who have beautified our places of worship to glorify God and lovingly remember/honor loved ones or celebrate special occasions. If you wish a special date in the months after May please sign the flower calendar in the Welcome Center.



Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, May 2, 8:00 a.m.
Mission House**



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY
KEEP SC BEAUTIFUL

Thursday, June 4, 9:00 a.m.

Come help us beautify our stretch of the highway. Meet at the Mission House for instructions, gear, and tools. Everyone is welcome to help!

Celebrations...

Happy Birthday

5/1 Lib Grier
John Scott
5/2 Libba Deery
Lyles Yarochowicz
5/5 Jennifer Wood
5/7 Larissa Roughton
Ben Snelling
5/9 Jennifer Fiore-Boyd
Nealy Shiles
5/10 Ken Coffey
5/11 Alene Brothers
Katherine Grant
5/13 Campbell Driver
Christine Gray
5/14 Dylan Burton
Douglas McCartha
5/15 Terry Doughty
Kathy McDaniel
5/16 Van Taylor
5/17 Tom Bechtold
Hannah Hobbs
Robin Leach
Patty Nickles
Valeria Popoli
Bill Watkins
5/18 Mac Price
5/19 Bernie Sanford
5/20 Hayes Black
Bill Murphy
5/21 Lisa Grant
Joe Prothro
5/23 Chris Tripp
5/24 Lexi Cordell
5/25 Ellie Clayton
Margaret Crooks
Rebekah Hobbs
5/26 Samantha Black
James Gulbach
Cody Scheirer
5/27 Sue Colaw
Mary Anna Gerrard
5/28 Bill McFarland
Kathy Scott
5/30 John Ashworth
Keely Fagan
Mia Reynolds
Sue Weaver
5/31 Dakota Cordell
Andy Webb

Happy Anniversary

5/1 Jack & Leigh Croyle
Mike & Nancy Hobbs
Mike & Carrie Murdock
5/2 Ryan & Tracy Stevenson
5/3 David & Christine Gray
5/10 Tom & Teresa Donn
5/12 Jay & Alayna Sanders
5/16 Alex & Andrea Clayton
Ken & Jan Coffey
5/18 Olivia & James Daly
Van & Ann Newell
Grant & Patty Reagin
5/20 Sam & Harmon Deery
5/21 Dave & Betsy Grant
5/23 Ray & Whitney Lewis, II
5/28 Bryan & Laurie Cordell
Bob & Judy Lentz
5/31 Mark & Teresa Fox

Rock of Ages

ROA hopes to see all our
Seniors/Retirees for lunch
and fellowship at Noon on
Monday, May 4 in the MPB.

"One Can" Ministry

RPC's One Can Ministry continues each week! You generously gave 201 lbs. Please bring non-perishables each Sunday to place in either of the bins located in the CE Building or the Welcome Center.

Please no expired food.



2026 Men's Golf Tournament

This year's tournament is going to be on Saturday, May 30, at The Fort in 96. The format is captain's choice, and the cost is \$50. Please be at the course by 8:00 a.m. Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

Teams can include 2, 3, or 4 players (no more than 4, please) or just sign up and we will place you on a team. We will try to balance all the teams HC and put into flights.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Gasque.

*Please keep in your prayers
Church Family at home*

Lib Grier
Mac Myers (Ashley Square)
Pat Poole (Martha Franks Retirement Community)
Lee Sautter (Wesley Commons)
Julia Smith (Wesley Commons)

Active Duty Military

Felipe Denis Blengio (Susan Judge's grandson)
Andrew Heath (Ken & Robin Leach's son-in-law)
Adam Hix (son of Jeff & Sandra Hix)

Active Reserve Duty Military

Will Chard (David & Christine Gray's son)
Chris Miller
Craig Watkins

To The Church Triumphant...

*Katherine Elizabeth Martin
April 10, 2026*

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord for they rest from
their labors and their works do follow them."*

Revelation 14:13

***Rock Presbyterian Church wishes to express
Christian Sympathy to...***

*Ray & Kitty Lewis and family following the death of
Kitty's mother, Sally Blaich*

MAILING LABEL

Return Service Requested

Rock Presbyterian Church
122 Rock Church Road NW
Greenwood, SC 29649
Phone: 864-538-4932
Email: mfisher@rpcgwd.org
Website: www.rpcgwd.org