



Ministry General Information

Ministry Name	Presbytery	Synod
Rocky River Presbyterian Church	Western Reserve	The Covenant
Email	Preferred Phone	Website Address
info@riverpres.org	440-333-4888	www.riverpres.org
Mailing Address	Alternate Phone/Email	Community Type
21750 Detroit Rd, Rocky River, OH 44116-2220		Suburban
Congregation or Organization Size	Curriculum	Average Worship Attendance
251-400 members	Children - Young Worship & Follow Jesus	81
Church School Attendance	Statistical Report	Released Date
22	https://loggappss.pcusa.org/dpif/report/6401	3/6/2025
Intercultural Composition		
White: 99%, Middle Eastern/North African: 1%		

Information about the Position

Position Requirements

Position Type(s)	Language Requirements
Solo Pastor: Installed	English
Experience Required	Statement of Faith required?
2 to 5 Years	Yes
Employment Status	Are you open to a clergy couple?
Full-time	Yes

Ministry Requirements

Church Mission/Vision Statement

Mission Statement:

The mission of Rocky River Presbyterian Church (RRPC) is to worship and honor the Creator of All (*Praising God*); to share with others the good news (Gospel) of Jesus Christ (*Teaching Faith*); and to demonstrate a Christ-like manner of living in their daily lives (*Serving Others*).

Vision:

We are united in the belief that we are Christ's body on earth, and we aspire to live every day as Jesus did. Through faith, community, and mission, we strive to positively affect those we meet every day and those in our family, church, community, and in the world.

Outcomes of our Vision:

- 1) An inclusive engaging community of faith
- 2) Vibrant participation in worship, education, and mission
- 3) An environment that bridges generations
- 4) A Christian voice advocating for justice
- 5) Faithful stewardship of God's resources for future generations

The Prayer of Rocky River Presbyterian Church:

"God, as your children, may we establish roots in you, grow in your grace, and reflect your love in the manner of Jesus. Amen"

Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position

The Called Pastor will:

- Function as Head of Staff, supervising employees and providing oversight of the work of the church.
- Moderate Session and congregational meetings. Work collegially with the Session, Board of Deacons, and committees in program planning.
- Promote activities of the Church through the pulpit, newsletter, social media, and other communication outlets.
- Meet regularly with colleagues in ministry and participate in Presbytery meetings.
- Directly engage all members.

In addition, the Pastor will be expected to work cooperatively with the Session to expand and remain current/relevant on the five identified and generally recognized development tasks of the Congregation, including:

- Heritage: Recognize and build upon our history.
- Mission: Constantly evaluate Who are we (now)? Who are our neighbors (now)? What is God calling this congregation to do (now)?
- Connections: Internally, engage members of the congregation, including the homebound or otherwise disconnected. Externally, engage denominational, geographic, and social resources (e.g., Chamber of Commerce, Clergy of the West Side, partner churches, etc.) to advance our Mission in the community.
- Leadership: Provide direction, understanding and development of gifts and talents. Encourage and help equip others to take on leadership roles. Review the membership's needs. Build upon strong and effective leadership already in place, strengthen the old, and shape and develop new leadership.
- Future: Embrace the Mission Study and engage the congregation and leadership in fulfilling the Vision and Mission of RRPC.

Compensation & Housing

Minimum Effective Salary	Housing Type
80000	Housing allowance

MDP - Narratives

How would you describe the congregation's/organization's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?

We are united in the belief that we are Christ's body on earth, and we aspire to live every day as Jesus did. Through faith, community, and mission, we strive to positively affect those we meet every day and those in the world.

Our vision for the Called Pastor is someone who will uphold these tenets:

1. Prepare thought-provoking, spiritual, and inspiring services throughout the year, preparing and delivering engaging, vibrant, relevant, and educational sermons that address the needs of our congregation and inspire us to spread the Word of God.
2. Participate in and promote a strong Christian Education program for adults, youth, and children. In addition to educational and spiritual Sunday services, provide continuity in our mission initiatives to support and foster participation (hands, hearts, and dollars) with our local community and larger-scale charitable organizations.
3. Take great care and concern to shepherd the members, employees, and friends of our congregation through the moments in their lives with visits, prayers, support, guidance, understanding, and love.

The Pastor will help us grow our participation by responding to the community's current needs. They will provide a safe, judgment-free, and welcoming environment where the church community can share their God-given gifts. They will encourage members of our congregation, in whatever ability they can offer, to take part in Church activities, give of their time, gifts, talents, and resources, and serve in leadership roles as Deacons, Elders, or as members of Church committees.

What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?

Since 1956, Rocky River Presbyterian Church (RRPC) has been the "coming together place" for Presbyterian Christians in the local community. The Called Pastor will embrace this heritage and will be "the face" of the church — within our congregation and externally at public events. The Pastor will continue the congregation's efforts, as time permits, in maintaining strong community ties through activities including and not limited to our relationship with the City of Rocky River, our Vacation Bible School partnership with St. Christopher Parish and Rockport Methodist Church in Rocky River, our strong connections to the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce and Rocky River School District, our participation with the Rocky River Assistance and North Church Meal programs in addition to our internal In His Name Fund initiative, and our partnership with the Rocky River Presbyterian Preschool.

The Pastor will support the Church's current and future mission and fundraising initiatives, and work to expand opportunities into new areas and efforts including increasing community exposure by making our facilities available for use. Current initiatives include the Trash & Treasure Sale, the Alternative Christmas Charity Bazaar, the month of

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service to North Church, community Vacation Bible School for youth and children, our multiple AA groups, community meals, and many other drives and campaigns that help us fulfill our *Serving Others* tenet.

How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation/organization, so that you may accomplish your short and long-term goals for ministry?

Our Congregation is active both with RRPC-related mission projects and outside mission initiatives. Traditionally, we have had monthly mission projects where funds and materials were raised for community organizations. We are currently working with 15 community partners.

We participate in several substantial projects each year, including sponsoring meals at North Church – an urban church within our Presbytery – every Sunday for a month each year, hosting a Trash & Treasure rummage sale, and an Alternative Charity Christmas Bazaar where individuals are asked to make gift donations in lieu of material presents. These fundraising initiatives support mission partners and the RRPC Preschool. We also partner with St. Christopher's Catholic Church and Rockport United Methodist Church for a community Vacation Bible School.

During our Congregational Focus Groups, we explored our "Discernment of Calling." The theme was: What do you think God is calling us to do in the next few years? We discussed mission priorities and where the focus could be. Recurring themes included:

- Reaching out more with the community.
- Reaching out to disconnected groups, such as the elderly and home-bound population.
- Developing inspiring intergenerational programs, including but not limited to Vacation Bible School, youth groups, Triennium, Adult Lenten and Advent study series, and church retreats, mission trips, and camps. Include a wide variety of topics reflecting our role/commitment to the Three Core Pillars of the PCUSA Matthew 25 Initiative.
- Aiding the congregation in understanding and participating in various stewardship opportunities.
- Maintaining and extending partnerships in the community at large.

Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.

The Called Pastor will capitalize on individuals' talents, and inspire others to *Praise God, Teach Faith, and Serve Others*. They will reach out to those who have become disengaged from the Church to understand their spiritual needs and journey. They will convey to the community that RRPC has been, is, and will continue to be an active, thriving place of community, fellowship, and worship.

Characteristics needed for a successful Pastor include:

Knowledge of Scripture/PCUSA Covenants – Prioritizes writing and delivering engaging sermons and worship services that have meaning, addressing issues and events that affect our daily lives, topics that challenge the growth of our faith, and propel us into reflection and action.

Shepherd Our Congregation – Provide to our members, families, and friends guidance, support, and comfort in difficult and happy times. Teach us new things, help us learn and to pray, have faith, and help guide us in our spiritual growth.

Promote growth and education of all – Promote opportunities for spiritual growth and education through Sunday service, small groups, church school, education activities, social events, and innovative ideas.

Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.

Sincere Interest in Others – Create an atmosphere that attracts new church participation by maintaining the renowned welcoming and friendly environment of RRPC, help create a place that everyone wants to come, and offer a variety of faith-based programs for all ages, family situations, lifestyles, and backgrounds.

Understand Church Operations and Missions – Moderating the Session meetings, attending Deacon and Committee meetings (as needed).

Promote the Church in the Community – Expand the profile and outreach of Church committees. Serve as a role model representing RRPC.

Embrace Technology – Utilize and understand technological tools including e-mail, social media, video recording and streaming technology.

What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.

The Called Pastor will perform the duties in the "Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position" detailed in the prior "Church Mission / Vision" statement. Additionally, the Pastor should be forward looking and challenged by how ministry might be better coordinated with the changing needs, views, and perceptions of our evolving society while keeping in mind the findings of our Mission Study Report.

Opportunities for change and growth:

- An awareness of what is driving the younger population to other non-mainstream religious establishments, and how and what can be learned from that phenomenon.
- Keeping the needs and wants of our current members and older parishioners in mind while exploring meaningful and necessary change to attract new people in all stages of their faith journey.
- Enhancing Christian Education initiatives across all generations by focusing on partnerships and supporting the Christian Education Director.
- Exploring ways to partner with the local community and leverage our assets to bring awareness to the church and foster growth.
- Being open to coordinated efforts and programs with other churches in the area to nurture potential means and methods for mutual benefit.

Optional Links

Rocky River Presbyterian Church - RRPC Web Page - <https://rivertopres.org/>

RRPC Mission Study - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O3GdNldtt4DolJzYtEdF_zxVl_6skZ/view?usp=sharing

References

Reference #1

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Reference #2

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Church Leadership Connection

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