



Rockfish Presbyterian Church  
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www.rockfishpresbyterian.org  
Office Hours 9-1 Tuesday through Thursday  
Worship Service on Sunday Mornings at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.;  
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Volume 25 Issue 10

## Spreading the Word

October 2024

What is there not to love about the changing seasons? It is such a reminder that the world continues to go round and round, seasons changing, no matter what is happening. I bet I am not alone when I say that when I am stressed or sad, I go for a walk in the woods. It is so comforting to see all the trees, the intricacy of the ferns, the small flowers that unless we are paying attention to, we will completely miss. God sure loves the details. And I am reminded that no matter what is happening, trees will always turn colors in the Fall, drop their leaves in the winter and then green up again in the Spring. I hope we will take the time to notice. There are so many things happening around us and in our lives that we really need to take the time to listen for and pay attention to. Small gifts being given each and every day. Rev Liz Forney during our women's retreat spoke about the Examen, a prayer practice begun by St Ignatius. Try it out.

### How to Pray the Examen

<https://www.jesuits.org/spirituality/the-ignatian-examen/>

1. Place yourself in God's presence. Give thanks for God's great love for you.
2. Pray for the grace to understand how God is acting in your life.
3. Review your day — recall specific moments and your feelings at the time.
4. Reflect on what you did, said, or thought in those instances. Were you drawing closer to God, or further away?
5. Look toward tomorrow — think of how you might collaborate more effectively with God's plan. Be specific, and conclude with the "Our Father."

May this Fall be a time of recognizing God's many sprinkles of love.

*~Pastor Inger*



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Dana Ogilvie	03
Ginger Staron	07
Dave Wisler	07
Norm Fenton	08
Tim Hess	11
Mike Thibault	12
Judy Smythers	14
John Savides	19
Mac Lumpkin	21
Amelia McCulley	21
Bronwyn White	21
Bill Heard	23
Susan Luscomb	30
Olivia Ellis	31

**Inger's Inklings**

On September 21 2014 I was ordained at Fieldstone Presbyterian Church in Mooresville NC. So this year marks my 10th year of ordination. I was thinking about how I have grown or changed as a minister in those ten years. I have - and continue to learn - that my greatest gift is as a connector; working to be alert to how God is working in this flock at Rockfish and then supporting that movement of the Holy Spirit. It is such a gift to be present when people (you!) begin to blossom and recognize how important your particular gifts are in the Kingdom here on earth. Often the pastor is given credit for the work of a church. But that is a falsehood. It is only through ALL of us worshiping together, serving together, laughing and loving together, listening for God's voice together, even grieving together, that makes the work of the Spirit here at Rockfish so palpable.

“It is the voice of the Church that is heard in singing together. It is not you that sings, it is the Church that is singing, and you, as a member of the Church, may share in its song.”

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer Rockfish

Let us all share in this beautiful song! This is YOUR church

Amen,  
~**Pastor Inger**



October Church Social is at the Hess' home on October 25 from 6-8 p.m.  
The signup sheet is in the Narthex.

**STW NEWSLETTER :** The deadline for submitting articles **electronically** for the **November** newsletter is **Thursday, October 24th.**  
**JAMIE HEARD** **Email:** rockfishpcus@gmail.com **Phone:** (434) 361-1221

## Mission Team News

The October Missions Committee meeting will take place on Monday, October 7 at 4 pm in the church library. We will be discussing the Thanksgiving baskets which will put together for families in our local Nelson County community. Planning for the upcoming 2025 budget will also be discussed. Anyone is welcome to join the committee, and we are always looking for new members.

Submitted by  
*Dana Ogilvie*



### Wool and Grace

The knitting group of Rockfish church has a new name, "Wool and Grace". We continue to knit and crochet for those in need. Recently a nursing home has requested hats as Christmas presents for their residents. If you would like to help with this project, we will be glad to provide the yarn.

Wool and Grace will be participating in the Winter Market Sale on November 2, at the Rockfish Valley Community Center from 8:30-noon. The proceeds will be donated to the Nelson Enrichment Club.

Please come by RVCC November 2, to find a one-of-kind hand knitted or crocheted item!

For twenty-four years I've pondered the curious headstone in the Rockfish Presbyterian Church graveyard. It marks the grave of Jacob S. Robertson and the inscription reads, "To my beloved husband, Jacob S. Robertson. Born Nov. 5, 1829. Died Feb. 30, 1903." If you see nothing amiss with this inscription, you may want to skip this. But if you find it puzzling like I do and are looking for reading material for Halloween, you may be interested in the origin story I've concocted to explain the inscription. Just follow this link: <https://bit.ly/grvmttrs>

~David Cameron  
RPC Pastor 2000-2010



## Session Highlights 9/17/24

Moderator Rev. Inger Manchester called the Session Meeting to order at 7:00 pm with prayer. Present and constituting a quorum were Ruling Elders: Sally Bryant, Jeri Engebretson, Mary Hopkins, Dave Lawson, Harris Luscomb, and Joe Steele. Absent: Sandy Gallagher, Nancy Johnson, and Kathy Kristiansen, and Cathy LeGrow, Clerk. Visitor Sue Fulton, Temporary Clerk.

The meeting was opened with devotion and prayer by Elder Mary Hopkins.

JOYS/CONCERNS: Were shared by the Moderator.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Rev. Inger Manchester is pursuing the concept of RPC getting more credit for being an integral part of the Respite Program (Nelson Enrichment Club) rather than just an adjunct to HereToStayWtg. to serve as an example of area churches doing wonderful things in this community.

CLERK'S REPORT:

- **APPROVED minutes of Stated Meeting 8/20/24.**
- **APPROVED minutes of Called Meeting 8/25/24.**
- **APPROVED minutes of the Called Meeting 8/20/24.**
- **APPROVED ratification of email vote regarding the marriage ceremony officiated by Rev. Dinah Ansley.**
- **APPROVED election of Elder Dave Lawson to serve as a Commissioner of POJ Special Meeting on 9/26/24.**
- **APPROVED election of Elders Dave Lawson and Harris Luscomb to serve as Commissioners for POJ Stated Meeting 10/19/24.**

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE: Elder Dave Lawson presented the Monthly Financial Reports, Income and Expense Statement, Balance Sheet. The church is in fine financial standing. He reminded Ministry Team Chairs of Budget Requests for 2025, due to Stewardship by 10/15/24.

MINISTRY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS/MOTIONS:

- Elder Mary Hopkins [Worship Ministry Team] presented the following: **MOTION: Alter Facilities Use Form to increase payment for musicians at memorials/funerals from \$150 to \$200. RPC pays this fee for members, while non-members pick up the charge. APPROVED.** Elk Hill Pastor Nia (Harold Mears) will preach a sermon at the 10:00 am service on 11/24/24. Pastor Inger will lead the service. The 8:00 am service will remain the same.
- Elder Sandy Gallagher [Outreach Ministry Team] reminded everyone of the fund raiser for Hope's Legacy Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> from 2-5. Posters have been put up in many local spots as well as advertising. There will be a silent auction for Connie Underwood's exquisite artwork and for two gift certificates from Iron and Ale.
- Elder Sally Bryant [Personnel] has written a new policy for hiring personnel.
- Elder Jeri Engebretson [Christian Education Ministry Team] reported that children's programs have begun and classes have been divided into four groups: toddlers & preschool, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, 3<sup>rd</sup> and & 4<sup>th</sup> grades, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade & middle school. Volunteers are still needed. On Wednesdays, 10/2, 10/16, and 10/23 from 11:30 to 12:30, Brent Kitching will facilitate a class entitled "Mindfulness: Cultivation Inner Peace in a Turbulent World." All are welcome. The Adult Sunday School Class will begin a study of "Mere Christianity" on Sunday mornings at 9:00 beginning 10/13/24. All are welcome.
- Elder Kathy Kristiansen [Liaison Grounds] reported that Roberto's Landscaping, LLC has completed the weeding and mulching around the entrances to the church.
- Elder Joe Steele [Cemetery Ministry Team] reported that trees shielding the neighboring property will soon be planted.

CELEBRATION AND GRATITUDE:

Gratitude was expressed for Engebretson's daughter and family for finding a house in the area, for the beautiful Celebration of Life for Grant Heggie, for the Chancel Choir and its return, for our own Pastor Inger and her never-ending love for us and abounding energy, and for the much-needed rain!

Rev. Inger Manchester closed the meeting in prayer at 7:45 pm.

Next Stated Session Meeting Tuesday, 10/15/24 at 7:00 pm in the Library. Elder Kathy Kristiansen will have Devotions and Opening Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sue Fulton**, Temporary Clerk





Photo taken by Jamie Heard at Niagara-on-the-Lake

# October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 10:00 Wool and Grace 10-2 Respite Care 11:30 Scripture Discussion 2:00 Where We Are Support Group	<b>3</b> 3:30 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 9:15 Sunday School for Young Parents 10:00 Worship Service Five Cents a Meal Offering	<b>7</b> 10-2 Respite Care 3:30 Guitar Circle 4:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting	<b>8</b> 9:30 Outreach Ministry Meeting	<b>9</b> 10:00 Wool and Grace 10-2 Respite Care 11:30 Scripture Discussion 3-5 Creating Art	<b>10</b> 3:00 Worship Comm. Mtg 3:30 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 9:15 Sunday School for Young Parents 10:00 Worship Service 10:30 Pack Pantry Bags for Kids 5:00 Pub Spirituality at Brewing Tree	<b>14</b> 10-2 Respite Care 2:30 Personnel Team Meeting 3:30 Guitar Circle 5:00 Stewardship Meeting	<b>15</b> 7:00 Session Meeting	<b>16</b> 10:00 Wool and Grace 10-2 Respite Care 11:30 Scripture Discussion 2:00 Where We Are Support Group	<b>17</b> 3:30 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 9:15 Sunday School for Young Parents 10:00 Worship Service	<b>21</b> 10-2 Respite Care 3:30 Guitar Circle	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00 Wool and Grace 10-2 Respite Care 11:30 Scripture Discussion 3:00 Creating Art	<b>24</b> 3:30 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir <b>Spreading The Word Articles Due</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 Distribution at Food Pantry
<b>27</b> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 9:15 Sunday School for Young Parents 10:00 Worship Service Emergency Relief Offering	<b>28</b> 10-2 Respite Care 3:30 Guitar Circle	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00 Wool and Grace 10-2 Respite Care 11:30 Scripture Discussion	<b>31</b> 3:30 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir		