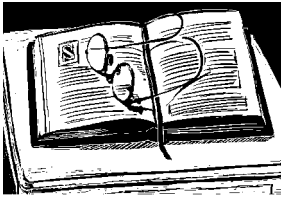


# THE ROCK



*Relying on Christ to illuminate our spiritual journey, we offer ourselves to God  
Partnering with one another and  
Creating ministries of compassion that transform the lives of those in need*



**January 6<sup>th</sup>:  
Epiphany of the Lord**

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm  
72:1-14; Ephesians  
3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

**January 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29;  
Acts 10:34-43;  
Matthew 3:13-17

**January 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm  
40:1-11; 1Corinthians  
1:1-9; John 1:29-42

**January 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
Isaiah 9:1-4;  
Psalm 27:1-9;  
1Corinthians 1:10-18;  
Matthew 4:12-23

*The Tattler* .....  
**By Pastor George**



*“Joy is the banner flown from one’s heart when the King is in residence.”*

One evening, while channel surfing, I happened on a program that featured the elaborate preparations that accompany the Royal Family’s visits to Windsor Castle. Of particular interest to me was the attendant responsible for raising the flag that signaled the Queen Mother’s arrival and announced that she was officially in residence at Windsor.

That curious bit of British “pomp and circumstance” makes me wonder what sort of signs we offer here at RPC to indicate that the King of kings has taken up residence among us. What banners do we fly on Jesus’ behalf, especially once the conspicuous evidence of his arrival at Christmas gets packed away for another year? After the decorations go back to the attic and we return to more normal routines, how do we indicate to the world around us that Jesus presides over this place?

At the threshold of this new year, I can think of no better banner to raise than that of a joyful spirit. As we begin our *Above and Beyond* Capital Campaign, continue our search for a new Christian Education and Youth Coordinator, and consider new mission opportunities, I pray that we move forward with genuine, Spirit-inspired joy in our hearts! Such joy involves so much more than a fleeting emotional high; it is, as C. S. Lewis affirms, “the serious business of heaven!”

So, amidst the serious work of securing pledges, interviewing candidates, and exploring mission projects, will the banner of joy fly over us, signaling that King Jesus resides here? Will our gifts to the Capital Campaign come grudgingly or gladly, out of obligation or in celebration of God’s goodness to us and this church? Will our search be motivated by the concern to “get someone hired” or in anticipation of truly calling someone to be a partner in ministry with us? Will our outreach lead us to the delightful discovery that mission offers us the privilege of not only being Christ but also *meeting* Him among those we serve in His name?

Whatever our answer, may joy be the banner that flies in our hearts and over this church, to the praise and honor of Christ Jesus our Lord!

“The Rock” is a newsletter for and about the Rockledge Presbyterian Church



Deadline for articles *hand-written/typed or e-mailed to us in Word format* is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Articles will be accepted after the 20<sup>th</sup> but will be published only as room permits. To assure that your article gets in the newsletter please have them to us by the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Kim Trujillo = 639-7826, [kwtrujillo@hotmail.com](mailto:kwtrujillo@hotmail.com) or [kwtrujillo@cfl.rr.com](mailto:kwtrujillo@cfl.rr.com)  
Carolyn Barnes = 632-3268, [boomsy44@earthlink.net](mailto:boomsy44@earthlink.net)

“The Rock” is posted on the new RPC website: <http://rockledgepres.org/>

The RPC e-mail address is: [rockpres@bellsouth.net](mailto:rockpres@bellsouth.net)



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### Deacons

Cindy Mercer  
Marty Lampson  
Pete Aude`  
Tim Burr  
Carole McKinley  
Jeanne Ryder  
Leeta Witherspoon

Jane Rowe  
Helene Munson  
Della Rose  
Marcia Wilcox  
Joyce Roth  
Dottie Moehle



### Session Elders

Tom Milsap  
Bill Carson  
Bob Trujillo  
Kimberly Prosser  
Kim Workman  
Steve Mercer

Richard Waters  
Catherine Shelton  
Phil Rose

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**Congratulations** to Robert Barnes who graduated Cum Laude from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education.

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**Congratulations** to Dave Kramer who won the TEACHER OF THE YEAR at his school, Creel Elementary!

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### A New Year's Resolution...of Thanks!

What a glorious Advent and Christmas we shared here at RPC! Thanks to ALL who enriched our celebration of these holy seasons, especially:

**Sue Mann and crew** for decorating the church so beautifully;

**Bill and Cheryl Carson** for arranging the poinsettias in the sanctuary and Narthex;

**Janice Everson, the stage crew, and the children** for the marvelous presentation of *The Best Christmas Present*;

**Myers Mason, musicians, and choir members** for the inspiring music of the season;

**Karen Jolly, Cheryl Carson, and Peggy Burley** for their talented contributions to the Family Christmas Eve Service;

**Cindy and Steve Mercer** for coordinating our fellowship gatherings including the reception after the Family Christmas Eve Service.

*How blessed we are to be part of such a talented, devoted family of faith!*

# TIME FOR PEACE.....



*The Peace Columns are written in memory of Ruth Smith, a loving and caring advocate for Peace*

I noticed this year that many of the Christmas cards were about peace. Hopefully this is a sign that people are looking for peace in the world and in their lives. How can we share the gift of peace? The Silent Unity Ministry suggests that we can unite with others in creating a Beacon of Peace that illumines the world. In inspiring lights, whether in the form of a glowing candle, festive fireworks or nature's awesome Northern Lights that leave vivid impressions in the mind. The light that is indelible is a beacon of Peace. As we let our lights shine, uniting with the light of others, peace in the world grown as the peace within each individual shines out to eliminate any darkness of distrust and conflict. Peaceful God-inspired words and actions unite families, friends, neighborhoods, communities, and countries. Harmony and good will reign, rendering borders and differences unimportant. What is important is that person after person is responding as a beacon of peace merging into one light that illumines the world with peace. "Let our light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to you Father in heaven" Matthew 5:16.

Another way we can share the gift of peace is to contribute to nonviolence. Some ways to do this are: To honor the dignity and inherent worth of every human being, believing that our lives are linked together, that what we do impacts the lives of other people, so we are responsible to and for one another; To dedicate ourselves to the fundamental rights of every human being (justice, equity, equality) using our talents to empower others as well as ourselves, courageously choosing to practice compassion with our apparent adversaries. We oppose injustice, not people. Thus we recognize the power of the human spirit to triumph over injustice, social inequity, and suffering. This is the hero's journey... (from "Principles of Nonviolence"). Nonviolence would help significantly in promoting peace in our world. A recent prayer of confession tells us "Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you', Forgive our lack of faith in your word and your purposes. Challenge our cynical assumptions that war and hunger are inevitable, and peace unattainable. Shake us out of our complacency and easy accommodation of the status quo. Unseat the feats that rule our hearts and replace them with an awesome reverence for your bold name. With our trust rightly placed in you, we will dare to do the work of peace and justice to which you kingdom calls. Let the New Year be a year of Peace.

- Irene Ney

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## **New Handbell Choir**

When: Every Wednesday night at 5:30 – 6:30 starting January 16, 2008

Where: Practice in the Sanctuary

Who: Anyone who wants to try out bells. No experience necessary. We will start from the beginning.

Please contact Lynwood Everson 321-960-0666 or E-Mail at: [LynEverson@aol.com](mailto:LynEverson@aol.com)

We want you to come and have some fun, learn to play bells, and meet new people.

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## **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

The men of Rockledge Presbyterian Church will be having fellowship breakfasts on Saturdays- exact date to be announced. They will be gathering at 8:00 am for fellowship, food, and fun. Come and bring a Friend. Please contact [LynEverson@aol.com](mailto:LynEverson@aol.com) for further information.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.....

Dear RPC Families,

Thank you for all of the support and encouragement you have shown me as I have taken on the interim CE position. Your thoughts, prayers and graciousness have warmed my heart and made me feel a part of the church staff. I look forward to working with you, and for you in the New Year.

I would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to Melanie Bradford our CHAOS chef. She has cooked up delicious meals for our group every Wednesday. Melanie does have many helpers that include Carolyn Barnes (also a chef), June Milsap and Alice Marzluff. Our meals are very tasty and full of love. Another HUGE THANK YOU to Janice Everson for producing our wonderful CHAOS Christmas performance. It was a big undertaking with her many helpers such as Sue Mann, Karen Burnham and Marie Edwards. "The Christmas Present" was a delightful show to watch and again I say thank you! When you see one of these marvelous CHAOS helpers, please send a little "thank you" their way.

CHAOS Parents and Students, during the month of January the electives will be:

COOKING with Sue Mann and Barbara Schweitzer

And

FUN & GAMES with Mary Ward

Please pick up a registration form clipped to my office door in order to choose your January elective and then place it in the green folder.

The Christian Ed Committee is busy planning and organizing programs and events for the New Year. The committee welcomes ideas our church family may have and we always need volunteers from small to large tasks. The committee includes the following members: Kim Workman (chair), Sue Mann, Karen Burnham, Cheryl Carson, Pam Higgins, Liz Battista, Josh Burnham, CanDe Waters and our newest recruit, Marie Edwards.

I have recently been asked, "What is the acronym for CHAOS". Well, here it is.....Christ Has All Our Solutions. I leave you with that, and wish you A Very Happy New Year!

Blessings, **CanDe Waters**

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## Looking Ahead to Lent

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> and continues through Palm Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Traditionally marked by a spirit of repentance and renewal, Lent provides the opportunity to deepen our commitment to spiritual growth and daily discipleship. To this end, Pastor George will coordinate a weekly exploration of *The Holy Longing* by Ronald Rolheiser. This book provides a very comprehensive and accessible overview of Christian spirituality. Plans are underway to host several discussion gatherings in members' homes. If you are willing to be a host and/or facilitator for one of these gatherings, please contact CanDe Waters at the church. Watch upcoming bulletins for more details about this exciting faith-stretching experience!

### Bread for the Journey!

Would any of us ever consider taking a long trip without preparing ahead of time and ensuring that we had enough to sustain us along the way? Of course not! So why not plan to begin your Lenten journey with our annual Ash Wednesday Supper and Communion Service on February 6<sup>th</sup> in Calvin Hall from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30

p.m. A simple soup and salad supper, hosted by the Fellowship Committee, will be followed by the celebration of Holy Communion.

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN.....**

### **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

The annual meeting of Church Women United in Central Brevard will be held at ROCKLEDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH on January 11, 2008. Please mark your calendars for this meeting. Come and meet your new officers. We will meet in Calvin Hall at 9:30am for refreshments and fellowship, followed by a program which will include our being serenaded by the little children of the Rockledge Presbyterian School. The Rev. Ginny Percy, of Grace United Methodist Church, Merritt Island, will be the speaker. It would be great to have a good turn-out from our church.

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## **SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE NEWS.....**

The Social Concerns Committee would like to thank all the members and friends of Rockledge Presbyterian Church for their dedication and generosity to our many mission projects this past year. Without EACH of you, mission work would not happen! THANK YOU!!!!

A Look Ahead:

We will continue with the **first Sunday of each month** as *Sharing Center* Sunday. Please bring non perishable food items to the baskets in the South hallway. The *CROP WALK* is scheduled for **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008**.

**Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** is the last chance to donate white *socks and shirts* for the census count for the homeless in Brevard County. A donation box is in the South hallway.

**Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** is our day for *gleaning*. RPC is a host site and we need LOTS of volunteers; pickers, greeters, food servers, packers. There are sign up sheets on the South hallway bulletin board. We also need CITRUS TREES to pick! Without fruit, there is no need for anything else.

The **Stephen Project** is going strong. Twenty holiday boxes (5 women and 15 men) were delivered to Work Force for holiday distribution. Each box contained: 2 pairs of socks, t-shirts, underwear, shampoo, soap, razor, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, sunscreen, RPC pen and a canned ham.

Due to funding cuts, we have lost our 2 special groups of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for an hour a week to make lunches, please see Gary Pearson.

*Special offerings* for 2008 include 2 Cents a Meal (biannually), One Great Hour of Sharing and Peacemaking. We will also be working with Habitat for Humanity and Air Mission Ministries (water filtration kits for disaster areas),

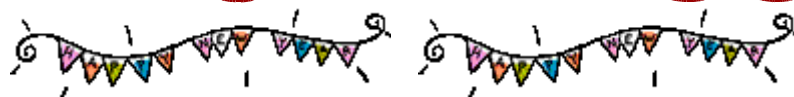
Social Concerns meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 in the Library. Please join us and learn more about your church's mission work and how you can become more involved. For further information, please contact Catherine Shelton at 631-7275. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Library.

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## **Remember Your Baptism, And REJOICE!**

On Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Baptism of the LORD, as we baptize *Lawson Evans Rees*, son of Rodger and Lucy Rees. Join us for this moving and visible reminder of the promises of our faith!

# JANUARY 2008



- 1 Office Closed... **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**
- 2 7:30pm Choir (K)
- 3 6:30pm RPS Board (L);
- 4 7:00pm AA (K)
  
- Sun 6** 9:30am New Member Class; Sock Sunday; 5:00pm Bell choir
- 7 5:45pm Scouts (C); 6:30pm IPN
- 8 7:00pm AA (K); 7:00pm Session (L)
- 9 5:30pm Chaos (C); 6:30pm Lectio Divina; 7:30pm Choir
- 11 CWU Annual Meeting; 7:00pm AA (K)
- 12 8:00am Men's Fellowship (RCC)
  
- Sun 13** New Member Class; Bell Choir 5:00pm
- 14 9:45am Project Day (C); 5:00pm Corp. Adm. (L); 5:45pm Scouts (C)  
6:30pm IPN; 7:00am Abigail Circle
- 15 10:00am Mary Martha (L); 6:30pm Social Concerns (L)  
7:00pm AA (K); 7:30pm Ruth Circle;
- 16 10:00am Esther; 5:30pm Chaos; 5:30 New Bell Choir; 6:30pm Lectio Divina;  
7:30 Choir
- 18 7:00pm AA (K)
  
- Sun 20** 9:30am New Member Class; 5:00pm Bell choir
- 21 **Martin Luther King Holiday**; 6:30pm IPN
- 22 6:30pm Worship (L); 7:00pm Trustees (C); 7:00pm Deacons (P); 7:00pm AA (K)
- 23 10:00am Ruby Wednesday (P); 5:30pm Chaos; 5:30pm New Bell choir  
6:30pm Lectio Divina; 7:30pm Choir
- 25 Gleaning Set Up; 7:00pm AA (A)
- 26 8:00am Men's Fellowship (RCC); Gleaning Project (K & C)
  
- Sun 27** 9:30am New Member Class; Blanket Sunday; 10:00am Special Session;  
**12:00pm RPC Congregational Meeting (Annual Reports)**; 5:00pm Bell Choir
- 28 5:45pm Scouts (C); 6:30pm IPN
- 29 7:00pm AA (K)
- 30 5:30pm Chaos (C); 5:30pm New Bell Choir; 6:30pm Lectio Divina; 7:30pm Choir

# WOW!!

What a tremendous job the young adults, parents, and sponsors did in the presentation of the spectacular *In Bethlehem Inn*.

The food was great, I love shepherd pie, where I was born in New England it was a regular meal. The last we ate it was at a little Inn in Connecticut. The casting was excellent and the Innkeeper was outstanding along with the singers, and the servers. (I forgot to register so I hope the Army of Caesar does not show up at my doorstep.) Again thanks to all who participated in the production. It was a real treat. - Phil Rose



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## A Delicious Thanksgiving Day Breakfast!!



Working hard at the Thanksgiving Breakfast!



The youth ready to make breakfast for

everyone!

## Interested in taking pictures?

Did you get a new camera for Christmas and cried when you read the instruction manual?  
Did you take a bunch of Holiday pictures, but were disappointed with how they came out?  
Do you want to improve your picture taking abilities?

Peggy Burley and Lynwood Everson have teamed up to help you learn more about photography. We will be giving a class on how to improve your photography skills. This will be a basic class for beginners on January 22 (Tuesday) at 6:00pm. The following week on Tuesday at 6:00pm there will be another class to continue with more advanced techniques and we will go from there to where ever the class wants.



If you are interested in taking exciting looking pictures, we will help.

For more information call Lynwood Everson 321-960-0666 or E-Mail at: [LynEverson@aol.com](mailto:LynEverson@aol.com)

This class may become a short term fun get together with field trips.

The follow up to the first two classes will be another class on Scrapbooking, from getting started to turning your pictures into something special.

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## STEPHEN PROJECT

As you all might have heard by now the Stephen project has been cut back to the original operation of 160 lunches per month at a cost of \$68.60. The cost should remain like this until at least mid January. The Rock treasure boxes were a big hit with everybody at Labor Finders. They all appreciated their “treasures”. Thanks to all the ladies who have been keeping the Stephen project afloat and “tending to business”. I hope the New Year will fill you with the Spirit of Christ Jesus.

Gary Pearson  
Stephen Project Coordinator

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## SHARING CENTER.....

The Sharing Center thanks everyone for their donations throughout the year, and for our Christmas stockings. The people needing help, both with food and meals in our kitchen have risen greatly this year. Our kitchen is now doing soup one day a week to help with the finances.

It's not too early to mark your calendars for this year's crop walk on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. We will walk again at Lori Wilson Park and serve hotdogs and hamburgers to the participants

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# Brevard Citrus Drive

**Saturday, January 26, 2008**

**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Help feed Central Florida's Hungry with the Citrus  
Grown in Local Backyards!**

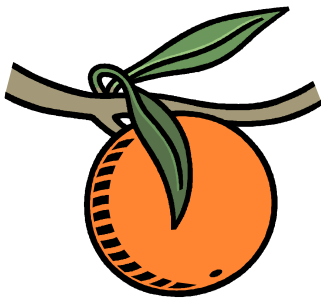
## **4 Ways to Participate:**

- **Pick you backyard Fruit &  
Bring to:**

Rockledge Presbyterian Church  
921 Rockledge Dr.  
Rockledge, FL 32955  
321-636-0811



- **Volunteer to Pick Someone Else's Fruit**
- **Donate Your Citrus for Someone Else to Pick**
- **Sponsor a Box of Citrus for \$10**



## **To Donate or Volunteer:** **Brevard Citrus Drive**

Rockledge Presbyterian Church  
921 Rockledge Dr.  
Rockledge, FL 32955  
Phone: 321-636-0811

<http://www.endhunger.org>

**The citrus collected during the Citrus Drive will be distributed to homeless shelters & food banks.**

## ***RPC TIME AND TALENT STEWARD OF THE MONTH***



Have you turned in your Stewardship 2008 Time and Talent Commitment form?

Each month we spotlight one of our wonderful church members who volunteered for the most church related activities on their Stewardship Time and Talent Commitment form.

***.....CONGRATULATIONS TO CHERYL CARSON.....***

Just a few of the Time and Talent activities that she has volunteered for on her Time and Talent Commitment form include:

- Glean with Society of St. Andrews
- teach adult programs
- help with Vacation Bible School
- serve on Worship Committee
- sing in choir



These, along with *many* other important Talents, make Cheryl our “Steward of the Month”.

....A special “THANK YOU” to Cheryl Carson for her wonderful Stewardship!

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### ***RPC STEWARDSHIP 2008 Summary of Church Member Pledges***

#### **2007 Pledge Giving Information** (for comparison purposes only):

Total Number of Pledges = 131

Total Pledge Amount = \$298,462

#### **2008 Pledge Giving Information** (as of 12/25/2007):

Total Number of Pledges = **111**

Total Pledge Amount = **\$277,842**

#### **2008 Pledge Giving Information Includes:**

- Number of new Pledges in 2008 = **9**
- Number of Pledge amounts in 2008 that went up compared to 2007 = **46**
- Number of Pledge amounts in 2008 that went down compared to 2007 = **11**
- Number of members that have not yet submitted a Pledge card for 2008 = **42**  
(Amount for the missing Pledges who had pledged in 2007, but have not yet pledged for 2008 = **\$34,780**)

**NOTE: Please remember to submit your 2008 Pledge Card to the Church Office or just drop your Pledge Card in the Sunday offering plate.**

## **TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE.....**



### **GETTING INTO HEAVEN**

I was testing the children in my Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

I asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?" Again, the answer was, "NO!"

By now I was starting to smile. Hey, this was fun!

"Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?" I asked them again.

Again, they all answered, "NO!"

I was just bursting with pride for them. "Well," I continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?" A five-year-old boy shouted out, **"YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."**

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An interesting dilemma.....

In a small mid western conservative town, a new bar/tavern started a building to open up their business. The local Baptist church started a campaign to block the bar from opening with petitions and prayers. Work progressed, however, right up till the week before opening, when a lightning strike hit the bar and it burned to the ground.

The church folks were rather smug in their outlook after that, till the bar owner sued the church on the grounds that the church was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building, either through direct or indirect actions or means.

The church vehemently denied all responsibility or any connection to the buildings demise in its reply to the court. As the case made its way into court, the judge looked over the paperwork at the hearing and commented, "I don't know how I'm going to decide this, but as it appears from the paperwork, we have a bar owner that believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that doesn't!"

**"A cheerful heart is good medicine" (Proverbs 17:22).**

# **The Rock**

**RPC News  
January 2008**

## **In this issue .....**

**Brevard Citrus  
Looking Ahead to Lent  
New Handbell Choir Opportunity**

**Church Staff:**

**Rev. George Wilcox, *Pastor***  
**CanDe Waters, *Interim CE/Youth Coordinator***  
**Bill Moehle, *Treasurer***  
**Sandy Golden, *Office Manager***  
**Myers Mason, *Organist/Choir Director***  
**B.J. Smith, *Financial Secretary***  
**Jeanne Ryder, *Moderator, Presbyterian Women***  
**Jan Taffer, *Director, RPC School***  
**Butch Beckner, *Technical Director***



**Rockledge Presbyterian Church  
921 Rockledge Drive  
Rockledge, Florida 32955  
(321) 636-0811 FAX (321) 636-5821**



**E-Mail Address: [rockpres@bellsouth.net](mailto:rockpres@bellsouth.net)  
Web Site: <http://rockledgepres.org/>**

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**Return Service Requested**

**Sunday Worship: 8:30am & 11:00am**

**Church School for all ages: 9:30am**

**Coffee/Fellowship in Calvin Hall: 10:30am**

