

The Rocky Hock Anchor



**The Mission of Rocky Hock Baptist Church is
to magnify Christ and make disciples of all people.**



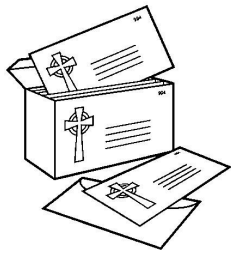
2026 Deacons

Newly Elected Deacons for 2026: Roger Smith (3 year term)
Paul Ward (3 year term)
Matthew Evans (3 year term)
Wayne Bunch (3 year term)
Sam Tynch (3 year term)
Allen Peele (2 year term - filling Keith Rollins' unexpired term)
Phil Smith (1 year term) - filling Keith Nixon's unexpired term)

2026 Deacon Officers are as follows:

Allen Nixon - Chair
J. C. Forehand - Vice-Chair
Chris Turner - Secretary

Deacon Ordination will be held during the Morning Worship Service on January 4, 2026 for Roger Smith, Paul Ward, and Matthew Evans.



New offering envelopes for 2026 have been placed in your Sunday School Classroom. If your name is not on a Sunday School Class roll, your envelopes are either in the Vestibule on the display case by the restrooms or in the Church Office. If you do not have offering envelopes and would like a boxed set, contact the Church Office by email: lbunch@rhbce.org or by phone: 252-221-4133 and a box will be left for you in the Vestibule.

Please join us on Sunday, January 4th at 6 PM in the Gym for a Reception honoring Doris Tynch, our part-time Custodian, who is retiring after 10 years of service to the Lord and the congregation at Rocky Hock Baptist Church. This event will take the place of our regular Sundays @ SIX.



A CPR Certification Class is scheduled for January 15th at 6 PM in the Special Function Room. The class is currently full, but if anyone wants to be on the waiting list, please give Rhonda Bass a call at 252-337-5766.



The Baptist Men's Breakfast this month will be on Sunday, January 18th at 7:30 AM in the Special Function Room. Gentlemen, please join us for food, fellowship, and a devotion!





“The Power of a Cheering Church” How a Culture of Encouragement Strengthens the Church and Honors the Lord

“Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:11

As many of y’all know, I’m a big Tennessee VOLS fan! *But I haven’t always bled orange.* It all started on November 23, 2013 when my uncle and his family took me to my very first football game in Knoxville. Up to that

point, I had never been to a major sporting event — much less a stadium built to hold over 100,000 people! But there I was... perched at the top of Neyland Stadium, in the freezing cold, taking it all in. You’d think that I would be filled with excitement... *but I wasn’t.* Allow me to explain.

On game day, everyone in Knoxville wears orange — it’s like a family tradition! Not only do they wear orange, they put orange flags on the back of their trucks, paint their vehicles orange, and they will *literally* drop half an orange in your sweet tea at the concession stand! **KA-PLUNK!** *(Just ask Jack Perry; he lived in East Tennessee for several years and saw all of this first-hand, I’m sure!)*

Long story short... no one told me there was a dress code. And naturally, I was the only one in my little caravan of people who wasn’t wearing orange. To make matters worse, I chose to wear a bright red raincoat that day — the color of Tennessee’s arch-rival, the Georgia Bulldogs!

I remember feeling so out-of-place — *and those VOLS fans made me pay for my red jacket all night long!* I was heckled and received several strange looks. And looking back... *I can understand why.* I was the only person in a crowd of 101,915 people wearing red... and I looked plum goofy!

But in spite of feeling like the odd ball out... as the night progressed, something unexpected happened. *I started to feel like I was a part of the family.* Somewhere in the middle of my dejectedness, *I forgot all about my red jacket* and I started cheering for the VOLS! *What a powerful feeling it was to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with others who were cheering for the same thing and hoping for the same outcome.* It made an impression on me to see how these fans truly loved their team. Anytime the crowd rose to their feet, you could just *feel* the energy shift in the stadium.

I think it’s that way with the church, too. When you know you’ve got prayer warriors rooting for you and lifting you and your children up to the Lord... you can just feel the energy shift in a situation. It’s encouraging to know that you’ve got that kind of support. And we need to make sure that we are doing this as a church.

The Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:11 — *“Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another...”*

Here, Paul encourages the Thessalonians to build each other up in the Lord. He paints a *beautiful* picture of what God’s people should be doing on a regular basis. Rooting for our brothers and sisters as they get closer to Jesus. Offering prayer support to someone going through a tough time. Showing up for someone and supporting them even when no one else does. *This is how a family relates to one another* — we show up, no matter what! We cheer each other on, no matter what! Like that great cloud of witnesses mentioned in Hebrews 12:1, we surround our fellow church members with the love of God and encourage them to press on in the faith!

I’m thankful to say that our church does this well. We do show up for each other; we love each other, too. And as we go into the new year together... *this trend must continue!* Let’s look for ways in 2026 to come up alongside and minister to each other. Ask the Lord to show you ways you can do this. *I believe that God has big plans for Rocky Hock this year and we need all hands on deck as we move forward beneath the banner of Christ. To God be the glory!*

Pastor Trey Rogers
Associate Pastor of Youth & Children



Baptist Women



A Story Worth Telling

by Mandy Hewitt, Contributing Writer, Missions Mosaic

As a teen, I was asked to stand up and share my testimony at a summer beach camp. Undoubtedly, I was nervous to speak in front of a large crowd of my peers, but I remember an underlying fear that my story wasn't worth sharing. I had grown up in church, was taught the gospel my entire life, and trusted in Jesus as my Savior and Lord at an early age. I didn't have a dramatic story of rebellion before turning to Christ. Would my story matter?

Through that experience and as I matured in my faith, I realized a very important truth: Even as a small child, I was just as dead in my sin as a middle-aged atheist turned Christian, or a rebellious college student, or a deathbed convert. My sin had been enough to separate me eternally from God, and just as in every resurrection story, bringing this dead person to life took nothing short of a miracle.

STORIES OF REDEMPTION IN SCRIPTURE

When looking at the stories of redemption shared in Scripture, it doesn't get much more dramatic than Paul's. He was literally stopped in his tracks by the voice of Jesus (Acts 9). But how did Paul describe himself prior to his conversion? He testified he was "circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless" (Phil. 3:5-7).

Paul was basically describing himself as a religious "superstar." Like me, he grew up in church and followed all the rules, but as he wrote in Ephesians 2 of humanity's sinful condition, he, too, was dead in his "transgressions and sins" (vs. 1). Yet after he came to know Christ, he was able to say, "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ . . . And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus" (vs. 4-6).

Paul's story was worth telling time and time again, not because of his life circumstances or what he did to get to God but because of what God did to bring him to Himself. He resurrected Paul, a spiritually dead person. When sharing the gospel with others around you, pray God would use your story to make this truth clear to them.

WHY YOUR STORY IS WORTH TELLING

Before you count your story out, think of all the stories of salvation you've heard over the years, the lives you've witnessed being changed both suddenly and slowly over decades. All those stories can be used to encourage fellow Christians in one way or another. They all need to be told. The commonality in each of those stories is the gospel — that "because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions" (Eph. 2:4-5).

Pray God would regularly remind you that no matter the details of your journey to faith in Him, He is the main character of your story of salvation, and the gospel is the central plot. Ask Him to remind you that story is always worth telling.

PRAYER PROMPTS

- * Pray God would reveal His miraculous work in your story.
- * Pray for the right words to clearly share with others that God is the main character in your story.
- * Pray for opportunities to share your story of God's grace with someone else and that it would be an encouragement to them.
- * Pray more people would have their own stories of redemption as you faithfully share yours.

TESTIMONY REFLECTIONS

Fill in the blanks with answers from your story.

Before I met Jesus, I was lost and dead in my sin. I was _____, _____, and _____.

Before Jesus, I found value and my identity in _____.

I came to know Jesus through _____. God used _____ and _____

to tell me about the gospel. When I gave my life to Jesus, He freed me from my sin. My chains of _____ fell off! Now I walk with Christ, and He continues to

give me freedom from sin. My identity now is in _____. In Christ I am

_____, _____, and _____.



Deacon Team of the Week

12/28/25 - 1/3/26

Allen Nixon, Ellis Tynch, Paul Ward

1/4/26 - 1/10/26

David Spruill, Fred Smith, Wayne Bunch

1/11/26 - 1/17/26

Scott Noble, Mike Evans, J.C. Forehand

1/18/26 - 1/24/26

Phil Smith, Russell Byrum, Matthew Evans

1/25/26 - 1/31/26

Ted Peele, Oscar White, Adam Bunch

Sunday Attendance:

	<u>SS</u>	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
11/23/25:	168	250	45
11/30/25:	141	244	99
12/7/25:	163	254	165 (Children)
12/14/25:	147	263	88 (Hand Bells)
12/21/25:	146	249	188 (Adult Choir)

Wednesday Evening Attendance:

11/26/25:	??	(Thanks & Praise Service)
12/3/25:	79	
12/10/25:	72	
12/17/25:	100+	(Live Nativity)

January Deacon Greeters

Senior Adult Building: Roger Smith

Sanctuary Main Entrance: Carroll Evans

Connecting Corridor: Oscar White

Multi-Purpose Main Entrance: Ruston Howell

LOVE GROW SERVE



January Ushers:

Neal Bass, Tony Bass,
Matthew Evans, Leon Hemmings,
Stanley Tynch, Bob Wallace

January Offering Team:

Adam Bunch (Chair), Wayne Bunch,
Carroll Evans, Phil Smith,
Paul Ward, Oscar White

January Counting Committee:

Mike Evans, Frank & Hope Gosser,
Billy & LouAnn Elliott



The request from RHBC this month is:

Dried Beans (1 lb. bags)



Children's Page

For children
of all ages!

Basketball Practice Schedule

Week of January 5th

Monday, 6 - 7 PM	K - 2nd Grade Co-ed
7 - 8 PM	3rd - 5th Grade Co-ed
Tuesday, 6 - 7 PM	Middle School Boys
Wednesday, 8 - 9 PM	6th - 12th Grade Girls
Thursday, 7 - 8 PM	High School Boys

Week of January 12th

Monday, 6 - 7 PM	K - 2nd Grade Co-ed
7 - 8 PM	3rd - 5th Grade Co-ed
Tuesday, 6 - 7 PM	Middle School Boys
Wednesday, 8 - 9 PM	6th - 12th Grade Girls
Thursday, 7 - 8 PM	High School Boys

Week of January 19th

Monday, 6 - 7 PM	K - 2nd Grade Co-ed
7 - 8 PM	3rd - 5th Grade Co-ed
Tuesday, 6 - 7 PM	Middle School Boys
Wednesday, 8 - 9 PM	6th - 12th Grade Girls
Thursday, 7 - 8 PM	High School Boys

Week of January 26th

Monday, 6 - 7 PM	K - 2nd Grade Co-ed
7 - 8 PM	3rd - 5th Grade Co-ed
Tuesday, 6 - 7 PM	Middle School Boys
Wednesday, 8 - 9 PM	6th - 12th Grade Girls
Thursday, 7 - 8 PM	High School Boys

Basketball Game Schedule

January 3rd

RHBC vs. St. Paul's/Open Door @ RHBC

January 10th

Ballard's Bridge vs. RHBC @ Ballard's Bridge

January 17th

RHBC vs. Edenton Baptist @ RHBC

January 24th

RHBC vs. St. Paul's/Open Door @ RHBC

NO GAME ON JANUARY 31st



WINTER WORD SCRAMBLE

WONS _____

CDOL _____

REIWTN _____

CEI _____

SMANNOW _____

SFALSKOWEN _____

LOWABSNL _____

SDGEILND _____

IASNTKG _____

KGINIS _____

CESILIC _____

EROFNZ _____

BIZRALDZ _____



WORD BANK

BLIZZARD

ICE

SKATING

SNOWBALL

WINTER

COLD

ICICLES

SLEDDING

SNOWFLAKES

FROZEN

SKIING

SNOW

SNOWMAN

Rocky Hock Baptist Church
113 Rocky Hock Church Road
Edenton, North Carolina 27932
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
EDENTON, NC
PERMIT NO. 127



Check us out on the web at www.rhbce.org

Weekly Schedule:

Sundays: 9:45 AM - Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM - Morning Worship (Nursery & Children's Church available for 3 year olds up to 5th Grade);
Worship Online at www.rhbce.org, our Facebook page, vimeo, and YouTube
6:00 PM - Evening Worship ("Sundays @ SIX") - Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Youth Suite, Children in Gym

Wednesdays: 6:45 PM - Vertical Student Ministries (VSM) - Middle & High School Youth - Youth Suite
7:00 PM - Prayer Meeting/Adult Bible Study - Sanctuary; Mission Friends (3 & 4 year olds) - 2 year olds
Room; GA's (K-5th Grade Girls) - GA's Room, beside foyer; RA's (K-5th Grade Boys) - RA's Room, upstairs

Rev. Trey Rogers, Associate Pastor of Youth & Children
trogers@rhbce.org

Mr. Steve Evans, Acting Music Director

Mr. Carroll Evans, Chair of Deacons

Mrs. Linda B. Bunch, Administrative Assistant
lbunch@rhbce.org

Mrs. Donna Peele, Pianist

Ms. Deborah Long, Custodian

252-687-2086 (Office)
706-994-2652 (Cell)

252-333-8567 (Cell)

252-370-2358 (Cell)

252-221-4133 (Office)

Mrs. Mary Jo Bass, Treasurer

Mr. Trey Bass, Security



Rocky Hock
BAPTIST CHURCH-EDENTON