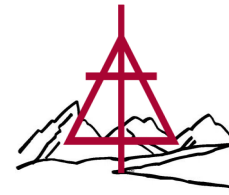


## Upcoming Events

October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10	October 11	October 12
10:00am Worship Service Sunday School story card #112  7:00pm Sunday Evening Bible Study @ church  Youth at Karl & Krystal H.	7:00pm Friendship	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 9:30am Coffeebreak 7:30pm Admin	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts  1-2:30pm Griefshare	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		
October 13	October 14	October 15	October 16	October 17	October 18	October 19
10:00am Worship Service No Sunday School today  No youth 7:00pm Sunday Evening Bible Study @ church	10am Thanksgiving Day Worship service- bring items for The Lord's Foodbank  No Friendship	<i>Office: Cheri-Lynn</i> 9:30am Coffeebreak	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts 1-2:30pm Griefshare 7:00pm GEMS/ Cadets 7:00pm Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:30am-3:00pm Crafting	Classis Alberta North Meeting in Lacombe	Classis Alberta North Meeting in Lacombe

All bulletins can be found online [www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca)

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website ([firstcrocky.ca](http://firstcrocky.ca)) for links to sermons.



## **FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

RR3 Site 4 Box 6, Rocky Mountain House, T4T 2A3 403.845.6067

Our **MISSION** is to worship God faithfully, nurture one another to grow in Christ, joyfully tell others about Jesus, develop our gifts to serve and pursue stewardship, justice and peace in every area of life.

**Pastor Ken Douma** – [kgdouma@gmail.com](mailto:kgdouma@gmail.com) 780.728.8148

**Pastor Natasha Specht**- [pastornatasha@rockycrc.ca](mailto:pastornatasha@rockycrc.ca) (Monday -Thursday)

**Church Office:** Tuesday — Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm [office@rockycrc.ca](mailto:office@rockycrc.ca)



### Morning Worship Service

Welcome

🎵 I Lift Your Name

Call to Worship

God's Greeting/We Welcome One Another

🎵 Holy, Holy, Holy

Call to Confession & Prayer

🎵 Faithful One

Assurance of Pardon

🎵 Lord Reign in Me

Children's Message - Joel S.

Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

Speaker from Burden Bearers

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering - Burden Bearers

Offertory

Scripture - Hebrews 1-2:4

Message - The Most Important Question

🎵 In Christ Alone

Blessing

🎵 By the Sea of Crystal

HELPING HANDS

Thank you, for all you do!	October 6	October 13	October 14	October 20
	<b>Pastor Ken</b>	<b>Pastor Ken</b>	<b>Pastor Ken</b>	<b>Pastor Jacob Boer</b>
<b>Serving Elder</b>	Alan O.	John O.	Dave S.	Chris T.
<b>Serving Deacon</b>	Doug D.	Justin D.	Ken B.	Lorraine A.
<b>Music Team</b>	Lifted Hearts	Mosaic	Six Track	The Experience
<b>Children's Message</b>	Joel S.	Pastor Ken	N/A	Elroy L.
<b>Nursery</b>	Mark & Keanna H., Marlene O., Chelsey B.	Alyssa D., Stephanie C., Kelsey O., Miyah B.	N/A	Sjoukje V., Isabelle D., Amber B. Ruth D.
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Jim & Margo D.	Elmer & Joanne O.	N/A	Tom & Kathy S.
<b>Greeters/Coffee Cleanup</b>	Bob & Marie A. Dave & Henriett V.	Devon & Marissa P. Herb & Gertie W.	N/A	Case & Marlene K. Aaron & Cheryl T.

## Welcome to First CRC Rocky

If you are visiting we want to offer a warm welcome!

We pray you will encounter God today as you worship and bring him praise!

Nursery is available for infants & small children. Sunday School for Ages 3 - Grade 5 during the service.

Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall following the service.

For more Information view: [www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca) or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse)

### CHURCH FAMILY

*"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.  
With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."  
Ephesians 6:18*

† As a ministerial church, each church has been asked to pray for our brothers and sisters in our community, today, we are praying for the **Partners in Christ** (Holy Trinity Anglican & Rocky Mountain Evangelical Church).

† Congratulations to **Emmy V.** celebrating her birthday on October 9! Blessings to you on your special day!

† We pray for those at home: **Pearl V., Sylvia D., Gus & Margaret V.** and **Joe & Lena V.** For those at the local care facilities: **Tonia T., Joan S., Seenie B.** For all the caregivers: who are able to assist those who require a little extra help and care.

† Please keep **all missionaries** in God's care, wherever they may be serving.

*"Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, word may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel..." Ephesians 6:19*

Missionaries are regular people who fear pain and rejection as much as anyone else. When faced with opposition, they need God's strength to help them stand firm.

**Pray.....**

.....that they will have boldness to overcome the fear of embarrassment or failure

.....against evil forces that would seek to hinder the spread of the gospel

Check out the **Missions bulletin board**, in the social hall, for updates on the missionaries that we support.

If you know of anyone that we should be keeping in our prayers for various reasons, council asks that you please call Pastor Ken, an elder or deacon.

Your *Elders* are Anthony B., Randy D., Alan H., Karl H., Jessica H., Alan O., John O., Dave S., Chris T. and Albert V.

Your *Deacons* are Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Doug D., and Justin D.



*"Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them,  
and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body."*

~ Hebrews 13:3 ESV ~

**PAKISTAN:** Kidnapped Teen Forcibly Converted to Islam and Married

Sources: Morning Star News, ECSPE

A 16-year-old Christian girl in Jaranwala, Punjab, was kidnapped on September 12th before being forced to convert to Islam and marry one of her captors. On the day of the attack, Diya Iftikhar was at home with her four sisters. The family's neighbours state that they saw three armed men force Diya into a white Suzuki van, which then sped away. The men have since been identified as Ghazaal Jutt, Afzal Jutt and Ramzan Jutt.

Although Diya's parents reported the crime to the police immediately, any actions of response made by local officials have been delayed. Since the three abductors are reputed to be hostile towards Christians, the parents are not only concerned for Diya's safety but also that of their other family members. (These same three men were known perpetrators in the Jaranwala riots during August 2023.)

On September 16th, four days after the kidnapping, the family received a video message from Diya via WhatsApp in which she claimed to have voluntarily converted to Islam and married Ghazaal Jutt of her own free will. However, the teenage girl's parents are convinced that their daughter was coerced into recording the video message. Additionally, Diya's mother states that the young woman "detested Ghazaal," for he and his friends had regularly harassed her.

This past summer, a legislative bill that deems it illegal for Christians in Pakistan to marry before the age of 18 was officially passed. One of the primary purposes of this bill is to prevent coercive marriages involving minors from taking place. However, this law is not applicable if a Christian minor converts to Islam prior to marriage. A further provincial law, which will raise the age of marriage for all people in Punjab, is presently pending. But until that law is passed, the legal age for Muslim girls remains at 16. Unofficial statistics suggest that as many as 1,000 girls are victims of forced conversions and marriages each year in Pakistan.

***Please remember Diya in your prayers during the days to come, specifically interceding for her need of protection, strength and comfort – physically, spiritually and emotionally – as she deals with this terrible situation. Also prayerfully uphold Diya's family members as they desperately seek legal justice on her behalf. May the Pakistani authorities work diligently to return this precious teenage girl to her concerned family and ensure the perpetrators responsible for committing these crimes are duly held accountable.***

## Church Announcements Cont.

**Complimentary Will Clinic** — Join Lisa Robichaud from The King's University on **Thursday, October 17** from **7-9pm at First CRC in Red Deer** (16 McVicar Street) for a Complimentary Will Clinic by John Kok. Learn how you can avoid common mistakes and leave the most for your family. Attendees have a chance to receive one free will and estate consultation from Lorne Penner of Ahlstrom Wright Barristers & Solicitors. RSVP by calling Lisa at 780.803.57060 or by visiting [kingsu.ca/red-deer-will-clinic](http://kingsu.ca/red-deer-will-clinic). Deadline to RSVP is Friday, October 11.

**Paul's Missionary Journeys** in Turkey and the Seven Churches of Revelation - (May 27 - June 8, 2025) Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's first, second, and third missionary journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu).

**October is Rehoboth's Annual Donation Drive!** We invite you to become a *Friend* of Rehoboth and support our ministry of supporting persons with developmental disabilities to flourish. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated and help us to grow our reach. You can donate, subscribe to the newsletter or learn more about Rehoboth at [www.rcmflourish.ca](http://www.rcmflourish.ca) Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

## Reframe Ministries

**Kids Corner:** Beatitude 1: Depend on God - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Matthew 5:3 is all about dependence. But what does it mean to depend on God? Can you think of one way to practice relying on God this week? Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like the Liz and Friend Story Podcast: Change of Plans.

**Groundwork:** Live a Holy Life Set Apart for God - When the culture we live in makes our faith feel restrictive, the apostle Peter encourages believers to embrace a new perspective. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Peter 1:13-2:3 to learn what it means to live a holy life, set apart by God for his purposes, and how God's Word provides the spiritual sustenance we need to maintain an active faith in all circumstances. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

## Thrive

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Today is All Nations Heritage Sunday! To celebrate and give thanks to God for the beautiful gift of diversity, learn how to say "Thank you, God" in a new language every day this week. Practice these phrases as you pray with thanks to God for your siblings in Christ around the globe. Thank you, God! For more information about how you can support growing diversity in CRC ministries, leadership, and congregations, visit [crcna.org/AllNations](http://crcna.org/AllNations). Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## Deacon's Corner ~ Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Doug D., Justin D.

### Upcoming Offerings

#### **October 6 - Burden Bearers**

If this is the first time you've looked into counselling we want you to know that choosing to get help is often half the victory already. Burden Bearers has been helping the troubled and needy since 1974. A not-for-profit counselling group dedicated to enhancing the emotional, physical, relational, historical, and spiritual well-being of all who come for counsel.

Affordable • Accessible • Accountable • 403.804.8589 • Sundre • Rocky Mountain House

#### **October 13 - Local Church Ministries**

Local Church Ministries goes to cover all our budget commitments: staff, office expenses, power, heat, insurance, children's programs, mission support and ministry shares.

#### **October 14 - Thanksgiving Day - The Lord's Foodbank**

The Lord's Food Bank is a Christian ministry for those who are facing hunger, providing relief through our food pantry, Little Reds and hot meals. We provide spiritual care through messages given by local pastors, and prayer for clients' personal needs. God has a heart of compassion for those who are in need and provides for them through ministries like this one; we want to show that love to all who come in.

*We will be having a reverse offering for The Lord's Foodbank - the deacons will have slips of paper with items the foodbank is in need of. Bring your offering on October 13 or 14 to bless the foodbank!*

## From the Deacons & Treasurer

There are several ways to give to the church:

**Coupons** allow you to give to the weekly offerings, without having to use loose change. They come in \$2, \$5 and \$10 coupons. You will be receipted for the amount of coupons you purchase. Coupons can be directly purchased from a Deacon, in the Council room on Sunday morning, after the service. They expire at the end of each year.

**Budget/Local Church Ministries** - Write to "First Christian Reformed Church of RMH". If you wish to have your cheque allocated to a specific cause approved by the deacons or otherwise announced please indicate that cause on the memo line of your cheque.

**E-transfers** - send to [treasurer@rockycrc.ca](mailto:treasurer@rockycrc.ca) on the memo please specify the cause you would like money allocated to.

**Pre-Authorized Bank Withdrawals** - Contact Marlene O. to sign up or get a form from the office.

## Prayer Ministry

There are times in life when everything seems overwhelming- times when you can't find answers or you don't know where to turn. But in every season of life the Spirit invites us into a relationship with God through prayer.

This is how we align our hearts with His. It is reassuring to know He is there and is listening.

Whatever you are going through-times of beauty or ones of trouble - we'd love to pray with you.

Contact the team through email, the church office, phone call or through the website anonymously.

Visit [www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca) (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link)

## From Council

Council would like to thank this fall's elder and deacon nominees for their prayerful consideration of these positions of leadership. We are especially thankful that **John M., Brenda B., Joel S., Cody L. and Sheldon B.** who have let their names stand for **elder, and for Jim D., Mark H. and Dave V.** who have let their names stand for the position of **deacon**. If anyone has weighty concerns about the ability of these individuals to lead in our church, please talk to your elder or Pastor Ken. On **October 13** the congregation will have an opportunity to affirm these names for consideration and on **October 20**, we will be drawing names and those whose names are drawn will be **installed (Lord willing) on October 27**.

Please also be in prayer for Pastor Natasha as she prepares for her Classical Examination coming up in October.

**Do you enjoy Hospitality?** Our church has been growing and council would like to help us welcome new members and deepen existing relationships in our church. We are looking for people to sign up as Weekly Hosts who will be prepared to invite guests and/or others over for lunch after Church. We are hoping to have enough people sign up that your turn would only come up every few months. Please sign up on the bulletin board as you enter the fellowship hall. This would begin in the fall, but in the meantime, we encourage everyone to take time to get to know our new members and to spend time deepening the relationships we have with each other.

## From the Office

**Are you technology oriented?** We are in **DESPERATE NEED** of some more people to join our sound team for our Sunday Services and events. If this is something you may be interested in, please contact Glen D. for more info.

## Upcoming Events

**October 22-26** - Directory photos being taken - contact Marlene K. for more information

**Sunday, October 27** - Worship services at Clearwater Centre (1:15 pm) and Westview Lodge (2:30 pm)

**Sunday, November 10** - Lord's Supper

## Church Announcements

**Cadets** are going to be doing some woodworking projects and are looking for some items to have in the shop: a drill press, scroll saw and belt sander. If you are able to help the Cadets out, contact Bob A., Mark H. John M. or Alan O.

**Sunday evening study** is from Deeper Walk International, which focuses on helping people grow in their walk with God. We hope you can join us **Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm**.

**Assistance required** - Expectant young Christian mom with toddler in need of a mentor home to take her in for approximately 6 months. She is able to contribute towards rent although not fully. *This is an extremely urgent situation.* If you are able to consider investing in someone's life this way, please contact Pastor Ken for more information.

**60+ Bible Study** will be starting **Monday October 21 @ 2:00pm**. We will be studying a video series called "In the Dust of the Rabbi". If you have any questions, please contact Wilma T. or Pastor Natasha.

**You are invited** to witness, Mark B. and Carmen D., as they commit their lives in marriage on Saturday, October 19 @ 12pm at Covenant CRC.

**Calling all Men – Nov 1-3<sup>rd</sup>**, Frontier Lodge is hosting another Sons and Brothers Men's Retreat. Talk to those who have gone the last couple of years to get a taste of what its all about. There's great food, engaging teaching, personal time, optional outdoor activities and times to connect with the other men from our church. Arrive between 4 and 6pm on the Friday and it all wraps up at 2pm on Sunday. The cost is \$199. Register online at [Frontierlodge.ca/sons-and-brothers](http://Frontierlodge.ca/sons-and-brothers). Don't miss it! Let Pastor Ken know if you are interested or if you have any questions.

Noise Getting to You? Tired of Busy? Since January 2005 **InterMission Silent Retreat** has offered time away for prayer and self reflection, and rest. Consider Jesus's invitation, "Come away with me by yourself and get some rest." 2 nights accommodation, 5 meals, private room, up to 3 sessions of spiritual direction, all the amenities of the retreat centre. Nov. 1-3, 2024, Star of the North Retreat Centre, St. Albert. \$500. To register email [rev.klok@gmail.com](mailto:rev.klok@gmail.com)

**NADC Refugee Workshop and sharing session** - We invite all deacons, others involved in working with refugees and all interested to join us on **Wednesday, October 9 at 7 pm at West End CRC**. Martine Ooms, long time refugee coordinator at Inglewood CRC, will lead us in a time of learning and discussion on refugee sponsorship in our churches. We will also have a time of sharing best diaconal experiences and practices in our congregations. We look forward to a good evening of learning and sharing together. If possible, send us an email at [yournadc@gmail.com](mailto:yournadc@gmail.com) or call Jeremy Stork at 780.722.9388 by October 7 so we can plan refreshments. All are welcome!