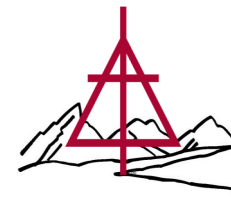


Upcoming Events

November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28	November 29	November 30
10:00am Worship service Sunday School card # 12 Youth @ Natalie and Lorraine H. 7:00pm Bible study @ Church	7:00pm Friendship	<i>Office: Cheri-Lynn</i> 9:30am Coffeekbreak 7:30pm Full Council	8:30am Prayer meeting in prayer room 1-2:30pm Griefshare 7:00 pm GEMS & Cadets 7:00 pm Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:30 am Crafting group 1:30 pm WPC meeting	7-9pm Youth Mall Madness (Bower Mall)	
December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7
10:00am Worship service 1:15pm Clearwater Centre 2:30 pm Westview Lodge 6:00pm Community Christmas Service Youth at Adrian and Tammy Blaak's	7:00pm Friendship	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 9:30am Coffeekbreak 1:00 pm Seniors Bible Study	8:30am Prayer meeting in prayer room 1-2:30pm Griefshare	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 1:30pm WPC meeting	3-7pm Global Wonders in church social hall	9:00am Youth Bottle Drive 1:30pm Cpmunity drop in hymn sing @ Nazarene Church

All bulletins can be found online www.firstcrocky.ca

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website (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 780.728.8148

Pastor Natasha Specht- pastornatasha@rockycrc.ca (Monday -Thursday)

Church Office: Tuesday — Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm office@rockycrc.ca



Morning Worship Service

Welcome

- ♪ I Lift My Eyes Up
- ♪ Our God Reigns

Call to Worship

God's Greeting/We welcome One Another
♪ Take us to the River

Call to Confession/Prayer of confession
Assurance of Pardon

- ♪ Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

Installation of Jim D. as deacon

Children's Message - Joel S.

Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering - Canadian Food Grains Bank

Offertory

Scripture - Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 6:24-34,
2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Message - Our Generous Host

- ♪ Take My Life and Let it Be

Blessing

- ♪ The Blessing

H
E
L
P
I
N
G
H
A
N
D
S

Thank you, for all you do!	November 24	December 1	December 8
	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken
Serving Elder	Alan H.	Karl H.	Jessica H.
Serving Deacon	Mark H.	Lorraine A.	Peter B.
Music Team	Six Track	The Experience	Lifted Hearts
Children's Message	Joel S.	Pastor Ken	Joel S.
Nursery	Janelle V., Brenda B. Marisa P., Teslynn A.	Sara D., Rita B., Marlene O., Shanelle T.	Jacob & Jennifer L. Stephanie C., Caleb O.
Coffee Host	Albert & Sjoukje V.	Hank & Bettie K.	Peter & Josephine B.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Jamie & Rhianna M. Cody & Teagan L.	Robert & Brenda B. Pierre & Ria J.	Peter & Trudy d. Doug & Karen D.

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.firstercrocky.ca or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse on Facebook](#)

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 **Mountain Bible Chapel**.

† congratulations to **Bill B.** who will celebrate his birthday this **Wednesday Nov. 27**.

† 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 that God's Word will spread. Obstacles must be removed to allow God's Word to be spread rapidly and freely and missionaries need strength to continue on in the face of opposition or difficulties. Just as Aaron & Hur supported Moses' arms in battle against the Amalekites (Ex. 17:12), you can strengthen the arms of missionaries by supporting them through your prayers; for strength and stamina as they encounter antagonistic spiritual forces (Eph. 6:10-18), that people will resist Satan's plans to obstruct the spread of the gospel (James 4:7) and that God's Word will indeed spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes.

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, Pastor Natasha, an elder or deacon.

Elders are

Anthony B., Sheldon B., Alan H., Karl H., Jessica H., Cody L., John M., Alan O., Joel S., Chris T. and Gary V.

Deacons are

Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Jim D., Justin D., and Mark H.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 1 (6:00 pm) Community Christmas Service

Sunday, December 22 - Lord's Supper



"I never realized what a great privilege it is to be able to use the voice for Christ until I was deprived of it."

~ Adoniram Judson (1788-1850)
Served as a missionary in Myanmar

CHINA: Coordinated Church Raids Continue Throughout China

Recent incidents of police action against churches in China demonstrate the ongoing persecution of believers throughout this Communist nation. These raids are only the latest to occur amid the government's intensifying crackdown on Christianity. To learn more about the governmental opposition experienced by Christians in China, go to our [country report](#).

On November 10th, the Putian Puguang Church in Fujian was stormed by police during the believers' Sunday worship service. As a result of the raid, three pastors – along with three other staff members – were taken into custody and detained at the local police station.

A week prior to this incident, churches in several parts of the country were simultaneously raided by national security personnel. Several house churches in Nanjing were attacked and, in one particular case, a pastor and seven other Christians were detained. The police warned the church members that because their meeting place has not been officially registered with the Communist government, it's illegal.

In Changsha, Hunan Province, several house churches were also raided on November 3rd. The largest of these congregations, the Grace Light Church, has been subjected to weekly interruptions by police for refusing to join the government-recognized Three-Self Patriotic Movement. Although members of the Grace Light Church presently meet in five different locations throughout the city, a substantial number of officers stormed the church's various locations simultaneously.

On behalf of the many believers in China who are encountering ongoing harassment from the government, pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to comfort, sustain and refresh their weary souls while they patiently endure opposition. As a result, may they increase in spiritual fervour and strength, providing them the empowerment to not only respond in a Christ-like manner, but also faithfully proclaim the Gospel message throughout their communities so multitudes more will personally acknowledge Jesus as their Saviour.

Church Announcements continued

NEEDED- Looking for extra artificial Christmas Trees to decorate church, **1 foot to 4 feet tall ASAP (Needed this week)** Let me know what you have. Talk to Arlene L..

Global Wonders of Hope is a social enterprise of the SA Foundation. Join us on **Friday, December 6 from 3 -7pm** in the social hall for some ethically and socially conscious shopping and support survivors of exploitation! (www.beaglobalwonder.com) The SA Foundation provides skill development training, as well as, safe and fair employment opportunities to women survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. All of the products are handmade by survivors and 100% of the proceeds from each sale are invested back into the program.

Hospitality hosts - This past summer, 10 people signed up to be Hospitality hosts. These families and individuals will be part of a rotation that will be intentional about welcoming people to their homes after church to help enfold newer members and build community in our church. If you signed up, please plan on staying after church on Dec 8 for a potluck lunch to discuss how we can make this ministry of hospitality most effective. We hope to officially begin this in the New Year. If you would still like to be part of this ministry, please feel free to join us. You will be contacted about what to bring for lunch.

In the service today, we are watching a video about generosity put out by the Bible Project. If you would like to watch it again, you can do so at the following site: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/generosity>

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - This week try playing the alphabet game using the topic "Things I'm grateful for." Prayers can take many forms, and naming things A-Z is a great way to remember that "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows" (James 1:17, NIV). Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Beatitude 8: Following God (Even When It's Hard) - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. In Matthew 5:10, Jesus explained that his friends would be persecuted or punished for following him. Today, people will make fun of us, be mean, or even hurt us, and there are many countries in the world where being a Christian is tough. Jesus told us we would face problems because of our faith, but we can stay joyful because Jesus is king over everything. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Story of Paul's Conversion.

Groundwork: Your Questions about Christmas - Did the Christmas story really happen? Wasn't Christmas originally a pagan holiday? Why do some churches celebrate Advent? Join Groundwork as we study Luke 2:1-7, John 1:5, Isaiah 53:4-6, and Psalm 78:1-6 to let Scripture guide our discussion answering questions we've received about Christmas and Advent. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Deacon's Corner ~ Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Jim D., Justin D., Mark H.

Upcoming Offerings

November 24 - Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Working together to end global hunger! Canadian Foodgrains Bank is rooted in the belief that humankind is created in the image of God and that it is God's desire that no person should go hungry.

December 1- 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.

Gratefully Received Nov 10 - 17

Local Church Ministries **27,855**, Refugee Sponsorship **743**, Cadets **2000**, Foodbank **100**

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.

Cheque - 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 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.

75th Anniversary

With Remembrance Day just past and thinking ahead to our church's 75th anniversary in 2025, it seemed a good time to be looking at the historical facts and people's anecdotes about life during the forties, the mass exodus of Dutch people to Canada and more specifically to Alberta and Rocky Mountain House.

Watch the bulletin each week where we'll all take a walk down memory lane.

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 (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link)

Church Announcements

Updating the phone directory - if you have had a change in address or phone number (a cell number instead of a land line), or you would like to have a church mailbox, please contact Lena F. or the office.

Friendship has been blessed with several new friends (5 in the past few weeks) and is **REALLY** in need of more teachers. It would be wonderful if each friend had their own teacher. Please prayerfully consider helping in this outreach for our community. If you have any questions or want to volunteer, contact Corinne S. or Sjoukje V.

Cadets Thank you - It seems fitting after a safe and successful Cadet firewood fundraiser to say thank you: to the parents, grandparents and friends of the cadets who were there Saturday working up a sweat running chainsaws, splitters and a wood processor. Thank you to those who let us use their log splitters, trucks and trailers and to Jo-Ann O. for letting us take over the V & O yard for 2 days. Lastly, we are deeply grateful to Dick O., who before he passed away this spring, made sure that Cadets had free logs to turn into firewood. We thank God for the blessing of community!

Advent is approaching, and this season can be filled with many different emotions ranging from joy and sadness. Pastor Natasha and Bettie would like to invite you to a **4 week Advent Bible Study**. We will be meeting on Monday, **November 25 @ 10:00 am** at Bettie and Gordon's home. Please contact Natasha or Bettie V. if you are interested.

Pregnancy Care Centre Annual Dessert Evening Fundraiser - will be on **Thursday, December 5th**. This is a free event, but please register, (RSVP by November 25 403.871.5111), so we can ensure you and your guests are seated comfortably. For more information check poster on bulletin board in the hallway.

Attention Seniors - we are planning a Christmas Social for **Monday, December 9**, in the social hall. Please save the date! Plan to come at 11:30 when we'll gather in the church sanctuary and then to the social hall for lunch at 12:00. If you would like to contribute a story/reading/poem or share a joke or a game, please let me (Ella) know. Everyone is welcome - cost for the lunch is \$10 - hope to see you all there!

Families are welcome to join us at the Rocky Arena for some skating fun on **Saturday December 7 from 5:30-6:30 pm**. We will have snacks and hot chocolate! Ask **Cailyn, Kelsey or Krystal** if you need more info. See you there.

Church Announcements

The Immanuel Lutheran Playschool is looking for someone to fill the position of **Playschool Director** starting Aug 2025. The potential candidate needs to love working with children and families, have a current Child Care Worker certification, and will be able to provide a safe, educational, fun and God praising experience for every child that attends, and be a regularly attending member of a church. If you are interested, please send your resume to office@rockylutherans.com. A job posting is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Dave Ramsey Financial Workshop The Bethel CRC, Lacombe Deacons are excited to offer a 3-part workshop led by a Dave Ramsey presenter. During this workshop, we will learn:

- How to deal with debt
- How to invest wisely for the future
- How to give generously
- How to live our biblical truths regarding money.

If you are interested, please mark your calendars for **January 11, 18 & 25, 2025** from 9 - 3:00pm.

Registration is \$80.00 per participant (includes lunch on all three Saturdays, book, and workbook) To register please use the QR code, or email bchurch2@shaw.ca Registration deadline is December 14.

Free to Serve: Synod Decisions, Canadian Churches and Local Ministry: According to the Q+A that was sent from the CRC office, Synod made several major decisions that are having and will have profound impacts on CRC congregations' ministry. As a result of these, churches are experiencing concerns in recruiting office bearers; concerns in young persons' decisions to profess their faith, concerns of churches in our classes being put under limited suspension; high level decisions by the Canadian-minority Synod that have impacted the day-to-day functioning and hopes of many congregations in Canada.

Towards a Christian Reformed Church in Canada (website [here](http://www.towardsarc.ca)) invites you to a conversation about these concerns: how do these changes impact us locally? Five church leaders from across Canada will talk about their experiences. Join Zoom (link [here](https://www.zoom.us/j/9201212121)) on Tuesday, Dec. 3 in the late afternoon/evening: 5 PT, 6 MT, 7 CT, 8 ET, 9 AT. Blessings, Peter Bulthuis, for the Towards a CRC in Canada team.

The Interim Committee of Classis Alberta North

Classis Treasurer – to commence July 1, 2025. The treasurer looks after all the financial matters for Classis and should have a basic understanding of book-keeping. The treasurer serves on the Classis Interim Committee (CIC) which meets about 9 times a year in Edmonton to conduct the affairs of Classis between classis meetings. The treasurer is also an ex officio member of the Student Support Team, which meets 3 times a year. The treasurer will be supported by Mike Vos who will continue to serve as alternate treasurer. For more information, contact Mike Vos, Classis Treasurer, at classistreasurer@gmail.com.

Alternate Stated Clerk – to commence in March of 2025. That alternate stated clerk fills in for the Stated Clerk when that person is unable to fulfil the duties of that position. Stated clerk duties include preparing the agenda, support documents and minutes for all Classis meetings and meetings of the Classis Interim Committee, as well as looking after all Classis correspondence. The stated clerk also serves on the Classis Interim Committee (CIC) which meets about 9 times a year in Edmonton to conduct the affairs of Classis between classis meetings. For more information contact Gary Duthler, Stated Clerk, at classisstatedclerk@gmail.com.