



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

♪ As We Gather

Call to Worship

God's Greeting/We welcome One Another

♪ Wings of an Eagle

Lord's Supper

♪ Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

♪ Be Unto Your Name

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering for Tribal Trails

Offertory

Scripture - John 5:1-17

Message - Healing at the Pool

♪ To the River

Blessing

♪ Amen, Listen to our Prayer

Children's Message - Pastor Natasha

Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

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.

www.firstcrocky.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 **Covenant Christian Reformed Church**.

† Birthday congratulations to **Lucy T.** who will celebrate her birthday on the **7th**, may the Lord bless you in the year ahead.

† Pray for **Marilyn H.** , **Pearl V.** and **Margaret V.** who are currently in the Rocky Hospital and **T.** in the Drayton Valley hospital.

† **Val and Elaine L.** have moved away from our community. They thank everyone who made them feel welcome and for all the support they've received over the past couple of years from our church community.

† We pray for those at home: **Sylvia D.** , **Marvin W.**, **Gus V.** and **Joe & Lena V.**. For those at the local care facilities: **Joan S.** and **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. 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 the Holy Spirit will provide missionaries with words that communicate effectively in other cultures and languages, that they will have boldness to overcome the fear of embarrassment or failure, and 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, 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.

Memories leading up to our 75th Anniversary

H. Family

Ingrid H. left the Netherlands at the age of 17 with her parents, two older brothers and a sister-in-law in 1949. Ingrid's two brothers wanted to farm and had limited opportunity in The Netherlands to obtain land for this purpose. Looking for farm land enticed them to Canada, and when they decided to immigrated, Ingrid's father decided to go as well. It then became a family venture.

Immigrants needed a sponsor and Ingrid's family was sponsored by a sugar beet farmer from the Leth bridge area. The family settled into a primitive home, more like a wooden granary. This was a large step down from the home they had left behind. The family worked the sugar beet fields for one year. Once the sponsorship was completed, the search for appropriate farmland was undertaken, and in 1951 a farm was purchased in the Alhambra area. To help pay for the farm, family members undertook work on other farms, the railway, oil fields, and in a meat packing plant. In 1952, Ingrid married Jack H., and immigrant from the same village in the Netherlands who had come to Canada on his own in 1948.

Looking for adventure, Jack H. left The Netherlands to immigrate to Canada at the age of 24 in 1948, initially travelling to Piers, Manitoba where his uncle resided. Ten months later Jack moved to the Leth-bridge area to begin work with a farmer and build a barn after answering an ad in The Western Producer. Following his marriage to Ingrid , Jack's future was, for the next 25 years, closely bound to the Wadman family.

Ingrid's parents were the first to move and live on the farm in the Alhambra district. Ingrid and Jack, as well as Ingrid's brothers, continued to work off the farm for a while longer in order to earn enough to establish dairy and beef herds. It wasn't until 1977 that Jack established his own renovation and new build company.

Ingrid's parent, Egbert and Barbara W., were the first to attend the (First) Christian Reformed Church. With poor English skills, a feeling of loneliness drove them to seek out others who spoke Dutch or Frisian. The most likely place for this was the church in Rocky Mountain House. It was several years later before Ingrid and Jack began attending the same church. For them the choice was more about giving their three children a Christian education, enabling them to make an informed decision regarding beliefs and lifestyle. In time, the whole family attended the CRC. As time has passed, there have now been five generations of W. Family descendants at the First CRC

Upcoming Events

February 2	February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8
10:00am Worship service Lord's Supper Sunday School Story Card #25 7:00pm Romans Bible Study	7:00pm Friendship 7:00pm Griefshare	<i>Office: Cheri-Lynn</i> 9:30am Coffee Break 1:00pm Seniors Bible Study 7:30pm Deacons	8:30am Prayer meeting 7:00pm GEMS & CADETS 7:00 pm Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:30am Craft Morning 7:30pm Men's Bible study		
February 9	February 10	February 11	February 12	February 13	February 14	February 15
10:00am Worship service Sunday School Story Card #28 7:00pm Romans Bible Study	7:00pm Friendship 7:00pm Griefshare	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 9:30am Coffee Break	8:30am Prayer meeting	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 7:30pm Men's Bible study		

All bulletins can be found online www.firstcrocky.ca

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website (firstcrocky.ca) for links to sermons.

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Thank you, for all you do!	February 2 Pastor Ken	February 9 Pastor Natasha	February 16 Pastor Natasha
Serving Elder	Karl H.	Jessica H.	Cody L.
Serving Deacon	Mark H.	Lorraine A.	Peter B.
Music Team	Mosaic	Lifted Hearts	Six Track
Children's Message	Pastor Natasha	Joel S.	Pastor Ken
Nursery	Marion R., Janelle V. Annette D., Sophia K.	Rita B., Marisa P. Marlene O., Teslynn A.	Brenda B., Shanelle T. Jacob & Jennifer L.
Coffee Host	John & Anita M.	Dave & Sandra S.	Karl & Krystal H.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Logan & Jaylene V. Rob & Fran D.	Glen & Anneleen D. Justin & Courtney D.	Neels & Dina H. Devon & Erin S.

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

Upcoming Offerings

February 2 - Tribal Trails

Tribal Trails was never intended to replace the face-to-face ministry of First Nations believers, churches, pastors, and church-planting missionaries. But television does have unique advantages, and a useful role. Through TV the Gospel is presented to people who would not normally welcome a personal visit nor attend a church meeting. It reaches into many more homes than would be physically possible for missionaries, pastors and evangelists to visit. Tribal Trails has become a "door-opener" — the missionary or pastor who identifies himself with the program often finds that he and his message have already been introduced to the people. Tribal Trails has opened the way for missionaries to settle in new communities. In addition to telecasts, the distribution of Tribal Trails DVD videos have proven to be an effective ministry tool.

February 9 - 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 January 19-26

The Lord's Food Bank \$145 Local Church Ministries \$11,864 Thrive \$838

Deacons will have **2025 coupons available for purchase** in denominations of \$2, \$5, \$10, following the service.

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. Coupons can be directly purchased from a Deacon, in the Council room on Sunday mornings.

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.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 2 - Lord's Supper

Sunday, February 23 - Friendship Service

Sunday, February 23 - Baptism of Lochlan Simmelink

Tuesday, February 25 - Congregational Meeting (7:30pm)

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.

Jean Brouwer (403.845.2357) Anita Middel (middelanita@gmail.com)
Visit www.firstcrocky.ca (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link)

Memories leading up to our 75th Anniversary

This week we feature the story of the **H. family** in our church; why they left Holland and what they found when they arrived.

75th Anniversary Upcoming Events

Fellowship afternoon on **Sunday, February 23 (2:00-6:00pm)**. Come to Arbutus hall for an afternoon of skating, board games, food and fellowship! There will be a fire, so if you bring your own buns and hotdogs, we will supply the condiments, coffee and hot chocolate. Hope to see you all there!

Church Picnic - July 1. If you would like to help out with this event, contact Brenda B., Chris T., Rita B. or Joanne T.

Parade Float - is being organized for June. Contact Ken B. if you are able to assist with this.

A Church Campout is in the planning stages to celebrate our 75th anniversary on August 22-24th. We are looking forward to this campout to enjoy God's creation together as a church family!

Dinner at the community Centre - October 25

THANKYOU! To everyone who participated in any way to the Musical Celebration. We appreciate so much all the time and effort, given with such joy, by so many that made it an afternoon of memories, soul stirring music, fellowship with delicious sweets! All glory to our awesome God. The Anniversary Committee

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: God Created Me - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God deliberately designed each one of us. This means we fit together in God's story like pieces in a giant puzzle. Being part of a huge family means we will always have someone we can help or someone who can teach us. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Valentine Cards.

Groundwork: Jesus Prays for Us - In his High Priestly Prayer, Jesus prayed for us to experience unity and the Father's love, and for the world to know God through our lives. Join Groundwork as we explore John 17:20-26 to witness the depth of Jesus Christ's love for us and discuss what it means to live in the reality of Jesus' prayer. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



Voice of the
Martyrs

PERSECUTION
& PRAYER
ALERT

On January 9th, a 14-year-old Christian girl was kidnapped just outside her home. The abducted teen's family is concerned that those responsible are planning to forcibly convert her to Islam and then make the young girl marry one of her attackers. Saneha Sharif was lured from her home in the Korpur area of Sialkot city by a Muslim girl who had recently moved into the neighbourhood. As soon as Saneha stepped out of the house, she was ambushed by five men who forced her into a van that had been waiting nearby. Two women were also involved in the kidnapping, including the mother of the girl who deceived Saneha.

Police were notified of Saneha's abduction, and two of the perpetrators have since been arrested. However, the main culprits presently remain at large. One of Saneha's captors, a Muslim man named Muhammad Dildar, had previously made unwanted advances towards the young teen. Saneha's parents feel that police are not taking adequate action to recover their daughter. In the aftermath of the incident, Saneha's mother has fallen ill, requiring hospitalization twice for treatment. The girl's father, Sharif Masih, has pled for assistance. "We are very weak and can only plead for the higher authorities to save our daughter from these criminals." Legal assistance has been provided to the family by concerned representatives of Christian organizations.

Under current laws, the minimum marriageable age for Christians in Pakistan is 18. However, girls who have been forcibly converted to Islam are considered Muslim, and thereby can be legally married at a younger age. In order to help prevent this type of crime, a proposed law that would raise the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 years for both Christians and Muslims is presently being deliberated by officials within the Punjab Assembly. For more reports on the persecution of followers of Jesus in Pakistan, go to our [country profile](#).

Pray for the safe recovery of this precious teenage girl, also asking that those responsible for her kidnapping would be soon located and apprehended.

- **As Saneha's parents try to cope during this time of uncertainty and concern, pray that God's supernatural peace, comfort and support will sustain them as they await the hopeful return of their daughter. May necessary laws be passed within Pakistan's legal system that will better protect the country's vulnerable minorities and prevent further cases of abduction from taking place.**

Church Announcements Cont.

Calling all men (High School and up) - You are invited to join us for our **6 week Men's Bible/Video study on Thursday nights from 7:30-9:00pm**. We are studying John Eldredge's video series, *'The Heart of a Man.'* If you have missed a week, you can watch the videos at WildatHeart.org. This week we will be discussing Session 4 - The Battle.

CRC Funeral Fund The CRC Funeral Fund was organized in 1952 by caring people to "Bear Each Others Burdens" The annual fee was set at 1.25 with 28 members participating The society's minutes were written in Dutch till 1968. Over the years the membership has increased to 347 members in 2024. The cost of funerals has also increased considerably over these years.

Last Thursday the Annual General Meeting was held. A few bylaw changes were made for clarification. Copies will be put in mailboxes for everyone to review. The Annual Fee was set at \$70 per person 18 and over. This fee is due before March 15. After that date there will be a penalty of \$10 per person. Funds can be given to Marlene K. or placed in mailbox #79.

Rocky Christian School

Do you have a child who was born in 2020 and is looking forward to **kindergarten** in September? Please join us at the school on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00PM for our Kindergarten Information evening. If you have a child turning 3 or 4 before December 31, 2025 and are interested in signing him/her up for **Pre-Kindergarten**, this evening is for you as well! Four year olds will take precedence for Pre-Kindergarten, but if our program has not reached maximum enrollment by August 1st, registered three year olds will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Bible says, in Colossians 1:16, that, "In him (Jesus) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him."

In school, students learn about 'all things.' It may be packaged into subjects like Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science, but taken together the Alberta Program of Studies is an official collection of all of the things that a student is required to learn.

When Rocky Christian School teaches about 'all things' we understand that we are teaching about a world that was created by Jesus, for Jesus, and through Jesus. Any other way to understand the world is not consistent with what Christians profess to believe and with what the scriptures teach. The 'all things' that Jesus made includes people; you and me. The children of Rocky Christian school learn not only that they were made by Jesus, but also for Him and through Him.

We invite you and your children to become part of a school community that presents 'all things' in the same way that you do.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office at 403-845-3516.

Changes to directory please make to following changes to the directory:

Ken & Joyce S.

Micheal & Lauren W.

Church Announcements

Thankyou - Thanks to the church for the beautiful table decoration of flowers. They have been admired by many people who've come into my room. Please continue to pray for complete healing for my broken leg. The xrays look good so far and it looks like I will be in the hospital for another 6-10 weeks. Please continue to pray for complete healing. Marilyn H.

Thankyou - We would like to thank Bettie and Sandra for all their time and support in coordinating Sunday School for the past four years. Both Bettie and Sandra will be stepping down from this role at the end of this Sunday School year. **We need your help!** We are looking for 2 people who love children and God's Word. If this is you, please come and talk to **Bettie, Sandra or Pastor Natasha**, who will give you the details of what is all involved in being the Sunday School Coordinator.

Thank you to all who have enjoyed the stories from the Netherlands during WW2 and let me know about it. I know I learned a lot and hope you did too!
Marilyn H.

Are you interested in joining a **small group on a Sunday Evening**? Are you interested in a book study? Rob D. is willing to host booking study on C.S Lewis's book Mere Christianity. If you are interested, please talk to Rob or email pastor Natasha @ pastor natasha@rockycrc.ca, so we can order some books.

Pregnancy Care Centre We have had the pleasure of having Kjersti W. as the Centre Director at the Rocky location of the Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre for the past few years. Kjersti has resigned from her position, and we are looking for someone new to take on this role. If you are interested or would like more information, see the poster on the bulletin board or contact Lisa Smith director@pregnancycares.ca

The **Community Warming Shelter** is now open at the Foodbank from 10pm -7am every night. Many different organizations and churches worked together to make this happen and the town, the county and the provincial government have also supported it. It has opened, however, there is **one BIG NEED: the need for VOLUNTEERS!** 2 staff have been hired on a 4 nights on/4 nights off shift, but we need volunteers to work alongside them. If you or anyone you know might be interested in volunteering for a night to support our local homeless population, please contact Lindsay, the volunteer coordinator, at lhunt@mrwsa.net.

KAMP LONGVIEW 2026 - Central Alberta Cadet Council is excited to host another camporee in Alberta! This time in the foothills west of the town of Longview, south west of Calgary. The property is secluded with a beautiful view of the mountains. For sure, many boys and counselors are looking forward to this event being held **July 15 – 22, 2026**. Many volunteers are spending endless hours exploring and planning. Currently we are in the budget stage and soon we have to set the fee for the registration. In order to keep the fee affordable for many families we are seeking your help. For this camp many supplies have to be purchased and equipment rented. A list of all these items has been made and is available online at www.sonriseponoka.com. Look for the logo of Kamp Longview.

If you are able to pledge any of the items, we ask you to email to kamplongview@gmail.com or fill in the form at the bottom of the pledge page on the website. If requested, charitable donation receipts will be arranged. Alternatively you can contact Arjan D., Cor H. or talk to your Cadet counselors.