

Memories leading up to our 75th Anniversary

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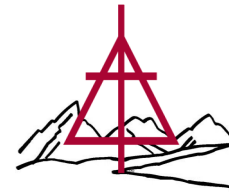
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Fortunately, one of the boys was hired by a new factory in High River manufacturing pre fab homes to be shipped into the north. Again the family lived in a small house with no sewer or water. One bright light was that there was a church in High River where the family could meet with like- minded people.

After a year, the factory closed, so the family was again forced to move in search of work. They found a similar factory in Calgary where several of the children found work. Everyone who worked contributed to the purchase of a two- bedroom house. They all worked together and after work hours, they hand dug a basement. One brother, a bricklayer built the foundation and soon their house doubled in size.

The family learned that their mom's second cousin had settled in Rocky Mountain House, so they contacted them and went for a visit. They had visited with one of the sons in the Netherlands for many years during the war so they renewed acquaintance with him and met the rest of the family.

One of the girls from the Calgary family caught the eye of the ex soldier and she in turn was fascinated by him and the farm he lived on. She helped on the farm any time they came from the city and before long the couple was engaged, then married. They had a family of their own and thus the numbers in the RMH church increased once again.



FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

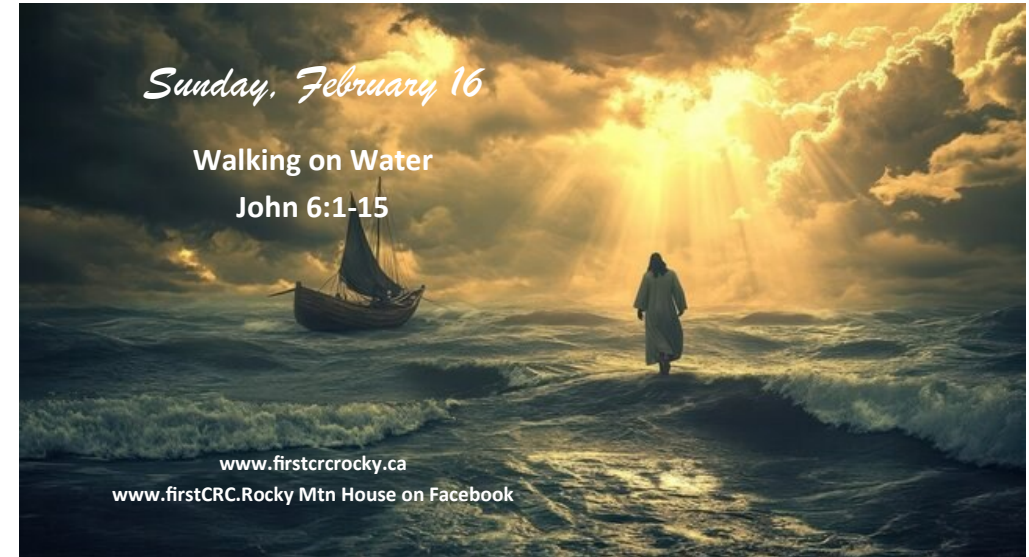
RR3 Site 4 Box 6, Rocky Mountain House, T4T 2A3 403.845.6067

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



Sunday, February 16

Walking on Water

John 6:1-15

www.firstcrocky.ca

[www.firstCRC.Rocky Mtn House on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/firstCRC.RockyMtnHouse)

Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord

Call to Worship

God's Greeting/We welcome One Another

♪ Power if Your Love

Call to Confession & Prayer

♪ For Those Tears I Died

Assurance of Pardon

♪ Christ is Mine Forevermore

Children's Message - Pastor Natasha

Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering for MEL (Medical Equipment Lending) Society

Speaker for MEL- Natasha

Offertory

Scripture - John 6:16-21

Message - Walking on Water

♪ Jesus Strong and Kind/Jesus Loves Me

Blessing

♪ My Light house

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 **Cowboy Church**.

† Pray for **Marilyn H., Margaret V. and Tonia T.** who are in the Rocky Hospital.

† 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. Obstacles must be removed to allow God's Word to spread rapidly and freely, and missionaries need the strength to continue on in the face of opposition or difficulties. Just as Aaron and Hur supported Moses' arms in the battle against the Amalekites (Exodus 17:12), you can strengthen the arms of missionaries by supporting them through your prayers.

Pray ...For strength and stamina as missionaries encounter antagonistic spiritual forces (Ephesians 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.

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Upcoming Events

February 16	February 17	February 18	February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22
10:00am Worship service Guest Speaker from the MEL Society Sunday School Story Card #29 7:00pm Romans Bible Study	No Friendship 7:00pm Griefshare	Office: Cheri-Lynn No Coffee Break 1:00pm Seniors Bible Study 7:30pm Camp Meeting	8:30am Prayer meeting	9:30am Craft Morning 12:00pm Bulletin deadline 7:30pm Men's Bible study		
February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	March 1
10:00am Worship service Baptism - Lochlan S. Friendship Service 1:15 pm Clearwater Centre 2:30 pm Westview Lodge 75th anniversary event 2-6pm Fellowship afternoon @ Arbutus Hall Sunday School Story Card #30 7:00pm Romans Bible Study	Friendship 3:50pm High School Bible Study @Copper Creek 7:00pm Friendship 7:00pm Griefshare	Office: Josephine 9:30am Coffeefreak 7:30pm Congregational Meeting	8:30am Prayer meeting 7:00pm GEMS Cadets Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 1:30pm WPC 7:30pm Men's Bible study		8:30 am Men's Breaksfast

All bulletins can be found online www.firstcrocky.ca

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

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

Upcoming Offerings

February 16 - MEL (Medical Equipment Lending) Society

At the Medical Equipment Lending Society (M.E.L Society), we provide a medical equipment rental service to promote mobility, independence, and improved quality of life. We aim to create a sense of self-worth and prevent the feeling of isolation by considering the needs of each individual in our community. It is a Society that is dependent on volunteers, grant monies, corporate sponsorship and private donations to maintain its operations and keep its doors open. The M.E.L. Society currently operates out of a bay located in the town of Rocky Mountain House.

403.845.7470 melsociety@telus.net Bay 2, 4907 - 44 Street, Rocky Mountain House

February - 23 - Canadian Food Grains Bank (World Renew Canada)

As one of the founding members of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, World Renew multiplies your impact through food security programs. Around the world, floods have washed away crops and drought have left farmlands barren. But together we can end global hunger!

Gratefully Received February 2-9

Local Ministries 7942.00, Tribal Trails 1289.00

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 23 - Friendship Service and baptism of Lochlan Simmelink

Sunday, February 23 - Services at Clearwater Centre (1:15pm) and Westview Lodge (2:30pm)

Sunday, February 23 - 75th anniversary Fellowship event at Arbutus Hall (2:00-6:00pm)

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

Saturday, March 1 - Men's Breakfast (8:30am)

Sunday March 2 - Potluck lunch - conversation about how to be the hands and feet of Jesus

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Thank you, for all you do!	February 16	February 23	March 2
	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken
Serving Elder	Cody L.	John M.	Alan O.
Serving Deacon	Peter B.	Ken B.	Jim D.
Music Team	Six Track	Friendship Band	Mosaic
Children's Message	Pastor Natasha	Joel S.	Corinne S.
Nursery	Brenda b., Shanelle T. Jacob & Jennifer L.	Mark & Jessica H., Stephanie C., Caleb O.	Mark & Jessica H., Stephanie C., Caleb O.
Coffee Host	Karl & Sandra H.	Mark & Keanna H.	Chris & Regan T.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Neels & Dina H. Devon & Erin S.	Albert & Sjoukje V., Jason & Tanya P.	David & Stephanie C., Alan & Jacqueline H.

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.

Council Notes

The Congregational meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 25 @ 7:30pm. The meeting packages with financials are in your mailboxes, extra copies are available from the office.

New District lists are in your mailbox. If you are not currently on a district list and would like to be, please contact the office.

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.

Rocky Parade - we are putting a float in the parade on June 7. If you would like to help out with this, please contact Ken Brouwer.

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



Voice
of the
Martyrs

PERSECUTION
& PRAYER
ALERT

"Let us not forget: we are a pilgrim church, subject to misunderstanding, to persecution; but a church that walks serene, because it bears the force of love."

INDIA: Christian Couple Released on Bail

In a *Persecution & Prayer Alert* report published earlier this month, it was revealed that a pastor and his wife in India had been convicted of allegedly attempting to convert Dalit villagers within their community. Pastor Jose Pappachan and his wife Sheeja were both fined and sentenced to five years in prison our [previous report](#)).

Following a rapid decision by the Allahabad High Court, the ministering couple has since been released on bail. After the bail documents were presented to the court on January 31st, the Christians' hearing took place on February 5th. Sheeja was released later that same day, while Pastor Jose's release occurred the next day. It was reported that, throughout the ordeal, the Christian couple remained strong in their faith. Pastor Jose was able to proclaim, "Don't worry, God is with me."

Shibu Thomas, who serves as the founder of the Indian organization, Persecution Relief, expressed his gratitude for the swift legal proceedings. The Christian leader believes that prayer played a key role in the court's decision to grant bail. While hoping for an acquittal, he stated that the couple's lawyers intend to continue the legal battle to exonerate Pastor Jose and Sheeja.

- ***Praise God for the recent release of these faithful Christian ministers of the Gospel!***
 - ***Pray that all charges against Pastor Jose and Sheeja will be dropped, and that this missionary couple will be free to carry on their ministry activities without further interference.***
- Pray that Christians will continue to serve as vibrant testimonies throughout India, helping to meet the physical, mental and spiritual needs of those within their communities so that multitudes more will come to saving faith in Christ.***

Church Announcements

All men are invited to come to a **men's breakfast Saturday, March 1st at 8:30** in the Fellowship hall. We will share a great breakfast and then hear from Chad V. who will share a bit about the connection between work and worship. There will be a free will offering and all men High School and up are welcome to attend.

Follow up conversation about community needs: Initially we had hoped to do a potluck and conversation about how to be the hands and feet of Christ this Sunday, but it won't be happening today after all. We apologize for the confusion. The **new date will be March 2**. Hope you are able to join us then.

Mark your Calendars!! Christian Stewardship Services (CSS) is now in the second half of their Winter Conversation Series. The upcoming evening Webinars are on February 27 (**Joint accounts**), March 11 (**Best choice for Executor and POA**) and March 27 (**One receipt and online giving**); Don't miss them. You can find the RSVP links on our website at [Events](#). CSS can assist you in the preparation of your Will, or help you with your regular or preparation of major gifts. These services are available to any CRC member without charge, or obligation. If you have decided in your heart to give, we can help!

Carol Monteiro

Marketing & Partner Relations Coordinator

Email: carolm@csservices.ca

Phone:(800) 267-8890 ext. 213

The Rocky and District Ministerial Association - will be having their **6th Annual Prayer Breakfast Wednesday March 12 7:00-8:30am** at the **Lou Soppit Community Centre**. If you would like to attend tickets are \$20.00 and will be available through the church office.

Classis Alberta North Emerging adults (March 14 - 8pm to March 16 - 1pm) are invited to a ski/fellowship weekend in Nordegg and Lake Louise. People can arrive at Nordegg on Friday March 14th after 8pm. The plan will be to leave for a ski/fun day at Lake Louise at 6:30am Saturday and then return to Nordegg for dinner at about 6:30pm. Accommodations will be at 1245 and 1243 Tamarack Trail in Nordegg. The group will attend church at the Nordegg Community church at 10am and then after lunch, begin heading home. The cost for lift tickets at Lake Louise is \$185 for the day. There are other fun day options like tubing available for a lower cost. Here is a link to their website. <https://www.skilouise.com>. To help offset the cost for accommodations, dinner and breakfasts, we are asking for a donation of \$40 per person. Everyone must bring along a sleeping bag, air mattress and pillow. (THIS EVENT IS LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE SO PLEASE SEND IN THE REGISTRATION ASAP).

Kids Corner: God's Call for Justice - Check out this week's kids' devotion "God's Call for Justice" at

ReFrame Ministries

www.kidscorner.net. God saw injustice in Israel. Through the prophet Isaiah, God spoke out against their wrong. He protested to help the Israelites make a change! Will you join God in his call for justice? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Church in Action Comic Book.

Kids in Action Video - Kids in Action host Maya meets Hudson and Cole performing incredible stunts, balancing acts, and juggling...lots of juggling. Check out more YouTube Kids in Action videos at kidscorner.net/kids-in-action. Kids in Action, a web series by Kids Corner, tells stories of amazing kids who are doing God's work right now.

Church Announcements

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**.

Are you interested in doing an in-depth study of Revelation? Beginning Tuesday, **March 11 @ 1:00 pm**, meeting here at church in the council room, we will be beginning a new Bible Study on Revelation. You are welcome to join us in learning and building community together. Any questions contact Pastor Natasha.

High School Bible study (grades 9-12) begins on **Monday, February 10**. We will be meeting at Copper Creek Cafe after school. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Natasha. I hope to see you there!

Sunday night book study on C.S Lewis's book *Mere Christianity* will begin in April on Sunday evenings. If you are interested, please talk to Rob or email pastor Natasha @ pastor_natasha@rockycrc.ca, so we can order some books.

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.

CRC Funeral Fund - 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.

The **Community Warming Shelter** is now open at the Foodbank from 8pm - 8am 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.

Co-Impact Construction Team Opportunity with EduDeo Ministries - Are you looking for an opportunity to be a co-worker in God's service and impact a global community? EduDeo Ministries is seeking 8 -10 individuals of all skill levels to join an open Co-Impact Construction Team to Belize. This team will work alongside local contractors on a school construction project while engaging with students. Beyond the construction, you'll also be building meaningful relationships with fellow team members and the local community! Deadline to join the team is Friday, February 21st, 2025. If interested, contact Jen Lewis, EduDeo's Community Relationship Manager at 905.387.9927, jlewis@edudeo.com, or visit <https://edudeo.com/coimpact>