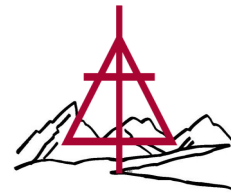


## Upcoming Events

Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4	Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7
10:00am Worship Service  Sunday School Story Card #72	7:00 pm Friendship	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 7:30pm Deacons	7:00 pm Cadets  GEMS	9:30 am Ladies Craft Group  12:00pm Bulletin deadline		
Oct 8	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11	Oct 12	Oct 13	Oct 14
10:00am Worship Service	10:00am Thanksgiving Service	<i>Office: Keanna</i> 7:30pm Admin		12:00pm Bulletin deadline	Classis Meeting, First CRC Red Deer	Classis Meeting, First CRC Red Deer

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

**Church Office: Josephine:** Tuesday — Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm

**Keanna:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm; Thursday 12:45pm to 2:45pm



H E L P I N G H A N D S	Thank you, for all you do!			
	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	
	Pastor Ken D.	Pastor Ken D.	Pastor Ken V.	
<b>Serving Elder</b>	Jeanette S.	Dave S.	Albert V.	
<b>Serving Deacon</b>	Lowell S.	Nic V.	Pete B.	
<b>Music Team</b>	Mosaic	The Experience	Mosaic	
<b>Children's Message</b>	Corinne S.	Pastor Ken	Joel S.	
<b>Nursery</b>	Anita M., Margo D., Sjoukje V., Lucas H.	Karl & Krystal H., Colleen T., Shanelle T.	Justin & Mikala D., Marie A., Chelsey B.	
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Henry & Lorraine A.	Chris & Regan T.	David & Stephanie C.	
<b>Greeters/Coffee Cleanup</b>	Rita B. & Debbie S.  Mark & Jessica H.	Andrew & Delanea D.  Rennie & Tina K.	John & Anita M.  Bill & Marilyn S.	

### Morning Worship Service

Welcome 🎵 Be Unto Your Name	Children's Message— Corinne S. Sunday School for Ages 3 to Grade 5
Call to Worship	Announcements and Congregational Prayer
God's Greeting and We Welcome One Another 🎵 I Stand Amazed	Offering - Coyote Creek Chapel Offertory
Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession 🎵 Take My Life (Holiness)	Scripture: Matthew 5:17-20 Message: Kingdom Living: Sermon on the Mount, The Impossible Challenge
Assurance of Pardon God's Will For Our Lives 🎵 Sanctuary/Shine On Us	🎵 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
	Parting Blessing 🎵 We Are Marching

## 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 to 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

*"...Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

*~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16 ~*

† 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 **Memorial Presbyterian Church**.

† Birthday congratulations go out to **Case K.** who will celebrate his birthday on **October 2nd**. May God bless you in the coming year!

† We pray for **Kyle & Trina A.** and their kids as they mourn the loss of a child.

† We pray for those at home: **Pearl V., Elly O., Anneke O., Sylvia D.** and **Joe & Lena V.**. For those at care facilities: **Tonia T.** (Westview Lodge), **Diane W.** and **Dick O.** (Clearwater Centre); **Seenie B.** and **Dick O.** (Park Avenue), and 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. Join us in praying that: God will open doors of ministry, blessing partnerships and friendships, for strength and stamina, that the Holy Spirit will provide them with words that communicate effectively in other cultures and languages, that God will keep them safe, for an abundant harvest that will be produced as more people learn about the love of Christ, and for restoration — physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually — that can only be found in Jesus.

*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., Jessica H., Alan O., John O., Jeannette S., Chris T., Dave S., Albert V. and Janelle V.. Your *Deacons* are Peter B., Doug D., Justin D., Tanya P., Lowell S. and Nic V..



### **PAKISTAN: Supreme Court Agrees to Hear Nayab Gill's Case**

Sources: Eurasia Review, Kross Konnection, Morning Star News

In May 2021, 13-year-old Nayab Gill was forcibly converted and married to a 30-year-old Muslim man named Saddam Hayat. Despite court challenges, custody was given to her "husband." A year later, reports surfaced indicating that the young Christian girl may have been sold to someone else as a bride. With support from various advocacy organizations, Nayab's parents have continued to fight for justice on behalf of their daughter.

In a promising update, the Supreme Court of Pakistan agreed on August 29th to hear a petition on behalf of Nayab. At the heart of the petition is the girl's age. Pakistani law specifies that any sexual relations with a girl under the age of 16 is rape and punishable by death. However, in contradiction, Islamic law states that any consenting girl who has reached puberty can marry. The family's lawyer argued that, even if allowed under Islamic law, Nayab was not of legal age to make such a decision without consent from one of her guardians.

The Supreme Court, in deciding to hear this case, has recognized the disconnect between the penal laws and Islamic Sharia laws over the concept of "adulthood." Consequently, the court has called on the government to respond to this discrepancy and resolve the issue by enacting legislation governing the age of marriage.

Since Nayab's "marriage" in 2021, the Islamabad High Court ruled in March 2022 that marriage under the age of 18 is prohibited, even if an individual claims to do so of their own free will. It is hoped that this ruling will direct the nation's government to establish a minimum age for marriage across the country.

Forcible conversions and marriages of underaged girls are far too common for impoverished religious minorities in Pakistan. Often, such families have little to no recourse against the influence of their employers and community leaders.

***Pray that the hope and resolve of the Gill family will be strengthened in light of this recent action by the Supreme Court. As they anticipate the safe return of Nayab, may the members of her family receive greatly needed comfort, encouragement and peace. Specifically ask the Lord to lovingly watch over Nayab and tangibly convey His reassuring presence and care in her life, despite the circumstances in which she presently finds herself. Finally, pray that the courts will rule equitably in her case, and that the governing leaders of Pakistan will enact just legislation – providing protection to the country's most vulnerable citizens – regardless of the pressures they may receive to do otherwise.***



*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

~ Joshua 1:9 ESV

**SOMALIA: Al-Shabaab "Peace" Offer Poses Threat to Christian Minority**

Sources: Religion News, MEMRI, The Lindisfarne Centre, Human Rights Watch

For years, the nation of Somalia has been in a state of political turmoil caused by rival factions that are fighting for control of the country, including the al-Qaeda affiliated group known as al-Shabaab. While this militant terrorist group frequently conducts indiscriminate attacks on innocent civilians in general, it is particularly known to target Christians.

Followers of Jesus in this East African nation, most of whom happen to be foreign workers, must worship in secret for fear of persecution. "Pastor John" is a Kenyan building contractor who leads a small group that meets in the home of a local believer. "We meet secretly in one of our houses and pray," he explains. "It's always a normal service, but there's no shouting and singing loudly.... It's very dangerous for anyone to identify you as a Christian in this country. You will, in fact, be counting your days on earth."

Al-Shabaab remains a dominant force as it wages war against the Somalian government. Although the United States has been providing military support for African Union forces seeking to stabilize the nation, challenges remain. In July, al-Shabaab published a proposal calling for the U.S. to engage in dialogue with them so they could negotiate a withdrawal similar to the peace agreement that was made with the Afghan Taliban in 2020.

The proposal, if accepted, would give the militants control of the country. For Christians, the dangers they presently experience would become much worse, since al-Shabaab has made it clear that they intend to totally eradicate Christianity from Somalia. The timing of the article published by al-Shabaab correlates with plans to reduce African Union troops in the country.

While there is no indication that the U.S. is prepared to accommodate this proposal, the situation raises further concerns for Christians who already fear for their lives. If this extremist group were to gain control of the country, it would result in a deliberate attempted eradication of the entire Christian minority from Somalia.

***Remember your Christian brothers and sisters in Somalia who must worship in secret. Pray that these believers will receive the Lord's peace, protection and strength as they face ongoing danger from militants, and the possibility of increased threats against their lives. May God's Spirit continue to move powerfully throughout this East African nation, convicting the hearts of the militants and other Somalians in need of salvation – stirring them to repentance and faith in Christ Jesus.***

**Deacon's Corner ~ Peter B., Doug D., Justin D., Tanya P., Lowell S., Nic V.**

**Upcoming Offerings**

**October 1 -Coyote Creek Chapel**

Ministry on the Sunchild and O'Chiese Reserves.

**October 8 - 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 September 17 & 24**

Mountain Rose Women's Shelter \$793 Local Church Ministries \$6,108

**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)

## Church Announcements

**From Council** - We would like to thank all of this fall's elder and deacon nominees for their prayerful consideration of these positions of leadership. We are especially thankful that **Gary V., Karl H., Alan H.** and **Rob D.** have let their names stand for **elder** and that **Aaron T., Lorraine A., Ken B.** and **Anneleen D.** 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 to Pastor Ken. **On October 8th**, the congregation will have an opportunity to affirm these names for consideration and on October 15th, we will be drawing names from a basket and those whose names are drawn will be installed (Lord willing) on October 22nd.

**Community Hymn Sing** - Join us at the **Church of The Nazarene the 1st Saturday of every month** for a time of singing and fellowship. Our first one will be on **October 7th at 1:30pm**.

**Friendship Bible Class** is beginning again on **October 2nd**. Our friends are very excited to begin meeting!! Thankyou to our faithful teachers who Come to be a friend. Friendship is a Bible class for those in our community with mental and/or physical disabilities We would love to have several more teachers as our group grows. Please consider coming to be a friend to someone. This is a ministry that not only reaches our friends but many of their workers as well. It's an hour a week, **7-8pm, on Monday evenings**. We'd love for you to join us!

**GEMS** - All girls grade 4-8 are welcome to come to the church for **GEMS kickoff starting October 4th, from 7:00-8:30pm**. We have all our leaders and are so excited to get started! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Alyssa D..

**Cadets**- Time to start thinking about our upcoming cadet season and usually we start after most of the fall harvest is done. This year cadets will start on **Wednesday, October 4th** at First Christian Reformed Church. We will be meeting most every other **Wednesdays from 7-8:30 pm. Cadets is for boys in grades 4-8** and we look forward to a new year together. For more information please contact John M..

**Hello Men!** - You are invited to a **Men's Retreat at Frontier Lodge** from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon (**Oct 27-29**). Last year, those who attended were truly blessed and we look forward to another great weekend of deepening friendship, adventure, growth and great food! For more information or to register, please go to [www.frontierlodge.ca/sons-and-brothers](http://www.frontierlodge.ca/sons-and-brothers).

**From the Office** - With the start of programs, meetings and other bookings, please contact the office to set up your meetings and times, so there is no conflict with scheduling. Thank you!

## Church Announcements

**WORSHIP WEEKEND** - to be held **Oct.28 and 29 at Rimbeey CRC**. Back in 2019 we held a weekend of Praise and Harmony, with some from that organization leading us. This year we hope to host another event with their materials, using the book 'Faithful God' , 25 songs that speak of God's faithfulness in so many ways. Songs old and new: Come, Ye sinners, Poor and Needy / Ancient of Days / Diamonds / Glorious King / Trust in You - to name just a few. The Saturday time will be spent learning songs in 4 part harmony, with some songs chosen to present at the local Valleyview Manor and possibly a late afternoon or evening presentation. On Sunday, some of the songs will be included in the church service at 10AM to which everyone is welcome to attend. There will be a lunch provided on Saturday and the cost will be **\$50.00 for the weekend**. If this is of interest to you, **email Grace Bennik at [sygrab@gmail.com](mailto:sygrab@gmail.com) for more information**. **Pre-registration is required** so that the music (printed and/or MP3) can be provided ahead of time. Psalm 108 (The Message) I'm ready, God, so ready, ready from head to toe. Ready to sing, ready to raise a God-song: "Wake, soul! Wake, lute! Wake up, you sleepyhead sun!" I'm thanking you, GOD, out in the streets, singing your praises in town and country.

## Reframe Ministries

**Kids Corner: God's Peace Gives Us Hope** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Can you feel God's peace even when your life doesn't look peaceful? This week's devotion is all about how you can put your hope and trust in God, knowing that he will walk alongside no matter what is going on. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the Bible story podcast "Jesus Anointed With Perfume."

**Groundwork: A Lesson in Accountability and Consequences** - "Every action has a reaction." "Cause and effect." "Actions have consequences." There is truth in these common phrases, but, it is easily forgotten in the moment. Join Groundwork as we study the story of the writing on the wall in Daniel 5 to learn about the relationship between accountability, consequences, and our faith. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

## Thrive: Racial Reconciliation

**Today is All Nations Heritage Sunday** - We celebrate the diverse and multicultural church of Christ today. You can support ethnic minority leadership in the church by giving to the special Scholarship Fund established by the CRCNA. It provides financial assistance to students of various ethnic minority cultures who attend universities affiliated with the CRC. Please give at: [crcna.org/Race/Donate](http://crcna.org/Race/Donate)