

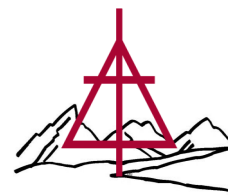
## Upcoming Events

Nov. 19	Nov. 20	Nov. 21	Nov. 22	Nov. 23	Nov. 24	Nov. 25
10:00am Worship Service 8:00 pm Youth Group at Covenant CRC  Sunday School Story Card #100	7:00pm Friendship	<i>Office: Keanna</i> 9:30am Coffee Break 7:30pm Full Council	11:30 am Seniors Luncheon @ Church	12:00pm Bulletin Deadline	5:00-7:00 pm GEMS Chili Fundraiser	
Nov. 26	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 2
10:00am Worship Service  Sunday School Story Card #101	7:00pm Friendship Christmas Craft & Refreshments	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 9:30am Coffee Break 7:30pm Elder	7:00 pm Cadets/GEMS 7:00 pm Catechism	9:30 am Ladies Craft Group  12:00pm Bulletin Deadline		

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.

HELPING HANDS	Thank you, for all you do!	Nov. 19	Nov. 26	Dec. 3
		Pastor Ken D.	Pastor Karen N.	Pastor Ken D.
	<b>Serving Elder</b>	Karl H.	Jessica H.	Alan D.
	<b>Serving Deacon</b>	Peter B.	Doug D.	Justin
	<b>Music Team</b>	Six Track	Lifted Hearts	Friendship Band
	<b>Children's Message</b>	Corinne S.	Elroy L.	Pastor Ken
	<b>Nursery</b>	Mark & Keanna H. Alyssa & Lydia B.	Marion R., Marlene D., Anita M., Ruth D.	Isabelle D., Sjoukje V. Margo D., Lucas H.
	<b>Coffee Host</b>	Anthony & Lydia B.	Peter & Trudy D.	Case & Marlene K.
	<b>Greeters/Coffee Cleanup</b>	Alan & Jacqueline H. Dick & JoAnn D.	Dieneke S. & Erika W. Trevor & Sharlea L.	Hank & Betty K. Joel & Corinne S.



## **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



### Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ Who You Say I Am

Call to Worship: Psalm 23

God's Greeting/ We Welcome One Another

♪ The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll walk with Him

Always

Call to Confession

Psalm 139:1-4,23,24

Prayer of Confession

-The Lord's Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

♪ Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Children's Message - Corinne S.

Sunday School for Ages 3 to Grade 5

Announcements and Congregational Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-18

Message: Kingdom Living: The Sermon on the Mount;  
An Audience of One

♪ I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Offering- Local Church Ministries

Offertory

Parting Blessing

♪ He Leadeth Me

## 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.firstercrocky.ca](http://www.firstercrocky.ca) or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) on Facebook

### 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 **Withrow Gospel Mission** .

† Pray for **Elly O.** who fell and broke her hip this week, she has had surgery and is currently in the Red Deer hospital.

† 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., 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., Justin D. and Lowell S.



***"In spite of sorrow, loss, and pain, our course be onward still;  
we sow on Burma's barren plain, we reap on Zion's hill."***

~ Adoniram Judson (1788 - 1850),  
former missionary in Burma/Myanmar

### CHINA: Church Leaders Detained in Raid

On the morning of November 9th, Elder Li Yingqiang – along with a few other church leaders from the Early Rain Covenant Church in Chengdu, Sichuan Province – were visiting a new church that had been established in Dazhou, which is about 400 kilometres away. There, the believers of the two churches worshipped together, held a baptismal service and shared communion. However, this special service was abruptly interrupted when police from multiple departments forcefully entered the building.

While a total of 13 Christians had been taken to a police station that day, 11 of them were released in the evening. However, the police held Elder Li and Hou Duoshu, the leader of the Good Soil church plant, in custody overnight. The next day, Li was sentenced to ten days of detention, along with a fine. Even though Hou was sentenced to five days' detention, it was not enforced because of his poor physical condition.

In a recent episode of the *Closer to the Fire* podcast, host Greg Musselman was joined by guest Dr. Eric Foley from The Voice of the Martyrs Korea to discuss the Chinese Communist Party's push towards integrated faith and political ideologies – another attempt of the socialist government to enforce its demands for total loyalty from the people of China. We encourage you to listen to this informative discussion at [VOMCanada.com/video/china-foley](http://VOMCanada.com/video/china-foley). Further details on the persecution of Christians in China, along with additional reports, are available at [our website](#).

***Please continue to prayerfully remember Elder Li, as well as the many other believers who are facing relentless persecution from Communist officials for remaining committed in their allegiance to Christ. Pray that China's church leaders will stand firm by upholding the truth of God's Word, regardless of the demands imposed upon them from governing authorities. In doing so, may the hearts of the opposing officials be radically transformed, allowing the ministry of the Early Rain and Good Soil churches to proclaim the Gospel among the many spiritually searching members of their communities before our Lord's imminent return.***

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#### MYANMAR: Alleged War Crimes Against Christians

Five Christians, who have been victims of persecution as a result of Myanmar's military dictatorship, recently filed a war crimes complaint in a Philippines court. Although these believers were originally from Chin state, they have emigrated to Australia, Britain, Canada and India. The alleged victims argue that a 2009 Philippine law obligates the country to prosecute war crimes committed elsewhere under the principle of universal jurisdiction.

The perpetrators named in this complaint include the head of Myanmar's ruling military council, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, eight of his military commanders and a state minister. The complainants filed the request for prosecution on October 25th, and the government prosecutors have 90 days to either approve or dismiss the complaint.

The complaint states that members of Myanmar's military killed a pastor and two church elders in the town of Thantlang during September 2021. It also accuses the military of directing attacks against churches, and burning hundreds of houses that were located within the same town, between August 2021 and June 2022. In a press release, one of the plaintiffs, Salai Ling, stated: "We are a Christian people whose pastors are being murdered and whose churches and faith-based schools are being destroyed in a systematic campaign by junta forces. With this persecution of Myanmar's Christians continuing, we pray that our brothers and sisters in the Philippines will hear our cry and grant us justice."

Though the action taken by these Christians is unique, it demonstrates the desperation of the numerous survivors who were affected by the atrocities. Since the military coup seized control of the country in February 2021, at least 4,155 people have been killed, and more than 19,600 remain in detention. Many of the attacks specifically targeted Christians under the guise of uprooting rebel forces. For more reports on the persecution of believers in Myanmar, along with ways you can help, go to our [country report](#).

***Prayerfully uphold all those who are involved in this court action, including the prosecutors of this case, as well as the governmental leaders of the Philippines, asking the Lord to provide them wisdom and guidance. May He also work mightily in the hearts of those presently ruling over Myanmar, in hopes they will understand the serious ramifications of their destructive actions and turn to Him in sincere repentance. Also pray for the ongoing ministry of church congregations throughout Myanmar, that these persecuted followers of Christ will receive encouragement, strength and provision so they can faithfully meet the spiritual and practical needs of others in this war-torn country.***

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

### Upcoming Offerings

#### November 19 - Local Church Ministries

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

#### November 26

Chaplaincy Core Ministry

Chaplains are specially trained, called and ordained by the church, and sent by Jesus Christ to provide spiritual care to people in pain or spiritual distress.

#### Gratefully Received October 29 & November 5

Local Church Ministries \$5,179      World Renew \$1,263      The Ministry to Seafarers \$100

**Third Quarter Financial Statements are available on the foyer tables.**

### 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

**PRE-CHRISTMAS SENIORS' LUNCHEON** - All seniors are invited to a luncheon to be held on **Wednesday, November 22nd in the Social Hall at 11:30 a.m.** We'll start with coffee and preliminaries and lunch will be served at 12:00. and conclude with dessert. We hope you can all come! There's a sign-up sheet on the table in the Social Hall so we'll know how much food to prepare - or you can contact Ella. There will be a \$10.00 charge to offset costs.

**GEMS** - Please join the **GEMS on Friday, November 24th** from 5-7pm for a **Chili Supper**. We are looking forward to an evening of delicious food and great fellowship. Supper is by donation.

**Men's Breakfast** - All men (youth included) are invited to come to the church for a delicious breakfast on **Saturday, December 2nd at 8:30am**. Pastor Ken will share and we will talk about plans for men's ministry in the church. Plan on staying until 10:00 or feel free to eat and run if you have to. We hope you will be able to join us. If you have dietary restrictions, please let Pastor Ken know.

**Red Deer Pro Life** - There is a knock on the Back Door. A young woman is there. She is confused, afraid, and looking for help. She has come to **The Back Porch**, located across the street from Edmonton's abortion clinic. She is looking for someone who will listen, help her, and speak the truth about what her choices are for her unborn child. Would you like to listen too? Get a group together and join us to hear **The Back Porch Director, Gabrielle Johnson, speaking at the Red Deer Pro Life Banquet on November 23rd**. Admission is free, but you must pre-register at [reddeerprolife.com](http://reddeerprolife.com). or contact Joel S.

**Ministry to Seafarers** - With the Fall season comes preparations for **Christmas at Sea**. This year the **Ministry to Seafarers** will again be delivering Christmas gifts for seafarers. Your donations for this project can be made by cheque payable to **Ministry to Seafarers**, and mailed to 401 E Waterfront Rd, Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9. You can also make donations online via our website, [ministrytoseafarers.com](http://ministrytoseafarers.com). Please designate gifts for "Christmas at Sea." Thank You! The fall newsletter is also available on the bulletin board in the social hall.

## From Classis

### A note from Classis

Classis is looking for qualified individuals to serve on two different committees. The first is the Classis Interim Committee (CIC). The mandate of the CIC is: To do all things entrusted to it by Classis, and all things that require the action of Classis prior to its next session. Carry out, or arrange to be carried out, Classis assignments for which no agent was designated at the time of the Classis meeting and to act as Directors of the Association of Classis Alberta North. The CIC meets in Edmonton once every month except December and July. The second is the Classical Abuse Response Team (CART). CART offers an advisory panel process to councils in Classis Alberta North when allegations of abuse are brought by an adult against a church leader. Panel members should have a heart for safe church and ideally have corresponding professional experience. All panel members will be trained in the advisory panel process and be required to sign confidentiality agreements. If these are areas in which you feel called to serve or would like more information, please contact Jessica Hoeksema.

## Church Announcements Cont.

**Advent**-Are you looking for a simple Advent devotion to do with your family? There are a few copies on the foyer tables from the Sunday School Program available for you to take home.

## World Renew

### Christian Leaders Tour Guatemala!

**Tour Dates April 20-28, 2024**

**Calling all pastors, deacons, church leaders, and World Renew ambassadors** and board members! Join a tour to Guatemala where you will expand your understanding of poverty and justice, giving you a new perspective to lead your church particularly on global issues. You'll visit programs in education, preventative health, agriculture, diaconal training, community planning, and livelihoods training while witnessing the varied geography of Guatemala. **Check the Bulletin Board for more information.**

## Reframe Ministries

**Groundwork: Transformed Living** - The apostle Paul continued to unpack the new realities of their life in Jesus Christ for the Roman Christians; he challenged them to live transformed lives. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Romans 12-13 to learn how to we too should live in light of the Gospel and what it means to renew our minds and be living sacrifices for God. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Kids Corner: Daily Gratitude** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Take a moment to try this exercise: In five seconds, name five things that you are thankful for. Ready? Three... two... one... go! This week's devotion is about being thankful. Why be thankful? Because it helps us to see God at work in our lives every day. Gratitude gives joy to both God and us! Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the KC's Liz and Friends Podcast "Attitude of Gratitude."