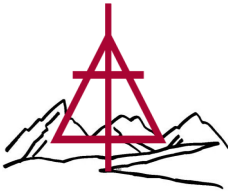


Upcoming Events						
Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
10:00am Worship Service  6:00 pm Community Christmas service         Sunday School Story Card #116	7:00pm Friendship	<i>Office: Keanna</i> 9:30am Coffee Break 7:30pm WPC		12:00pm Bulletin Deadline		
Dec. 10	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Dec. 13	Dec. 14	Dec. 15	Dec. 16
10:00am Worship Service  Baptism of David Louma Preparatory Lord's Supper         Sunday School Story Card #109	7:00pm Friendship Christmas Party	<i>Office: Keanna</i> 9:30am Coffee Break 7:30pm Admin	7:00 pm GEMS/Cadets Catechism	9:30 am Ladies Craft Group       12:00pm Bulletin Deadline		

All bulletins can be found online [www.firstcrcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrcrocky.ca)

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website ([firstcrcrocky.ca](http://firstcrcrocky.ca)) for links to sermons.

H E L P I N G H A N D S	Thank you, for all you do!	Dec. 3	Dec. 10	Dec. 17
		Pastor Ken Douma	Pastor Ken Douma	Pastor Ken Douma
	Serving Elder	Alan D.	John D.	Dave S.
	Serving Deacon	Justin D.	Tanya P.	Lowell S.
	Music Team	Friendship Band	Mosaic	The Experience
	Children’s Message	Joel S.	Corinne S.	Elroy L.
	Nursery	Isabelle D., Sjoukje V. Margo D., Lucas H.	Karl & Krystal H. Amber B., Shanelle T.	Justin & Mikala D. Kelsey D., Chelsey B.
	Coffee Host	Case & Marlene K.	Dave & Sandra S.	Dave & Sandra S.
	Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Hank & Bettie K. Joel and Corinne S.	Frank & Gloria D., Aaron & Colleen	Jason & Tanya P. Nic & Shianne V.



## 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

Prayer

Call to Worship

♪ Go Tell it on the Mountain

God’s Greeting/ We Welcome One Another

♪ I will Enter His Gates

♪ This is My Commandment

♪ This is the Day

Confession and Assurance

♪ Army Song

♪ This Little Light of Mine

Children’s Message -Joel S.

Announcements and Congregational Prayer

Offering - The Lord’s Foodbank

Offertory- Family of God

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Luke 1:5-20, 57-5

Message: A Light in the Darkness

♪ Amazing Grace

Parting Blessing

♪ Christmas Bells

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.firstcrcrocky.ca* **or** *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 **Church of the Nazarene**.

† Birthday congratulations to **James H.** who will celebrate his birthday today. May God bless you in the coming  
year!

† We continue to pray for **Elly O.** as she recovers from hip surgery.

† We pray for those at home: **Pearl V., Elly O., Anneke O., Sylvia D.** and **Joe & Lena V.** For those at care facilities:  
**Tonia Thompson** (Westview Lodge), **Diane W.** and **Dick O.** (Clearwater Centre); **Seenie B.** and **Dick O.** (Park Ave-  
nue), 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.

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.firstcrcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrcrocky.ca) (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link)

Reframe Ministries

**Kids Corner: The Prophet's Message of Hope** - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). The  
devotion is all about how the prophet Isaiah talked about how light shining in the darkness gave people com-  
fort. We know Isaiah 9:2 is about Jesus coming to earth and dying on the cross for our sins. How amazing is  
that! The hope we have is a person! Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the Bible story pod-  
cast “The Story of the Prophets.”

**Devotions for a Blue Christmas** - In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's  
word. A set of fourteen encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas  
seasons, you’re not alone. Receive this free email series and ebook when you subscribe to Today at [todaydevo-  
tional.com/bluechristmas](http://todaydevo-<br/>tional.com/bluechristmas)

**Groundwork: Jesus: Our Wonderful Counselor** - The prophet Isaiah calls the coming Messiah a ‘Wonderful  
Counselor.’ Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Proverbs 1:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:18-24, and Colossians  
1:15-19 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus and its connection to the biblical wisdom  
tradition. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future epi-  
sodes.



*"Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the Lord!"*  
~ Psalm 27:14 ESV

**VIETNAM: Christian Father Beaten by His Son** - In July of this year, Huu Dat (whose name has been changed for security  
reasons) became a follower of Jesus, leaving behind a tradition of tribal ancestor worship. His wife and four of his six chil-  
dren also chose to follow Christ. Sometime later, Huu's eldest son found out about his family's conversion and became ex-  
tremely angry. He viewed their conversion to another religion as an act of betrayal to the family's ancestral legacy and the  
beliefs of their tribal group. The son demanded that they renounce their allegiance to Christ and return to the tribal religion.  
However, the family refused, holding steadfastly onto their Christian faith.

After various attempts to convince his family to recant their belief in Jesus, the son physically attacked his father in late  
October, repeatedly striking him with a wooden rod. The beating left Huu with broken ribs and a deep wound on his face.  
The father's pastor reported that he is receiving medical care for the injuries and, despite the ordeal, continues to persevere  
in his faith. The most recent report indicated that Huu needed to return to the hospital due to experiencing persistent pain.  
It was discovered that he had sustained other bone fractures, which are now also being treated.

While the incident has been reported to the local authorities, they are refusing to get involved since it's a family matter. In  
rural and tribal areas of Vietnam, new believers are frequently targeted with harsh persecution and deprived of resources in  
an attempt to pressure them to reject their faith. For more information on the persecution of Christians in Vietnam, and/or  
to review previously posted reports, go to our [country report](#).

*As Huu recovers from his injuries, pray that the faith of this persevering believer and his Christian family will endure, be-  
coming even further strengthened through the opposition they have encountered. Ask the Lord to touch the heart of  
Huu's eldest son and that, as he continues to witness the persistent faith of his family, he will respond to the ministry of  
the Holy Spirit – to the point of coming to repentance and receiving God's gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.*

Church Announcements

**Sunday School Parents** - The Sunday School children are practicing for Christmas. They are learning a new song, Glory (Let There Be Peace) by Matt Maher. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/QW4c6DcxgGc?si=6SKWWEDqeIT7nOkX>. Please play this in your homes to help familiarize your children. Thank you!

**Community Wide Christmas Candlelight Service** - Everyone is invited to come to the Community Christmas Service to be held on **Sunday, December 3rd at 6:00pm at the Rocky First Christian Reformed Church**. There will be something for all ages as members of various churches share their gifts and lead us in songs to praise our Saviour and celebrate the joy of the season. You are invited to bring snacks to share during a refreshment time afterward. There will be an opportunity to support the Lord’s Foodbank with gifts of non-perishable food items and through an offering that will be taken. Come and join with members of many different churches as we celebrate the coming of our Saviour!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** is needing help filling some of the positions for our pageant this year. Below are the positions and a brief description of the role if it is not evident.  
**Titus: Saturday an Sunday night**, Titus pretends to read the edict from Caesar Augustus from a scroll. This person aside for a very short amount of time, **Herod: Saturday night**, Herod is also outside for a short amount of time, he speaks with the wisemen. **Shepherd: Saturday night**, Shepherds are out for about 3/4 of the performance. **2 Centurions: Sunday Night**, these Roman guards are out for the majority of the performance, moving around.  
We would appreciate anyone who would be willing to help us out this year. If you are interested please check the poster on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**THANKYOU-** for your amazing support for the GEMS chili supper. They loved serving you and look forward to doing it again next year! The GEMS

**Financial Update** - from the book keeper shows that we are about \$75,000 short of our of our 2023 budgeted amount, with only one month remaining please consider how you might help meet out budget commitments.

World Renew

**The Light of the World is Jesus** - At the darkest time of the year, Christmas is the light of hope. What will you do this Advent season to prepare the way for Jesus to be born into this world for you? Share God’s light of hope with those who live in poverty through World Renew’s Gift Catalogue. Spread the good news of hope for the future at [worldrenew.ca/gifts](http://worldrenew.ca/gifts) or call 1-888-975-3769 to give.

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

Upcoming Offerings

December 3 - The Lord’s Foodbank

The Lord’s Food Bank is a Christian ministry for those who are facing hunger, providing relief through our food pantry and hot meals. We provide spiritual care through messages given by local pastors, and prayer for clients’ personal needs. God has a heart of compassion for those who are in need and provides for them through ministries like this one; we want to show that love to all who come in.

December 10- 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.

Gratefully Received November 12 & 19

Mission Aviation Fellowship \$1,055      Local Church Ministries \$14,198

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.

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 H.