

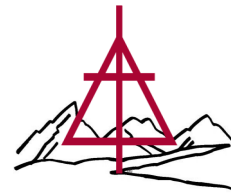
Upcoming Events

Feb. 4	Feb. 5	Feb. 6	Feb. 7	Feb. 8	Feb. 9	Feb. 10
10:00am Worship Service Lord's Supper Youth Group[- Gym Night @ RCS Sunday School Story Card # 119	7:00pm Friendship	Office: Cheri-Lynn 9:30am Coffee break 7:30pm Congregational Meeting	7:30pm GEMS/ Cadets/Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Men's Bible Study		4-5:00 pm Family Swim at the Rocky Pool
Feb. 11	Feb. 12	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 15	Feb. 16	Feb. 17
10:00am Worship Service Youth Group - TBD Sunday School Story Card #114	7:00pm Friendship	Office: Cheri-Lynn 9:30am Coffee break		12:00pm Bulletin Deadline 9:30 am- Ladies Craft Group 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.

HELPS IN GROUND	Thank you, for all you do!	Feb. 4	Feb. 11	Feb. 18
		Pastor Ken D.	Pastor Ken D.	Pastor Ken D.
	Serving Elder	Alan D.	Jessica H.	Karl H.
	Serving Deacon	Peter B.	Doug D.	Justin D.
	Music Team	The Experience	Mosaic	Mosaic
	Children's Message	Joel S.	Corinne S.	Pastor Ken
	Nursery	Isabelle D., Sjoukje V. Amber B., Shanelle T.	Karl & Krystal H. Margo D., Lucas H.	Marie A., Kelsey D. Colleen T., Travis A.
	Coffee Host	Don & Marion R.	Alan & Kelsey D.	Ernie & Jeanette S.
	Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Kyle & Trina A. John & Jean B.	Dick & Rose W. John & Rina V.	Richard & Marlene D. Harold & Bevin 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 780.728.8148

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



Sunday, February 4

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Matthew 7:13-29
Kingdom Living: The Sermon on the Mount: Radical Obedience

www.firstcrc.ca

@FirstCRC.Rocky Mtn House on Facebook

Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ I Stand Amazed

Announcements and Congregational Prayer

Call to Worship
God's Greeting/ We Welcome One Another
♪ Yet Not I But Christ Through Me

Offering for Tribal Trails
Offertory

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Matthew 7:13-29
Message: Kingdom Living: The Sermon on the Mount:
Radical Obedience

♪ How Deep the Father's Love
♪ There is a Redeemer

♪ Solid Rock

Children's Message - Joel S.
Sunday School for Ages 3 to Grade 5

Parting Blessing
♪ Benediction

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 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 **Mountain Bible Chapel**.

† Condolences go out to the **Brouwer and A. families** on the passing of Jean and Robert's sister Elly, also to the **B. families** on the passing of **Henry B..** We pray for God's peace and comfort for all the families.

† Birthday congratulations go out to **Lucy T.** who is celebrating her special day Feb.4. May God grant you a blessed year ahead.

† We pray for **Marilyn S., Cheryl T. and Gus V.** who are all recovering from recent surgeries. Pray for patience as they go through the healing process.

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



***"You don't really know Jesus is all you need, until
Jesus is all you have."***

~ Tim Keller

CHINA: Patriotic Education Law Takes Effect

In recent years, efforts by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to control all areas of society has increased exponentially. On October 24th, the national legislature passed a "Patriotic Education Law" which took effect on January 1st. The purpose of this law is clear: to ensure that the philosophies and principles of the CCP permeate every facet of society.

After implementing the law, CCP officials met with leaders of the country's five authorized state religions to explain how to adhere to the new policies. The guidelines given to these religious leaders state that China's "religious circles must learn, think and practise 'Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics.'" Of critical importance is the statement that "the state is greater than religion, and the state law is greater than religious rules." The intention is for education on all levels to be affected, including that of schools, religious centres, company training programs, and every other area of society. The policies further emphasize that the law applies to all Chinese people, whether they are living in mainland China, Taiwan, or anywhere else in the world.

The effect that this law will have on churches in China is not yet fully known, but increased persecution is anticipated. Within the state church, pressure to promote socialist ideologies over Biblical principles will undoubtedly increase. The law may also be used as a tool to further persecute unregistered churches throughout the country. To learn more about the persecution of Christians in China, go to our [country report](#).

Please remember all Chinese Christians in your prayers, even those residing in other countries, as they face increasing pressures to centre their lives around the beliefs of President Xi Jinping. Pray that these believers will receive wisdom as they determine the best way to stand firm in their faith while dealing with governmental indoctrination, which so strongly opposes the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Pray that President Xi, and other leaders within the Chinese Communist Party, would come to terms with the truth of God's Word so they too will reach the point of humble repentance and salvation.

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 (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link)



"You don't really know Jesus is all you need, until Jesus is all you have."

~ Tim Keller

INDIA: Christian Couple Beaten and Threatened

A Christian couple in Uppaladinni, Karnataka, was recently beaten for their faith and threatened with death if they continued to practise Christianity. The attack on Vijayalakshmi Chavhan and her husband Ashok happened on January 10th, the day after Vijayalakshmi was accused by several media organizations of conducting forced religious conversions.

Vijayalakshmi is a registered healthcare worker who goes door to door raising awareness of basic medical needs. Some villagers, however, objected to a Christian being allowed to enter their homes. Her opponents threatened to get her fired and conveyed warnings of violence.

After the conversion allegations circulated, Christians in the area intervened on Vijayalakshmi's behalf, filing a complaint with the police. However, when the Christian woman, her husband and some of the villagers met with police to resolve the situation, a mob of around 300 people arrived and attacked the married couple. While police officers attempted to intervene, sources report that they did not do enough to prevent the attack.

A police investigation has since been launched, with six men named as perpetrators of the incident. However, harassment continues for this couple, as well as the members of their church. For instance, three Christian families recently had their utilities disconnected for four days on the instruction of the community chief. These believers have also received threats and warnings to stop following Jesus. For other reports addressing the persecution encountered by Christians in India, go to our [country report](#).

Pray for the protection of Vijayalakshmi, Ashok and other believers living in this community who are presently facing intimidation and threats because of their faith in Christ. May those responsible for this attack not only be held accountable for their violent actions, but may they also come to realize the error of their ways. Ultimately, pray that God would radically transform the hearts of those throughout India who are opposing the Gospel message, leading multitudes more to faith in the Lord for their eternal salvation and the provision of their numerous other needs.

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

Upcoming Offerings

February 4 - 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 11- 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 January 21-28

MEL Society \$921 Local Budget \$10,488

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 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.

Highlights from Full Council Meeting January 23

AGM - We will be holding our annual Congregational meeting on Tuesday, February 6 @7:30pm. One of the topics for discussion at this meeting will be Children at the Lord's Supper, some information on the subject has been distributed to your mailboxes so be sure to give that a read in preparation for the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting and have any questions or concerns you would like to have addressed please speak with your Elder or Pastor Ken.

Welcome Potluck - We are very much looking forward to our new associate pastor, Natasha S., starting her position here on February 20th. The plan is to install Natasha during the service on **March 3** and host a potluck afterwards. We hope you are all able to join us that day as we welcome her into our congregation!

Church Announcements

Thank You - We would like to thank everyone for your support, love, kind words, meals, baking and prayers in this past year. It has been a year since George was diagnosed with prostate and bone cancer. It has been a difficult journey but we can say with gratitude that the treatments have been successful and the current prognosis is stable. With the power and blessings of an Almighty God, marvels of modern medicine, exceptional doctors, nurses and a superb Alberta health system, the support of prayers from so many people in our family, friends and congregation we are starting to become functional again.

We still have a long way to go and we hope you continue to hold us in your prayers.

Thank you and may God bless you all. From George and Corinne V.

PS: If you haven't noticed my curly locks are starting to grow back.

Sonrise Camp - Summer is coming and so are summer camps! Mark your calendars for the following weeks: July 7-12 (ages 10-12 yr olds), July 14-18 (ages 13-15 yr olds) and July 22-25 is Vacation Bible Camp (for ages 5-9 yrs old).

Membership Class - Anyone interested in learning more about what it means to be a member of our church is welcome to talk to Pastor Ken and attend a membership class beginning on **March 6 at 7:30pm**. The classes will take place **every 2 weeks** and will run for 3 or 4 sessions.

Funeral Fund had their Annual meeting this past week. It was decided to raise the annual fee to \$60 this year and to \$70 next year. Payment made out to CRC Funeral Fund and place in mail box 79. If you have questions or want a financial statement call Marlene K.

Rehoboth-ON BEHALF OF REHOBOTH STAFF, CLIENTS AND FAMILY THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TOWARDS THE 2023 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN DRIVE.OUR CENTRAL REGION, INCLUDING YOUR CHURCH HAS RAISED **\$24,000**. REHOBOTH'S PROVINCIAL TOTAL FROM FRIENDSHIPS & DONATIONS TOTALS **\$264,000**. **This is up by \$65,000 from last year's campaign.**

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR A SUCCESSFUL MEMBERSHIP/FRIENDSHIP CAMPAIGN AND FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT. YOUR DONATIONS HELP SUPPORT REHOBOTH'S OPERATIONAL COSTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT FUNDING DOES NOT PROVIDE. THIS ALLOWS US TO PROVIDE HOUSING AND FACILITIES FOR OUR CLIENTS AND MAINTAIN THESE FACILITIES; PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED.

Church Announcements

Family Swim - Families are welcome to join us at the Rocky Aquatic Center for swimming fun on Saturday, **February 10 from 4-5pm!** See you there!

Rocky Christian School Kindergarten & Pre-Kindergarten Information Evening - Do you have a child who was born in 2019 and is looking forward to kindergarten in September? Please join us at the school on **Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30PM** for our Kindergarten Information evening. If you have a child turning 3 or 4 before December 31, 2024 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. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office at 403-845-3516.

Getting tired of Netflix? Maybe it's time for something different. - Inter Mission Silent Retreat is coming up May 31-June 2 at King's Fold Retreat Centre in St. Albert, a lovely and cozy retreat house on the ridge of the Ghost River overlooking the Rockies. 2 nights accommodation, 4 meals, 2-3 spiritual direction sessions, silence, rest, peace, quiet, spirit, soul. Single private room. "Be still and know that I am God." Registration is \$500/person. Contact rev.klok@gmail.com to register.

Reminder for the Prayer Partnership. Forms can go in mailbox 91, or if people want to sign up as a prayer partner contact Jessica H.

Classis BCSE & BCNW Safe Church Team Ministry (SCT) supports the important ministry work done by the Christian Reformed churches in BC. The SCT is in the process of succession planning and is looking for someone to succeed our current Abuse Prevention and Response Coordinator who is looking ahead to retirement. This position would require on average approximately 20 hrs per week, with certain months having increased hours. The work includes providing abuse prevention and response education and requires travel to the Christian Reformed churches in BC. Applicants must be knowledgeable about the subject of abuse, have related work experience & education. Start date is flexible & training for the position will be provided. For more information/ job description, please see this [job posting](#), and email the SCT executive chairperson – Andrew V.

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Names of God: The Father of Compassion - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Check out the story of Joseph. He was sold into slavery by his brothers, wrongly accused, thrown in jail, and forgotten for a long time. He comes face to face with his brothers and forgives them! When you receive God's mercy, you extend that mercy to others, even those who have hurt you. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Valentine Cards.

Groundwork: Truthfulness - As humans, we tend to value honesty over lying, but have you ever considered truthfulness a virtue? Join Groundwork as we explore Numbers 23:19; John 17:13-18; John 1:1-2, 14; and Ephesians 4:17-25 to discuss the Christlike virtue of truthfulness, why it's important, and the practical ways we can embody it in our daily lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.