

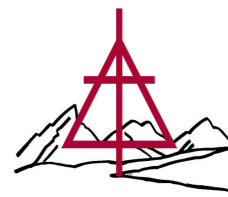
Upcoming Events

June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6	June 7	June 8
10:00am Worship Service SS story card #154 Youth Coffee @ Tony & Lydia B. 7:00pm "From the Inside Out" Course		<i>Office: Cheri-Lynn</i> 7:30pm Full Council 7:30 pm WPC Meeting	7:00am-8:30am Prayer Meeting	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		
June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15
10:00am Worship Service SS story card #156 Youth coffee @ Krystal and Karl's 7:00pm "From the Inside Out" Course		<i>Office: Josephine</i> 7:30pm Admin	7:00am-8:30am Prayer Meeting	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		

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	Thank you, for all you do!	June 2	June 9	June 16
		Pastor Natasha	Pastor Natasha	Pastor Ken
	Serving Elder	Gary V.	Albert V.	Anthony B.
	Serving Deacon	Lorraine A.	Peter B.	Doug D.
	Music Team	Mosaic	Six Track	The Experience
	Children's Message	Corinne S.	Pastor Natasha	Joel S.
	Nursery	Cody & Teagan L. Marisa P., Ruth D.	Margo D., Sjoukje V., Amber B., Travis A.	Karl & Krystal H., Kelsey D., Allison B.
	Coffee Host	Case & Marlene K.	Jerry & Lena F.	Kelly & Shantelle B.
	Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	John & Jean B. Ray & Audrey B.	Sheldon & Amber B., Glenn & Kari M.	Joel & Corinne S., Doug & Karen D.



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, June 2

Revelation 1

Names of Jesus: Alpha & Omega

www.firstcrocky.ca

@FirstCRC.Rocky Mtn House on Facebook

Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ Forever

Call to Worship

God's Greeting /We Welcome One Another

♪ I Lift Your Name

Call to Confession /Prayer of Confession

♪ Jesus Be the Center

Assurance of Pardon

♪ Cornerstone

Children's Message - Corinne S.
(Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5)

Announcements & Congregational Prayer
Offering for Local Church Ministries

Scripture - Revelation 1
Message - Names of Jesus: Alpha and Omega

♪ Before the Throne of God Above

Blessing

♪ Let Your Word Go Forth

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 or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse](https://www.facebook.com/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 **Nordegg Community Church**.

† For those who are grieving the loss of family members.

† Anniversary congratulations to **Gordon & Bettie V.** who will celebrate 45 years of marriage **June 8**. Blessings to you on your special day!

† This week, Pastor Ken is on a study week to prepare for the upcoming Synod meetings and for camp. If you have a pastoral need, please reach out to Pastor Natasha or contact your elder.

† We pray for those at home: **Pearl V., Sylvia D., Gus & Margaret V.** and **Joe & Lena V..** For those at the local care facilities: **Tonia T., Elly O. 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. 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.,



*"In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline Your ear to me, and save me! Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; You have given the command to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress."
~ Psalm 71:2-3 ESV*

ay that the Lord will meet all of their practical and spiritual needs as they recover from the trauma and gradually reintegrate into their communities; all the while, helping them to navigate through the changes that have taken place over the months/years since their captivity. May the peace of Christ not only be sensed within their own hearts, but also in the lives of others throughout Nigeria – including the terrorists – thus bringing an end to the violence. In the inter-
On May 20th, the Nigerian military reported that 350 captives had been recovered from Boko Haram bases in the Sambisa Forest, a well-known enclave for the militant group in eastern Nigeria. Some of the captors were killed during the military operation. All of the rescued former hostages were taken to the Borno state government house where they will be cared for until they can safely return to their homes.

Most of the rescued victims, who were mainly women and children, had been held captive for months; and some of them for years. The 209 children, 135 women and six men, who were wearing worn-out clothing, appeared exhausted during the press conference. Some of the women had infants with them, believed to have been born from forced marriages to their captors. Hajara Umara has seven children and spoke of how she and other captive women were unable to escape because of the need to care for their children.

In another raid against Boko Haram, which took place during mid-May, the military of Cameroon rescued over 300 civilians along the country's borders with Chad and Nigeria. Additionally, during the previous month, a number of other civilian hostages were rescued by troops from Chad and Cameroon. Negotiations between officials of these neighbouring countries are presently underway to help the rescued civilians return to their homes. Unfortunately, these recent raids against Boko Haram have not resulted in a cessation of violence. On the evening of May 24th, gunmen – believed to be belonging to a faction of the militant group – attacked the Kuchi community in Niger State, killing ten people and kidnapping dozens of others. The assailants returned two nights later, seizing livestock and food while also setting fire to local shops. At least 700 residents were forced to flee to nearby communities.

Members of the Boko Haram terrorist group seek to overthrow the Nigerian government and establish an Islamic nation. Often, Christians are particularly targeted in the attacks. Since the establishment of Boko Haram in 2009, its members have been inciting terror against many Christian communities. Additional information on the violence committed against Nigeria's followers of Jesus is available at our [country report](#).

Praise God that hundreds of innocent victims have recently been released from captivity! Pray that the Lord will meet all of their practical and spiritual needs as they recover from the trauma and gradually reintegrate into their communities; all the while, helping them to navigate through the changes that have taken place over the months/years since their captivity. May the peace of Christ not only be sensed within their own hearts, but also in the lives of others throughout Nigeria – including the terrorists – thus bringing an end to the violence. In the interim, ask God to provide our Nigerian Christian brothers and sisters safety and encouragement as they continue to steadfastly proclaim **the message of Jesus**.

Diaconal Ministries Canada

Thank You! - Thank you to those who donated to NewGround last month! For almost 50 years, NewGround (formerly Operation Manna) has helped churches across Canada love their communities by connecting them to local ministries like youth centres, children's camps, after-school and youth drop-in programs, counseling agencies, community dinners, and more! Your generous gifts will help even more churches bless their communities in Jesus' name. You can still make a one-time donation or become a monthly partner! Donate on Diaconal Ministries' website: diaconalministries.com/donate-now, send via e-transfer to dmc@crcna.org, or mail your cheque to: Diaconal Ministries Canada, P.O. Box 5070, STN LCD 1, Burlington, ON, L7R 3Y8, ATTENTION: NEWGROUND. Every dollar raised will help make a difference in the life of someone who longs for care and belonging! SO THANKS AGAIN!

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - The faith practice of wonder helps us glimpse with surprise just how creative, faithful, good, big, and present God is. Each day this week, look for at least one of these God-glimpses and share them with someone. Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Indigenous Ministry

Deep Fried Togetherness - What do Dutch oliebollen and Indigenous doughnuts have in common? We'll find out when we commemorate National Indigenous People's Day on June 21 and our church celebrates Indigenous Ministries with a special Sunday offering on June 23. In the meantime, the CRC's Indigenous Ministries are offering a collection of recipes to anyone who gives a gift in support of this important ministry. Visit bit.ly/NIPD2024 to find out more.

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Hearing God's Voice - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever wondered how you can hear God? After all, the Bible tells us to listen to him (Matthew 17:5), and he spoke to so many people, like Jonah (Jonah 1:1-2), Moses (Exodus 3:1-15), and Abraham (Genesis 18:13-14). Nowadays, he doesn't usually speak to us the same way, even though he can. Instead, God usually connects with us through the Bible, his creation, and other Christians. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Summertime Collection.

Groundwork: Understanding the Purpose of God's Law - After emphatically teaching that salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, Paul explores the contrasting paths of legalism and freedom in faith. Join Groundwork as we study Galatians 3-4 to hear Paul's encouragement to stay focused on Christ, to embrace our identity as God's children, and to find our unity as believers in Christ. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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

Upcoming Offerings

June 2 - 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.

June 9 - Pregnancy Care Centre

Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre extends grace and provides education and ongoing, compassionate support before, during and after pregnancy. Programs are free, confidential, and are offered in a safe and non-judgmental environment.

Gratefully Received May 12 & 19

Wycliffe \$1564 Bazaar \$450 Local Church Ministries \$4289

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.

Upcoming Services

June 9 - Worship services at Clearwater Centre (1:15pm) & Westview Lodge (2:30pm)

June 9 - Sunday School Grade 5 graduation

June 23 - Lord's Supper

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)

Full Council Meeting Highlites

Here are a few highlights from our May Council meeting

-As part of an ongoing discussion regarding our support of the church in Nordegg, Council has made the decision to have our Pastors join the preaching rotation at the Nordegg Community church 4 times a year starting in the fall. Please continue to keep the Nordegg church in your prayers as they minister to their community.

-At the spring Classis meeting, CAN approved the formation of a Hospitality Cohort in order to engage the question "How do we effectively welcome and enfold people from the LGBTQ+ community" At present the Cohort leadership team is being developed and currently includes Lisa Vander Leek (West End CRC) and Ron d. (Covenant CRC). If you see value in being included in this work and would like to participate please contact your Elder or one of our Pastors for more information.

-In an effort to expand congregational involvement in the service, the Elders have decided to invite members of the congregation to join in leading the congregational prayer a couple times a month. Do you feel you have the gift of prayer and would like to be added to the rotation? Please speak with your Elder or one of our Pastors

-Families are invited to stay after the service on June 9 to have a time of discussion with Pastor Ken regarding children participating in the Lord's Supper. Please see Pastor Ken's announcement for more information.

Church Announcements

For families who would like their children to participate in the Lord supper, please plan on staying after church next week. We will have a potluck lunch, followed by some instruction for kids to help them understand what the Lord supper is all about. There will also be some equipping for parents to help you prepare your kids to participate.

We would like to offer the program **GriefShare**. It is a weekly support group for people who have lost a loved one. We are looking for **co-facilitators** to run the 13 week program sessions (video & curriculum) in the fall. **GriefShare** provides biblical, Christ-centered hope that will help hurting people rebuild their lives. If this is something that you would like to assist with, please contact Pastor Natasha.

The **Studion School for Spiritual Direction**(<https://www.thestudionschool.com>) is now taking applications for the next cohort, beginning October, 2024. The Studion is a two-year, part-time program that offers comprehensive training in the skill and art of Christian spiritual direction. Inquiries can be made to the studionschool@gmail.com to find out more. Fuel for the Heart; Food for the Soul.

Church Announcements

Congratulations to **Kyle & Raylyn C.** who were married May 31 in Lethbridge.

Sonrise Camps (July 7-12, July 14-19) is needing counselors (week 1), 1 head cook, bus drivers, sport person (week 2), craft person (week 2). Check out the bulletin board in the hallway to sign up. Any questions contact the camp committee members Albert V., Kelly B., Marie A., Sheldon B., Zachary B., Lydia B., Cody L., or Cheri-Lynn B.

Registration forms for both weeks of **Sonrise Camp** and **Vacation Bible Camp** are on the table in the foyer and on the church website.

Youth Coming Events - June 2: Coffee at Tony & Lydia B., **June 9:** coffee night location TBD, **June 15:** Paintball with Father's (1-3 pm) at Arnold & Alida V., **June 23:** Coffee at Bob & Marie A., **June 30:** Bible study @ Trevor & Sharlea L. Mark your calendars for the upcoming service project at the **Medicine Hat Gleaners August 22-24.**

Rehoboth Camp needs YOU! Counsellors are desperately needed to ensure our weeks can run and Campers with developmental disabilities can enjoy their favorite week of the year. All of our weeks are still looking for volunteers, but R & R Week (June 23-28) still requires a minimum of eight volunteers to go ahead. R & R week is for our older Campers that are looking for a relaxing and quieter camp experience – this week is perfectly paired with more mature volunteers. Help us make this summer a highlight for so many adults with disabilities! www.rcmflourish.ca/camp

DON'T MISS OUT! There are a handful of spots still available for GEMS Camp, to be held **July 31-August 4** at Rehoboth on Gull Lake. ALL GIRLS are welcome! Come and enjoy fun and fellowship with girls from across Southern Alberta. Registration forms are available from Bonnie. **Staff are still needed: cabin leaders, cooks, and CITs are still required!** We can't run camp without the help of our volunteers. It is as much of a blessing for the volunteers as it is for the girls! Questions? Contact Bonnie Bennik at 403-652-1078 or email wildrosegemscamp@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting this important ministry for our girls!

Sharefaith App for First CRC - did the app work and not any longer on your devices? Would you like to access the bulletin and audio files of sermons? Go to google play or search on the web "*The Sharefaith App*" - download and pick your church (FirstCRCRocky). If you have any problems or issues, contact Cheri-Lynn.