

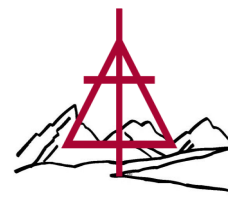
Upcoming Events

May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	June 1
10:00am Worship Service SS story card #151 Youth at Sunrise Camp 7:00pm "From the Inside Out" Course		Office: Josephine 7:30pm Full Council	7:00am-8:30am Prayer Meeting	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		2pm Double Bridal Shower
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		Office: Cheri-Lynn 7:30pm Deacons 7:30 pm WPC Meeting	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.

HELPSINGERS	Thank you, for all you do!	May 26	June 2	June 9
		Pastor Ken	Pastor Natasha	Pastor Ken
	Serving Elder	Dave S.	Gary V.	Albert V.
	Serving Deacon	Lowell S.	Lorraine A.	Peter B.
	Music Team	Lifted Hearts	Mosaic	Six Track
	Children's Message	Joel S.	Corinne S.	Pastor Natasha
	Nursery	Sara D., Alyssa D., Amber B., Miyah B.	Cody & Teagan L. Marisa P., Ruth D.	Margo D., Sjoukje V., Amber B., Travis A.
	Coffee Host	Tom & Kathy S.	Case & Marlene K.	Jerry & Lena F.
	Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Justin & Mikala D., Jim & Margo D.	John & Jean B. Ray & Audrey B.	Sheldon & Amber B. Glenn & Kari M.



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



Morning Worship Service

Welcome

🎵 Here I am to Worship

Call to Worship

God's Greeting & We Welcome One Another

🎵 Your Name

🎵 You are Holy

Call to Confession & Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

🎵 Change My Heart, O God

Children's Message - Joel S.

(Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5)

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering for World Renew

Scripture - Isaiah 6:1-8; 41:8-20

Message - Names of God - The Holy One of Israel

🎵 Amazing Grace

Blessing

🎵 O Praise the Name

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

*"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 **Mountain Bible Chapel**.

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

† Birthday congratulations to **Keith R.** this coming week, on June 1. 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 Bouwman.** 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.



***"Even the traumas we endure as we seek to serve Christ,
He receives as our worship."***

~ Rev. Dr. Eric Foley, CEO of VOM Korea ~

ERITREA: Recent Passing of Imprisoned Church Leader

Sources: Release Eritrea, Release International, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, AnglicanTV

Reverend Ghirmay Araya was one of the founders of the Full Gospel Church in Eritrea. Under the country's oppressive regime, the denomination was banned in 2002 and its senior leaders were imprisoned in 2004. Over the decades since, thousands of other Eritreans have been imprisoned for their faith, often enduring torture and inhumane treatment.

Even though semi-retired, Reverend Ghirmay was rearrested in July 2021 and detained without charge at a maximum-security facility in Asmara. It was recently announced that, after spending almost three years in detention, Reverend Ghirmay passed away in prison at the age of 83. It was said that he "endured his suffering with steadfast faith." The pastor leaves behind five children and 13 grandchildren.

One of Reverend Ghirmay's sons, Samuel, has also been imprisoned because of his ministry as a Lutheran pastor. Though the father and son had been detained in the same facility, they were never able to visit one other. Sources also state that prison officials did not inform Samuel of his father's passing. The imprisoned son is presently being held in a metal shipping container – a notoriously inhumane practice where prisoners are forced to suffer extreme desert temperatures and unsanitary conditions.

Dr. Berhane Asmelash from Release Eritrea continues to express concerns about the hundreds of other Christians who are presently imprisoned in the country, some of whom are being held in the same facility where Reverend Ghirmay died. "Many are getting on in age and suffer from various health conditions," he wrote. Most of these detained believers are being held without charge, and some have been in custody for as long as 20 years.

Prayerfully uphold the family of this beloved saint as they mourn his passing. May they be wonderfully comforted by the assurance that Reverend Ghirmay is now in the glorious presence of his Saviour. Also pray for greatly needed physical and spiritual fortitude on behalf of his son Samuel and the many other Eritrean followers of Jesus who remain incarcerated because of their faith. May God work mightily in this nation so that Eritrea's governing leaders would end their intense persecution of the country's Christians, release all those who are currently being arbitrarily detained, and put policies into place that will respect the rights of all Eritrean citizens.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - When praying with children, try this kid-friendly version of the “ACTS” model, replacing Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication with these prompts: “God, you are . . .” “I’m sorry for . . .” “Thank you for . . .” “Please . . .” Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Thriving Essentials Online Overview - May 30 - Thriving Essentials is a training course for elders, deacons, church staff, and any volunteer ministry leader. This one-hour webinar will give you an overview of what the full course involves including discussions on four key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Sign up to attend this preview on May 30 (2PM EDT) and discern if the full course is right for your church: crcna.org/Essentials

World Renew

World Renew Nicaragua Young Adults Trip - Calling all young adults age 18-30! World Renew extends an invitation to join us in Nicaragua this summer from August 2-11! We are recruiting young adults to experience God in another culture, developing a perspective on poverty, missions, and community development. Bursaries are available. To learn more about this trip and to register, visit <https://bit.ly/nicaraguaflyer>

Indigenous Ministry

Hearts Exchanged - Hearts Exchanged is all about going beyond the headlines into deep work that wrestles with how our churches can become places of belonging and embrace God’s call to reconciliation with Indigenous neighbours. Virtual and in-person cohorts will take place this fall and now is a great time to learn more and sign up at: crcna.org/hearts-exchanged

Craving Indigenous Recipes? - What happens when two cultures exchange hearts (and culinary traditions)? 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! The CRC’s Indigenous Ministries are delighted to offer a collection of authentic recipes to those who support this vital ministry. Visit bit.ly/NIPD2024 to find out more.

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

Upcoming Offerings

May 26 - World Renew

In communities around the world many people do not know the best practices for protecting their health. This May, join World Renew to discover how you can help women in vulnerable communities learn about proper food and nutrition, the importance of sanitation for disease prevention, and more, so their families have a better chance to flourish. Please support strong women with World Renew today!

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.

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)

Church Announcements

Ladies you are invited to a **Double Bridal shower** for Brooklyn A. (bride to be of Benjamin B.) and Madi S. (bride to be of Liam B.) on **Saturday, June 2 at 2:00 pm** in the social hall.

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 - May 26: Activity at Sonrise Camp, **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.

Church Announcements

The Studion School for Spiritual Direction (<https://www.thestudionschool.com>) is now taking applications for their next cohort, beginning October 20, 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 thestudionschool@gmail.com or rev.klok@gmail.com to find out more. Fuel for the Heart; Food for the Soul.

ReFrame Ministries

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Kids Corner: Who Is Number One? - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What does it mean to live with humility? It means we realize that we're not better than others. It means we think of God's way instead of our own way. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the KC Bible Story Podcasts.

Groundwork: The Cross of Jesus is the Only Way - As Galatians continues, Paul continues to emphasize that the cross of Jesus is the only way to salvation and he confronts Peter's hypocritical behavior. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Galatians 2 to explore the struggle the apostles faced as the Christian faith spread, and along the way find the courage to embody the truth of salvation in your relationships and daily life. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Diaconal Ministries Canada

NewGround - Thanks to our supporters' prayers and generosity, NewGround has been cultivating community impact across Canada for almost 50 years! Last year, Diaconal Ministries received applications to the program totaling over \$90,000. Because Christian Reformed Churches held offerings and individual donors gave generously, we were able to say "Yes!" to more churches longing to share God's love in their local community. Thank you for your prayers and support! You are helping us and our partners make a difference. Together we can continue to help transform communities for God's glory!