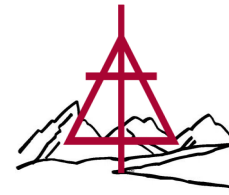


Upcoming Events

September 22	Sept. 23	Sept. 24	Sept. 25	Sept. 26	Sept. 27	Sept. 28
10:00am Worship Service Sunday School story card #158		Office: Josephine 7:30pm Full Council	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts 1-2:30pm Griefshare	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		
September 29	Sept. 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4	October 6
10:00am Worship Service Sunday School story card #160 Safe Church Info after service in Sanctuary	7:00pm Friendship	Office: Cheri-Lynn 9:30am Coffeebreak 7:30pm Deacons	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts 1-2:30pm Griefshare 7:00pm GEMS/Cadets 7:00pm Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:30am Craft morning 1:30pm WPC meeting		

All bulletins can be found online www.firstcrocky.ca

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website (firstcrocky.ca) for links to sermons.



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



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Thank you, for all you do!	September 22	September 29	October 6
	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken
Serving Elder	Karl H.	Jessica H.	Alan O.
Serving Deacon	Loraine A.	Peter B.	Doug D.
Music Team	The Experience	Six Track	Lifted Hearts
Children's Message	No Message today	Pastor Natasha	Joel S.
Nursery	Annette D., Rita B., Brenda B., Shanelle T.	Justin & Courtney D. Marisa P., Caleb O.	Mark & Keanna H., Marlene O., Chelsey B.
Coffee Host	Richard & Marlene O.	Gary & Shirley V.	Jim & Margo D.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	David & Stephanie C. Devon & Erin S.	John & Nancy O. Kyle & Trina A.	Bob & Marie A. Dave & Henriett V.

Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ Goodness of God

Call to Worship

♪ This is the Day

God's Greeting /We Welcome One Another

♪ The Heart of Worship

Call to confession & prayer

Responsive Assurance of Pardon

♪ How Great Thou Art

Ministry Leaders Presentation

Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering - Rehoboth

Offertory

Scripture - James 2:14-26

Message - Real Faith in Action! (Serving Others with Our Gifts)

♪ Grace Alone

Blessing

♪ This is Amazing Grace

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 - 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 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 **New Life Church**.

† Congratulations to **Jean B.** celebrating her birthday on **Sept. 26**. Blessings to you on your special day!

† **Preston D.** remains in the hospital, in Edmonton, following a collapsed lung. Pray for continued healing.

† 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., Joan S., 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.
"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message...." Colossians 4:2-3a

Open doors can not be taken for granted. Many missionaries work in countries that are difficult to access or in areas that are resistant to the gospel. But open doors include more than just access to nations and people groups.

Individual hearts need to be open and receptive to God's truth.

Pray.....

.....that God will open doors of ministry, blessing partnerships and friendships

.....that those who serve will be led by the Holy Spirit and recognize open door opportunities

.....that God will lead his people past barriers to hearts ready to receive his Word.

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., and Justin D.



"[God] will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you will find refuge;
His faithfulness is a shield and buckler."
~ Psalm 91:4 ESV ~

SYRIA: Islamist Commander Confiscates Land of Christians

Sources: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Independent Catholic News, The Christian Post

The Syrian city of Ras al-Ein, which happens to be located along the country's border with Türkiye, is currently under the control of a coalition of Islamist militias associated with the Turkish-backed rebel group, the Syrian National Army (SNA). In June 2024, a SNA commander named Abdulaziz Al-Sawadi visited the St. Thomas Syriac Orthodox Church in Ras al-Ein and expressed his commitment to develop a positive relationship with the small number of Christians remaining in the area. During his visit, the commander also vowed to provide the believers protection.

Regrettably, the Christian community did not receive the protection promised to them. It was recently reported that 500 acres of farmland have since been confiscated from Christians residing in the area by a commander from one of the affiliated Islamist militia groups. Along with the confiscations, the militia groups are threatening to increase the farmers' taxes from 20 to 35 percent.

A local tribal chief has condemned the imposed actions. "We have tried to reach out to these militias and their Turkish masters, but they have constantly ignored us," the chief explained. "Our Christian brothers have contributed massively to the development and richness of our area. They ran the most successful education, agricultural and health projects, and we are concerned that the remaining Christians will be forced to leave, which would be a big loss for us all."

Speaking of the militia groups, a Muslim tribal leader stated: "They don't represent us; they only represent themselves and their backers. They are worse than Assad's officials, who were corrupt but didn't interfere with personal and religious freedoms."

Prayerfully remember the beleaguered Christians in Syria who are encountering various challenges from multiple militia groups, asking the Lord to encourage, strengthen and meet the needs of these faithful followers of Jesus. May a stable governing force be established in the country; one that would take into account the concerns and rights of all Syrian citizens. Furthermore, pray that believers in Ras al-Ein – as well as those in other areas of this Middle Eastern nation – will serve as consistent witnesses to their neighbouring community members, leading many more to faith in Christ.

Church Announcements Cont.

Praise and Harmony Worship Weekend - October 5th at Rimbey CRC - using the book 'Resurrecting God' for 4 part acapella harmonies. Coffee and lunch provided. For more information OR to register - sygrab@gmail.com

NADC Refugee Workshop and sharing session - We invite all deacons, others involved in working with refugees and all interested to join us on **Wednesday, October 9 at 7 pm at West End CRC**. Martine Ooms, long time refugee coordinator at Inglewood CRC, will lead us in a time of learning and discussion on refugee sponsorship in our churches. We will also have a time of sharing best diaconal experiences and practices in our congregations. We look forward to a good evening of learning and sharing together. If possible, send us an email at yournadc@gmail.com or call Jeremy Stork at 780.722.9388 by October 7 so we can plan refreshments. All are welcome!

Complimentary Will Clinic — Join Lisa Robichaud from The King's University on **Thursday, October 17** from **7-9pm at First CRC in Red Deer** (16 McVicar Street) for a Complimentary Will Clinic by John Kok. Learn how you can avoid common mistakes and leave the most for your family. Attendees have a chance to receive one free will and estate consultation from Lorne Penner of Ahlstrom Wright Barristers & Solicitors. RSVP by visiting kingsu.ca/red-deer-will-clinic. Deadline to RSVP is Friday, October 11.

Reframe Ministries

Groundwork: Dry Bones And God's Promises Of Restoration - Have you ever felt so hopeless that anything and everything remotely good seems impossible and out of reach? Join Groundwork as we study the hope filled imagery in Ezekiel 37 and 47 to remember God's great love for his people, how seriously he takes his promises, and how deeply we can trust that one day he will fully restore us too. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Questions Show Care - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Why do you think Jesus asked people all these questions? What did he want to find out? Maybe what they thought, or what they wanted, or what they believed? Why was Jesus so curious? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Woman at the Well.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - One way we can participate in the mission of God is by living justly. To live justly is to pray and stand up for people who are mistreated. In your school, workplace, neighborhood, or community, who is not being treated fairly? What can you do to advocate for justice for them? Ask God to show you where there is injustice in your community and how you can support people who are being wronged. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

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

Upcoming Offerings

September 22- Rehoboth

Rehoboth serves people with disabilities and help them flourish by providing services and support through four programs: residential services, vocation services, supported independent living and respite services. Rehoboth employs approximately 550 staff that support 235 clients throughout the province to achieve their dreams.

September 29 - 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.

E-Transfers received - August 2024

Local Church Ministries \$7880 Sunrise Camp \$1000

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.

From Safe Church Committee

Attention Volunteers! Would you know what to do if you witnessed abuse? Please join us after the service in the sanctuary on **September 29** for an overview of what you need to know about our safe church policy. If you have any questions please reach out to our safe church committee: Alan O., Rita B. or Marisa P.

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)

From Council

It's the time of year again where we start the process for finding **new Council members**, we ask for your prayers for those who will be receiving nomination letters. Pray for discernment as they decide if serving the church in this way is God's will for them at this time. Pray that there would be no fear in serving for those who are being nominated for the first time and pray for a desire and willingness to serve, that it would not be a burden but rather a joy.

Please also be in prayer for Pastor Natasha as she prepares for her Classical Examination coming up in October.

Do you enjoy Hospitality? Our church has been growing and council would like to help us welcome new members and deepen existing relationships in our church. We are looking for people to sign up as Weekly Hosts who will be prepared to invite guests and/or others over for lunch after Church. We are hoping to have enough people sign up that your turn would only come up every few months. Please sign up on the bulletin board as you enter the fellowship hall. This would begin in the fall, but in the meantime, we encourage everyone to take time to get to know our new members and to spend time deepening the relationships we have with each other.

From the Office

The fall season is here and church ministries are beginning. If you are looking to book the church facilities for your ministry, meeting or music practice, please contact the office to make sure what you are looking for is available. Thank you!

Are you technology oriented? We are in **DESPERATE NEED** of some more people to join our sound team for our Sunday Services and events. If this is something you may be interested in, please contact Glen D. for more info.

Church Announcements

Church Photo Directory The Photographer will be taking photos in the social hall **October 23-26**. The next couple of Sundays there will be a table in the social hall where ladies will help you & your family book a suitable time. Please help make this process go smoothly by booking early. Thank you for your cooperation, Marlene K.

Grief Share Ministry will begin on **Wednesday, September 25 @ 1:00 pm** at First CRC. This is 13-week grief support. You are welcome to join at any time. More information, contact Pastor Natasha or Jeannette S.

Cadets - Good news for boys in grades 4-9, cadets is starting on **Wednesday, Oct 2nd, 7pm** at First CRC. We will be meeting every other Wednesday, typically the same night as GEMS between 7 and 8:30. For more information please contact Alan O., Bob A. or Mark H.

You are invited to come join us **Saturday, October 5 at 10am** at the Kraay Family Farm for a fun get together! You must book your date specific tickets in advance online on the Kraay Family Farm website due to their fall hours. They are 25\$/ person, under age 3 is free. We will have a tent rented with snacks and refreshments for everyone! Please RSVP to Krystal H., Cailyn B. or Kelsey O.

Family Chats: September 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Inglewood Christian Reformed Church: The Topic is Synod 2024 and Where Do We Go from Here? We have invited our Classis delegates, Rev Henry Kranenburg, Rev. Ken Douma, Art Van Loo, and Daniel Harder to report on the important events at Synod and the key decisions made. Based on their observations and understanding, we have asked them to reflect on where this leaves our churches, especially those who sent overtures, and communications, and where we go next. This is a live event and we encourage you to attend, but it will also be livestreamed on the YouTube Chanel of Inglewood CRC.

Storytelling Night Tuesday, Oct 1st, 2024, 7:00 pm - EduDeo Ministries, ActFive, and Gateway Christian School host a Storytelling Night at Woody Nook Christian Reformed Church. Hear from Canadian, Nicaraguan, and Malawian storytellers, as they reflect on the idea of "who is my neighbour." Join us in celebrating the global Kingdom of God through an evening of fellowship and unique stories. Please RSVP here at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/1003661096357?aff=oddttdtcreatorEmail> info@edudeo.com for questions.

Calling all Men – Nov 1-3rd, Frontier Lodge is hosting another Sons and Brothers Men's Retreat. Talk to those who have gone the last couple of years to get a taste of what it all about. There's great food, engaging teaching, personal time, optional outdoor activities and times to connect with the other men from our church. Arrive between 4 and 6pm on the Friday and it all wraps up at 2pm on Sunday. The cost is \$199. Register online at Frontierlodge.ca/sons-and-brothers. Don't miss it! Let Pastor Ken know if you are interested or if you have any questions.