

Upcoming Events

October 20	October 21	October 22	October 23	October 24	October 25	October 26
10:00am Worship Service Guest Pastor Jacob Boer Sunday School Story Card #162 Youth @ Gerald & Swannie D. 7:00pm Sunday Evening Bible Study @ church	2:00 pm 60+ Bible Study 7:00 pm Friendship	<i>Office: Josephine</i> 9:30am Coffeekbreak	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts 1-2:30pm Griefshare 1:30-8:30pm Photo Directory	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 1:30-8:30pm Photo Directory	Youth-Progressive Supper 1:30pm-8:30pm Photo Directory	9:30- 4:00 pm Photo Directory
October 27	October 28	October 29	October 30	October 31	Nov. 1	Nov. 2
10:00am Worship Service Sunday School Story Card #164 Youth @ Jos & Janneke S. 7:00pm Sunday Evening Bible Study @ church	7:00 pm Friendship	<i>Office: Cheri-Lynn</i> 9:30am Coffeekbreak 1:30pm Worship Planning Committee 7:30 pm Transition Full Council Meeting	8:30am Prayer walk meet at tennis courts 1-2:30pm Griefshare 7pm GEMS & Cadets 7pm Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:30am Craft Morning		1:30pm Community Hymn Sing at Nazarene Church

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



Morning Worship Service

Welcome

- ♪ Come Now is the Time to Worship
- ♪ I Lift Your Name

Call to Worship

- ♪ O Praise the Name

God's Greeting/We welcome one another

Call to Confession & Prayer
Assurance of Pardon

- ♪ Amazing Love (You are My King)

Children's Message - Elroy L.
Sunday School for ages 3 - Grade 5

Announcements & Congregational Prayer
Offering - Thrive
Offertory

Scripture - Psalm 46
Message - Fortress & Refuge
♪ Faithful One

Blessing
♪ King of Kings

Today we welcome Pastor Jacob B. from Bethel, Lacombe.
Pastor Ken will be at Rimby CRC.

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Thank you, for all you do!	October 20 Pastor Jacob B.	October 27 Pastor Natasha	November 3 Pastor Cecil V.
Serving Elder	Chris T.	Gary V.	Albert V.
Serving Deacon	Lorraine A.	Peter B.	
Music Team	The Experience	Mosaic	Lifted Hearts
Children's Message	Elroy L.	Corinne S.	Joel S.
Nursery	Sjoukje V., Isabelle D. Amber B., Ruth D.	Margo D., Allison B. Cody & Teagan L.	Karl & Krystal H., Colleen T., Lucas H.
Coffee Host	Tom & Kathy S.	Justin & Mikala D.	Sheldon & Amber B.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Case & Marlene K. Aaron & Cheryl T.	Dirk & Sandra V. Rennie & Tina K.	Jacob & Jennifer L. Elroy & Arlene L.

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 the **St. Matthews Roman Catholic Church**.

† Congratulations to **Jack H.** celebrating a birthday on October 24! Blessings to you in this year to come!

† Congratulation to **George & Corinne V.** celebrating their 45 wedding anniversary today! Blessings to you on your special day!

† On September 27, George & Corinne V. were blessed with the birth of a beautiful granddaughter, Zoey Anne Margaret, a daughter for Brittany & Dolan, a sister for MacKenzie, Payton and Georgia.

† Congratulations to **Jacob & Courtney L.** on the birth of a son, **Theodore Jacob**, a little brother for Declan and grandson for Dave & Henriett V.

† **Pastor Natasha** had an appendectomy on Friday. Keep her in your prayers as she recuperates at home.

† 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. Check out the **Missions bulletin board**, in the social hall, for updates on the missionaries that we support.



"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations." ~ Psalm 67:1-2 ESV ~

PAKISTAN: Medical Care Denied to Elderly Christian

Sources: International Christian Concern, AsiaNews

On October 1st, Yousaf Masih Gill took his gravely ill father to the Civil Hospital in Sahiwal, Punjab, for urgent medical treatment. Seeking a doctor to care for his father, Yousaf eventually located the hospital staff, who were playing a game together. Finally, one of the physicians examined the elderly man. However, the doctor told Yousaf, "If I had known earlier that you are a Christian, I would not have touched your father."

When it was determined that the elderly believer required surgery, the doctor refused to operate on him. In response, Yousaf's brother, Babu Nadeem, organized a protest outside the hospital, together with dozens of others who heard about the situation. "We have witnessed very disappointing behavior [from] our doctors, just because we are Christians," Babu asserted.

The hospital medical officer visited the distressed family two days after the incident. Apologizing for the unprofessional behavior of the doctors, the officer assured the family that the necessary surgery would take place in the next few days. No further updates are available at the time of publishing this report.

Unfortunately, discrimination against religious minorities is common in Pakistan. They are typically forced to work long hours in oppressive jobs and frequently denied services routinely provided to Muslim citizens.

Please pray for the full recovery of this elderly Christian believer, asking our Heavenly Father to provide him the necessary medical treatment, along with greatly needed physical and emotional healing. May God's peace also rest on Yousaf, Babu, and the other members of their family who have been affected by this traumatic incident. Pray that the hospital staff will demonstrate more consideration towards our Pakistani brothers and sisters in Christ, and that positive changes will be made so future patients – regardless of their religious affiliations – will be treated with equality, respect and dignity.

Church Announcements Cont.

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation (May 27 - June 8, 2025)

Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Christmas at Sea is fast approaching here in the Port of Vancouver, and the Ministry to Seafarers is once again preparing Christmas gifts for seafarers who come here at that time. Please send donations for this project either by cheque to Ministry to Seafarers, 401 E Waterfront Rd, Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9. Or you can donate online through our website, ministrytoseafarers.com. Either way, be sure to designate your gift for the Christmas at Sea fund. Thank you!

Reframe Ministries

Kids Corner: Beatitude 3: Lead Like Jesus - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. "Humble Leader." Does that sound impossible? A humble leader makes decisions because it will help everyone who looks up to them to get better at something, feel better about themselves, or grow more confident in their abilities. Being a humble leader means we don't want "to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Liz and Friend Story Podcast: At Your Service.

Kids in Action - Do you know a kid doing a special ministry or a group of young people doing God's work right now? Maybe an artist, justice-seeker, or tree planter? Nominate them to be featured in a new Kids in Action video. Do you or a friend have a story to share? We would love to hear your story. Contact us at kidscorner@reframemedia.com. Check out all our Kids in Action seasons at kidscorner.net/kids-in-action

Groundwork: Encouragement When We Suffer for Being Christians - Have you ever been tempted to hide your faith for fear of judgment or ridicule? Join our Groundwork conversation as we study 1 Peter 3 to find courage in the grace of Jesus Christ to remain faithful to the gospel in the face of injustice and suffering. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today is Disability Awareness Sunday. First Corinthians 12 describes the church as the body of Christ—a body with many parts that play different roles. As you think about your role within your church or community, which body part(s) do you think you might be? Perhaps you are the eyes and heart, sharing empathy and kindness where you see hardship and struggle. Maybe you are the big toe, providing stability and balance. Are you like blood vessels gifted at connecting and linking others? Thank God for how God made you and how each person in God's kingdom is essential. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

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

Upcoming Offerings

October 20 - Thrive

Thrive is an agency of the Christian Reformed Church of North America (CRCNA) that encourages and equips churches in areas of faith formation, abuse prevention, disability inclusion, racial reconciliation and diversity, pastors and church support, chaplaincy, biblical justice, worship and church renewal.

For many people with disabilities, church is one of the least accessible places they go. Did you know that simply providing options makes your church more welcoming to people with disabilities? Thrive has ideas and resources for our church to help make it more accessible. You can support Thrive and their work for disability access in CRC congregations through your giving today.

October 27 - 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.

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.

Cheque - 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 Events

October 23 to 26 - Directory photos being taken - contact Marlene K. for more information

Sunday, October 27 - Installation of Elders & Deacons

Worship services at Clearwater Centre (1:15 pm) and Westview Lodge (2:30 pm)

Sunday, November 3 - Pastor Cecil V.

Sunday, November 10 - 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)

From Council

Today, after the service, we will put the approved names in a hat and our new council members will be the ones whose names are drawn. John M., Brenda B., Joel S., Cody L. and Sheldon B. for elders. Jim D., Mark H. and Dave V. for deacons. Lord willing, those whose names are drawn will be installed on October 27. We also want to thank Randy D., Albert V., John O., and Dave S. who are completing their terms as Elders and Lowell S. and Doug D. who have completed their terms as Deacons. We are so thankful for their willingness to serve and pray that God will bless them as they continue to serve in other areas.

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. **We would like begin this in the next couple of months**, 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.

If you know of anyone that we should be keeping in our prayers for various reasons, council asks that you please call Pastor Ken, Pastor Natasha, 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.

From the Finance Committee

Third quarter financial statements are on the table in the foyer or the office

Church Announcements

Cadets are going to be doing some woodworking projects and are looking for some items to have in the shop. They are still in *need of a belt sander*. Thank you to those who have donated items so far, it is greatly appreciated!

Cadets Firewood fundraiser - Yes, once again cadets will be selling split spruce and pine firewood in November. Cost is \$300 per trailer load, approximately 1 cord and will be delivered on Saturday, November 9. To book, please let a cadet know or go higher up the chain and contact Mark H., Bob A., Jordan P., Alan O., Devon P. or John M.

60+ Bible Study will be starting **Monday October 21 @ 2:00pm**. We will be studying a video series called "In the Dust of the Rabbi." If you have any questions, please contact Wilma Tensen or Pastor Natasha.

Calling all Men – Nov 1-3, Frontier Lodge is hosting another Sons and Brothers Men's Retreat. 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.

Noise Getting to You? Tired of Busy? Since January 2005 **InterMission Silent Retreat** has offered time away for prayer and self reflection, and rest. Consider Jesus's invitation, "Come away with me by yourself and get some rest." 2 nights accommodation, 5 meals, private room, up to 3 sessions of spiritual direction, all the amenities of the retreat centre. Nov. 1-3, Star of the North Retreat Centre, St. Albert. \$500. To register email rev.klok@gmail.com

This October, we invite you to be a **friend of Rehoboth** - help us raise to raise \$250,000 to support Rehoboth programs and services in Coaldale/Lethbridge, Calgary/Airdrie, Three Hills, Edmonton/Spruce Grove/Stony Plain and Grande Prairie. Check out www.rcmflourish.ca/donate

Let's Join the Fight to End Global Hunger! - In communities where World Renew works, extreme weather, conflict, and the lingering economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have left families grappling with hunger. We are providing emergency food helps, but World Renew understands that families need long-term solutions to food insecurity. In two weeks, let's join the fight to end global hunger. Your gift can help World Renew provide communities with life-transforming training and resources so they can overcome hunger, not just today, but for generations. For more information, go to: www.worldrenew.ca/worldhunger

Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever! Delivered by our local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way. There are some shoeboxes and labels on the table in the foyer. Get yours today! Bring your filled box to Living Branches Community Church the week of November 18-24.