



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

♪ Shine On Us

Call to Worship

God's Greeting/We Welcome One Another

♪ Lord I Need You

Call to Confession & Prayer

♪ Just As I Am Without One Plea

Assurance of Pardon

♪ Goodness of God

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

Mustard Seed Mission Trip Presentation
Announcements & Congregational Prayer
Offering for Local Church Ministries
Offertory

Scripture - 1 John 20:19-31
Message - Doubts & Faith
♪ Build My Life

Blessing
♪ Shout to the North

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 age 3 - grade 5 during the service.

Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall following the service.

www.firstcrocky.ca or [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 **Bethel Union Evangelical Free Church**.

† This morning Pastor Ken and some music team members are leading the worship service at Nordegg Community Church.

† We lift up the **Christian school communities** of Rimbey and Rocky as both have experienced losses of teachers in accidents this past week.

† Continue to keep **Tonia T. and Marvin W.** in your prayers as they are in the Rocky hospital.

† We pray for those at home: **Sylvia D.** and **Joe & Lena V.**. For those at the local care facilities: **Joan S.** 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. Every prayer you offer strengthens missionaries, opens doors for the gospel and brings Scripture into the hands of those still waiting. Perhaps God has placed a specific missionary, people group or Bible translation project on your heart. However He leads you, know that your prayers are vital to His work around the world. But prayer is just the beginning. You can also engage by learning about ongoing Bible translation projects, supporting missionaries financially or advocating for the need for Scripture in every language.

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, Pastor Natasha, an elder or deacon.

Elders are:

Anthony B., Sheldon B., Alan H., Karl H., Jessica H., Cody L., John M., Alan O., Joel S., Chris T. and Gary V.

Deacons are:

Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Jim D., Justin D., and Mark H.

Memories leading up to our 75th Anniversary

V. Family

Hi my name is Rina V. and our family immigrated to Canada in March 1999. Our first impression of Canada was snow and wide open spaces and beautiful sunsets. For us it was more moving to another country.

We had been here in 1998 twice to look around to buy a farm. We were farming in Holland with my dad and John was working a 40 hour job on the side as a foreman on a pipeline. We were planning to take over the farm but that was not possible due to the high prices. So we decided to look elsewhere and four of John's uncles had emigrated to Canada in the early 50'ties so there were always stories about Canada.

We ended up buying a hog farm in the Alhambra area and we farmed there for six years then we had to sell because the pig business was down. We couldn't make it and had to start all over again. John was able to get a water truck and started working in the oilpatch. When the oilpatch was down we sold some trucks and focused our work more on the county. Now we have a gravel truck and a water truck working for the county for road construction in the summer months.

We were able to buy an acreage from Edith V. and build a shop on there which we lived in for five years. In 2012 we were able to build a house.

Our daughter moved back to Holland in 2000 and is happily married there. (Gives us a chance to go back quite often). Our son lives close to us, is married and has two boys.

In Holland we went to (de Hervormde kerk) so the choice to go to the CRC was an easy one.

Upcoming Events

May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10
9:00am Prayer meeting 10:00am Worship Service Prayer Chain Potluck 7:00pm Mere Christianity Study 7:30pm Youth at Albert & Sjoukje V.		Office: Fran 1:00pm Revelation Bible Study 7:30pm Deacons 7:30pm Camp Committee Meeting	8:30am Prayer Meeting	12:00pm Bulletin Deadline		Youth swimming at the pool
May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17
9:00am Prayer meeting 10:00am Worship Service Sunday School story card #53 7:00pm Mere Christianity Study 7:30pm Youth at Hendri & Deanna H.		Office: Cheri-Lynn 7:30pm Admin	8:30am Prayer Meeting	12:00pm Bulletin Deadline 9:30am Craft Morning		

All bulletins can be found online www.firstcrocky.ca

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

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Thank you, for all you do!	May 4	May 11	May 18
	Pastor Natasha	Pastor Ken	Pastor Ken
Serving Elder	John M.	Cody L.	Alan O.
Serving Deacon	Lorraine A.	Peter B.	Ken B.
Music Team	The Experience	Lifted Hearts	Six Track
Children's Message	Corinne S.	Pastor Ken	Elroy L.
Nursery	Jacob & Jennifer L., Marlene O., Teslynn A.	Mark & Keanna H., Margo D., Caleb O.	Justin & Courtney D., Alyssa D., Ruth D.
Coffee Host	Ernie & Jeannette S.	Dave & Henriett V.	Joel & Corinne S.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Dave & Sandra S. Randy & Annette D.	John & Rina V. Rob & Fran D.	John & Jean B. Justin & Mikala D.

Deacon's Corner ~ Lorraine A., Peter B., Ken B., Jim D., Justin D., Mark H.

Upcoming Offerings

May 4 - 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.

May 11 - World Renew (Women of Hope)

In communities around the world many people do not know the best practices for protecting their health. This Mother's Day, 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!

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. Coupons can be directly purchased from a Deacon, in the Council room on Sunday mornings.

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

Sunday, May 25 - Worship services at Clearwater Centre (1:15pm) & Westview Lodge (2:30)

Saturday, May 31 - Church Workbee (8:00am)

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 would love to pray with you.

Contact the team through email, the church office, phone call, or through the website anonymously.

75th Anniversary Upcoming Events

Church Picnic - July 1, if you would like to help out with this event, contact Brenda B., Chris T., Rita B. or Joanne T.

Rocky Parade - We are putting a float in the parade on **June 7**.

A Church Campout - Planning continues for the 75th anniversary campout at the Vandenbrink Ranch on **August 22-24**. Please RSVP by *completing the survey* sent to your email. If you require a paper copy, there are some on the back table in the foyer. Please put your completed survey in mailbox 102. The cost for camping is \$50 for the weekend. If you have any questions contact Cailyn B. or Lydia B.

Church Announcements

Thank you to our friends and family who celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary with us and for all the beautiful wishes, cards and phone calls.
Herb & Gertie W.

Prayer Chain Potluck - today, after church in the Social Hall, the Prayer Chain volunteers will be hosting a potluck. You are invited if you are currently on the prayer chain list or if you are wondering what might be involved in being on the prayer chain. The requirement is that you feel called to pray. If you would like more info, please join us for lunch **today** or talk to Anita M. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Bridal Shower - Ladies please join us as we celebrate with a bridal shower for Isabelle D. (bride elect of Shaw L.). We will be gathering **Sunday, May 18 at 2:00** in the social hall. If you are able to bring a written recipe to share in a book for the bride that would be greatly appreciated.

Seniors Luncheon - We are planning to go out for lunch at the Pine Hills Golf Course Restaurant on Wednesday, **May 7th at 12:00 noon**. Hope that's a good date for everyone! If not, please let me know. There's a sign-up sheet on the Seniors Table in the Social Hall and you can also text Ella. Everyone welcome!



Voice
of the
Martyrs

PERSECUTION
& PRAYER
ALERT

"I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the Gospel, so that it has become known...that my imprisonment is for Christ.

And most of the brothers...are much more bold to speak the word without fear."

~ Philippians 1:12-14 ESV ~

INDONESIA: Easter Services Continued Amidst Protests

Sources: International Christian Concern, Bandung Bererak, Morning Star News

On March 5th, local residents in Bandung City held a protest against members of the Santa Odilia church. The community members opposed the use of a multipurpose facility for worship, even though the building is owned by the Catholic church.

Despite the opposition, church members were determined to continue with their plans to hold Easter weekend services. However, as worshippers attempted to gather at the facility for "Maundy Thursday" (in commemoration of the Lord's Last Supper), they were forced to find a different route to the location because of a road blockade. Additionally, near the building, protestors set up loudspeakers and broadcasted nationalist songs in an attempt to disrupt the Christian service. Undeterred by these disturbances, the believers continued to pray and worship together.

On Saturday, April 19th, the church members gathered for another time of worship, entering the building through a side door. As the service started, opposing villagers once again began loudly protesting in their efforts to interrupt the worship gathering. Thankfully, local police officers, along with civilian security personnel, surrounded the building to protect the congregants. The authorities were also able to intervene when some demonstrators attempted to break into the building. After the service, the worshippers returned home via a specified route that provided police protection. The church members were deeply thankful for the security measures afforded to them, and the assistance they received was described as a "glimmer of tolerance amidst the wave of protests."

The use of buildings for religious purposes is frequently a source of conflict for those opposed to Christian worship in Indonesia. In addition to strong resistance from local Muslim residents, the registration process for a new worship facility can take many years.

- Praise God that the authorities were able to assist members of the Santa Odilia church and prevent the incident from escalating to violence.
- Pray that these believers will receive divine wisdom as they seek to share the love of Jesus with opposing residents and establish amiable relationships within their community.
- Pray that this congregation, along with the many other churches facing similar situations in Indonesia, will be able to peacefully gather for worship without further harassment.

Reframe Ministries

Kids Corner: Connecting Like Jesus in the Digital World - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Connecting Like Jesus in the Digital World" at www.kidscorner.net. God wants us to build good relationships with others, just like Jesus did. We can use technology to stay connected, but we should always be kind, loving, and thoughtful in how we interact with others. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Coloring Packet Collection.

Groundwork: Christian Engagement in Societal Issues - Together, let's delve into the complexities of Christian engagement in societal issues. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Romans 13:1-7, 1 Peter 2:13-17, Romans 3:10-12, and James 2:1-9 to discover practical insights and biblical wisdom to help us discern what it means to faithfully engage and embrace our role in shaping a more just and God-honoring society. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

World Renew

Will You Give a Gift of Hope to Support Mothers? - Next week, on Women of Hope Sunday, discover how through your gift of support to World Renew's Maternal Newborn and Child Health program you can help new and expectant mothers learn about pregnancy and child care best practices, ways to grow their income, proper nutrition, fostering healthy relationships, and so much more—so they can become Women of Hope—women helping their families and communities to thrive. For more information go to: worldrenew.ca/womenofhope

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Teacher Appreciation Week - Ephesians 4 says that Christ himself gave us leaders, including teachers, "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (4:11, NIV). At a mealtime with family members this week, share a story of a teacher who had a big impact on your life. How did God use them to help guide and encourage you? Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

The King's University

Blessed are the Undone: Faith, Deconstruction, and Hope in Canada — Join us on **Saturday, May 31** for a one-day conference at The King's University. Explore hope amid church conflict with Angela Reitsma Bick, co-author of *Blessed are the Undone*. Workshops, lectures, and round-table discussions will pull from and build on data and stories from *Blessed are the Undone*, drawing in examples from Alberta. Angela's keynote will end with suggestions for "reconstruction-friendly" postures in an era of deconstruction. Visit <https://www.newleafnetwork.ca/events/undoneedmonton> to register for this event.

Church Announcements

New Members Class Do you ever wonder what it means to become a member of First CRC? Beginning in May, we will be offering "A New Members Course." This course is for you if you are:

- New to the First Christian Reformed Church in Rocky Mtn. House
- New to the Christian Reformed Church denomination
- New to the whole Christianity ... everything
- Preparing for your profession of faith
- Or just curious

This is a 4-week commitment. If you are interested, please talk to or email Pastor Natasha pastornatasha@rockycrc.ca

March for Life at the Edmonton Legislature grounds. **May 8, 12-2:30 pm.** Human life is sacred, from conception to natural death. Speak up to help gain legal protection for those most vulnerable: pre-born, aged, infirmed. "All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." Edmon Burke. Gather some people and speak for the lives of those who cannot speak for themselves. *Red Deer Pro Life*

The Lord's Food Bank Annual General Meeting will held **May 14th 5:30 pm** at the Food Bank. A meal will be provided. New Board Members are needed and new society members are always welcome. Please consider coming out and learning more about the Foodbank and how to support it.

Sonrise Camp (July 6-11 and July 13-18) has several opportunities to serve including: **cook helpers, counselors, worship band/musicians, games person, craft person and bus drivers.** If you are interested or want more information please talk to Marie A., Zachary B., Lydia B., Sheldon B., Cody L. or Cheri-Lynn B. or sign up on the bulletin board. Registration forms are available on the back table and the website.

Vacation Bible Camp (July 21-24) Ages 5-9 can join us for this 4-day camp as we focus on some amazing real-life encounters with Jesus. Volunteers needed are: **head cook and kitchen helpers.** Contact Cailyn B. for more information to volunteer or sign up on the bulletin board. Registration forms are available on the back table and the website.

The April "Flourish" newsletter is now available on the table in the foyer. "Flourish" newsletter may have been sent to your church; however, we encourage you to access our online newsletter via the website <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/about/flourish-newsletter/> To stay informed and up to date with Rehoboth's events, prayer needs and celebrations of success stories you can sign up to receive an electronic copy, which would be emailed directly to you. Thank you for your support to Rehoboth Christian Ministries Three Hills community and Provincial services.