

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 through Grade 5 during the service.
Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall following the service.

www.firstcrocky.ca or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse)

CHURCH FAMILY

“For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”
Ephesians 3:14-19

† 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 Church**.

† Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays this coming week: **John B.** (March 2), **Neels H.** (March 2) and **Lena V.** (March 4)!

† **Nancy O.** will be leaving for Nepal on Thursday with Servants Anonymous. Please pray for safety as the team travels and that we would bring God’s love and compassion to the women and children.

† We pray for those at home **Sylvia D.** and **Joe & Lena V.** We also pray for our members at the local care facilities: **Joan S.** and **Tonia T.** We pray 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. *“Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel...”* (Ephesians 6:19). Missionaries are regular people who fear pain and rejection as much as anyone else. When faced with opposition, they need God’s strength to help them stand firm. **Pray ...**

- ***That the Holy Spirit will provide missionaries with words that communicate effectively in other cultures and languages.***
- ***That they will have boldness to overcome the fear of embarrassment or failure.***
- ***Against evil forces that would seek to hinder the spread of the gospel.***

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 a deacon.

Elders are: Brenda B., Sheldon B., Alan H., Karl H., Cody L., John M., Nancy O., Richard O., Ernie S., Joel S. and Gary V.

Deacons are: Lorraine A., Ken B., Anneleen D., Jim D., Mark H. and Jacob L.

Having the Identity of a Servant

Second Sunday of Lent

HOW SHALL WE RESPOND THIS WEEK?

Fasting

- Fast from running away. How might you be running from God or from the commitment/call God has asked of you?

Prayer

- Read Joshua 1 and pray for the courage and strength to go where God sends you even if the road looks difficult.

Around the Kitchen Table

- What sacrifices in your daily life might you have to make in order to commit fully to God? Are there things you are afraid to let go of or to undertake that you think God might be asking you to do?
- Have you ever done something you were afraid to do for the sake of service to God or your neighbor? How did God help you overcome that fear? Consider sharing your experiences in an appropriate setting as a testimony of God’s work in your life.

Ideas for Including Children and Teens

- For elementary kids and younger, consider having a sharing time at dinner. When they share a story about being like Jesus, everyone puts a button (or coin or rock etc.) in a jar and you can watch the jar fill up during Lent. During Holy Week, consider bringing out a large jar already filled up as a reminder of what Jesus has already done for us.
- For middle schoolers and high schoolers, consider deciding together on a service project for Lent. Plan out how it will affect extracurricular activities and talk about what sorts of sacrifices are worth it for living a life of service.

Weekly Calendar of Events

March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7
10:00am Worship Service Communion 7:00pm Colossians Study Youth @ Mark/Jessica H.	7:00pm Friendship	Office: Fran 9:30am Coffeebreak 7:30pm Deacons	8:30am Prayer Meeting 10-4pm Church booked 7:30pm Men's Bible Study	12:00pm Bulletin Deadline Crafting - All Day Quilt 'til You Wilt	Crafting - All Day Quilt 'til You Wilt Classis Alberta North Meets - Edmonton	Classis Alberta North Meets - Edmonton
March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14
10:00am Worship Service 7:00pm Nehemiah Study Youth games night at Alhambra Hall	7:00pm Friendship	Office: Cheri-Lynn 9:30am Coffeebreak	7:00am Ministerial Prayer Breakfast 8:30am Prayer Meeting 10:00am Revelation Study 7:00pm GEMS Cadets Catechism	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.

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Thank you, for all you do!	March 1 Pastor Ken	March 8 Pastor Natasha	March 15 Pastor Ken
Serving Elder	Ernie S.	Joel S.	Gary V.
Serving Deacon	Anneleen D.	Mark H.	Jacob L.
Music Team	Mosaic	Lifted Hearts	Six Track
Children's Message	Pastor Natasha	Corinne S.	Elroy L.
Sunday School Helpers	Allison B., Jace H., Charley T.	Jamie D., Landon P., Debbie S.	Jamie D., Russell D., Caleb D.
Nursery	Justin & Courtney D. Alan H., Chelsey B.	Colleen T., Reid D. Karl & Krystal H.	Cody & Teagan L., Marion R., Cadence B.
Coffee Host	Karl & Krystal H.	John & Anita M.	Alan & Kelsey D.
Greeters/Coffee Cleanup	Harold & Bevin S. Art & Karen T.	Doug & Penny B. Kelly B.	Jo-Ann D. ArLynn D.

Deacon's Corner ~ Lorraine A., Ken B., Anneleen D., Jim D., Mark H., Jacob L.

Upcoming Offerings

March 1 - Local Church Ministries

Local Church Ministries offerings go to cover all our budget commitments: staff, office expenses, power, heat, insurance, children's programs, mission support and ministry shares.

March 8 - Partner's Worldwide

Transforming Lives, One Partnership at a Time - we are dedicated to fighting global poverty by empowering entrepreneurs through strategic partnerships with locally led institutions in communities around the world. This improves the livelihoods of individuals and families and stimulates local economies, creating a ripple effect of positive change.

Gratefully Received February 15-22

Canadian Foodgrains Bank \$2,777 Canadian Justice Ministries \$790
Local Church Ministries \$1060

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's following the service.

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.

Prayer Ministry

Would you like prayer, but are unsure how or who to ask?

In the pews there are Prayer Request envelopes.

On the outside of the envelope - you can select who you would like to pray for you

Inside - there is a card for more details and contact information if needed.

In the foyer is a prayer request box for submitting these prayer requests.

Whatever you are going through - times of beauty or ones of trouble - we would love to pray with you.

Visit www.firstcrocky.ca (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link) to submit a request online.

Upcoming Services

Sunday, March 22

Baptism of Dayne L. (Cody & Teagan)

Sunday, March 29

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

Church Announcements

Church Janitor required - We are looking to fill a shared part-time janitor position. The position is quarter-time with Alissa. For more information or to apply please contact Tom S.

Devotional Idea for Lent: Most people think about fasting from something for Lent which can be a helpful practice; but consider being intentional about adding something this year to help you draw closer to God. That could be any number of things, one helpful tool you may want to consider is the *Lectio 365 App* that leads through 3 times of prayer and scripture reading each day. Our men's Bible study is going through a book on Prayer by Pete Greig and this is a tool he and others have put together to practice the *P.R.A.Y* acronym we've been looking at (*Pause, Rejoice, Ask, Yield*). You can read or listen as the app guides you through a time of prayer and there are also some videos available this Lent you can watch as well.

Thank you so much for the generous donations for the women & children of Nepal. I'm sure they will be very much appreciated. I am leaving this Thursday, March 5 and will be in Nepal for 11 days. I will join a group of women from Alberta, British Columbia and Washington. We will be the first group to enter into the lives of these women and their children who have been rescued from sex trafficking. Servants Anonymous (SA Foundation) works with these women, supplying safe housing, giving education, trauma assistance through self-esteem classes and hands on work skills, like sewing. Most of the women are in the program for 3 to 7 years. Please pray for safety as we travel and that we would bring God's love and compassion to the women and children. *Nancy O.*



*"We will not leave Christ. We will live as Christians;
and when we die, we will die as Christians."
~ Suguda Soren, a teen who was orphaned in January 2026 ~*

CHINA: Outcomes for Recently Arrested Believers

Sources: ChinaAid, Church in Chains

On January 6th, seven members of the Early Rain Covenant Church were arrested, marking another development in the ongoing campaign against this unregistered congregation.

In a recent update, it was confirmed that three of the detained believers have been released on bail pending trial. One of the Christians, Liang Zhongyuan, was released on February 5th but remains under surveillance at a relative's home in Chengdu. Zhang Xinjue, the wife of Elder Li Yingqiang, was released on February 6th, along with Brother Lin.

The remaining four detainees have been formally charged with "inciting subversion of state power." Ye Fenghua and Deacon Jia Xuewei have been placed under "Residential Surveillance at a Designated Location." Elder Li Yingqiang and Preacher Dai Zhichao are currently being held at the Deyang Detention Centre.

These arrests form part of a broader campaign against the church that began in December 2018, resulting in the detainment of over 100 congregation members to date. This included the high-profile arrest and conviction of the church's lead pastor, Wang Yi. Review more reports addressing the multiple challenges encountered by this long-suffering congregation.

- ***Pray that God's intervention and guidance will take place in the lives of these persecuted believers – and many others across China – as they seek justice and vindication through the country's legal system.***
- ***Continue to prayerfully uphold the members of Early Rain Covenant Church, asking the Lord to strengthen their witness as they faithfully share the Gospel message in the midst of ongoing pressures.***
- ***Pray that believers who are presently detained in China's prisons or detention centres will seize the outreach opportunities presented to them by brightly shining the 'light of Christ' while awaiting their release from confinement.***

Church Announcements

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation (Oct 9-19, 2026):

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 616.328.3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Support for Students - Classis Alberta North's Student Support Team invites those considering full-time ordained or non-ordained ministry in the Christian Reformed Church to apply for a forgivable loan to support their Graduate studies. Application and information at: <http://www.classisalbertanorth.ca/student-support-team.html>

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Self-Control: Say Yes to God - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Self-Control: Say Yes to God," at www.kidscorner.net. Discover how practicing self-control can help you be kind, helpful, and filled with joy every day! You'll discover fun ways to put others first and show big love in small moments. Prepare for Easter with all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net), like Kids Corner's Lent Devotional.

Groundwork: Jesus: Condemned by Religious Leaders and Denied by Peter - Moving through the Stations of the Cross brings us to witness Jesus before the Sanhedrin, where he is condemned, and to the courtyard when Peter denies him. Join Groundwork as we study Luke 22:66-71 and Matthew 26:69-75 to follow our Savior this Lent, discover comfort for our own fears and failures, and reflect on the profound meaning of Jesus' experience. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Right before his forty days in the wilderness, Jesus presented himself for baptism. When John objected, Jesus said, "It is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness" (Matt. 3:15). We administer baptism—a sign of dying and rising—to mark the beginning of every new life in Christ. Sometime this week, dip your finger in water and reflect on these words often declared during baptisms: "You are sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own." Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

World Renew

Beyond the Headlines: Faith, Community, and the Stories that Shape Us - Join a new justice education series from Thrive, World Renew, and the Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue. This four-part series explores immigration, food justice, climate justice, and gender justice through a biblical lens—equipping participants to recognize harmful narratives, understand root causes, and take meaningful, faith-informed action. Learn more and register today: tinyurl.com/yrhe9a6b

Church Announcements

CRC Funeral Fund - The AGM was held and members voted on increasing the annual fee to \$80/person. Please pay **BEFORE MARCH 8** to avoid a \$10 late fee. Please make cheques payable to *CRC Funeral Fund*. Place payment in mailbox #79 or give to Marlene K.

Men's Bible Study - All men are invited to come to the church every other Wednesday evening (please check the calendar for dates) **at 7:30pm** for a study based on the book, "*How to Pray - A Simple Guide for Normal People.*"

Pastor Ken and Pastor Natasha are looking to see if there is interest in hosting a **Profession of Faith class** this spring. If you are interested, please contact a Pastor.

The Crafting Ladies Group are having a two day "**Craft Till You Wilt**" **Thursday (March 5) and Friday (March 6) starting at 10am**. We are inviting all ladies to come see what we are about. You are welcome to bring a craft, knitting, crocheting etc. to work on or just come to visit and have coffee morning or afternoon. Our special community project will be making bibs for the Clearwater Center. This involves simple cutting and sewing which you are welcome to help out with.

Attention to anyone interested in an 8-week Bible study! We will begin a new Old Testament Bible study on Nehemiah on **March 8th at 7:00 pm** here at First CRC. If you are interested in joining us, please feel free to speak with Pastor Natasha or John M.

You are invited - for a time of **swimming fun and fellowship** at the Rocky Pool **on March 28 from 4-5pm**. No need to sign up, just show up! Any questions, you can talk to Krystal H. or Cailyn B.

Rocky & District Ministerial Community Prayer Breakfast - You are invited to come to the Lou Soppit Centre and join Christians from a variety of churches on **March 11 from 7-8:30am** for our annual community prayer breakfast. Tickets are \$30.00 and are available from the office. Come and pray for various leaders and servants in our community.

Have you been heard? Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the **2026 CRC denominational survey**. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please **visit crcna.org/survey/396** to answer the survey questions by March 31.