

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Kerry W, Tina S, Joseph D, Avery V
Dec 18 Ella S, Marjan D, Chris K, Devon M
Dec 25 Kerry W, Rosanne V, Lillian K
Jan 1 Lillian K, Tammy K, Christian S, Joseph D

AV

Today Tim K & Emerson V
Dec 18 Tim K & Emerson V
Dec 25 Beverley & John vH
Jan 1 Beverley & John vH

Sunday School

Renee B, Julia W
Renee B, Emerson V
Renee B, Emerson V
Renee B,

Coffee Clean Up

Today Peter & Jacoba D
Dec 18 Fred & Linda M
Dec 25 John & Beverley vH
Jan 1 Matt & Charmaine V

Greeters

Pete & Tammy Ks
Matt & Charmaine V
Jamie & Renee B
John & Beverley vH

Offerings

Today Maranatha Christian Academy
Dec 18 Essex Food Bank
Dec 25 Essex Food Bank
Jan 1 Ministry Shares

Preacher

Mr. Matt VandenBrink
Pastor Steve Vandyk
Pastor Steve Vandyk
Pastor Steve Vandyk



Our Church facility is equipped with an Induction Loop Assistive Listening System. See a member of the Sound team for assistance



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EssexCRC Like us and keep informed with what is happening here!

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Tuesday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wednesday – Day off
Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Church Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Contact Information

pastor@essexcrc.ca 519-776-5071 (Church office), 519-919-9605 (Home)
Church Office – Contact Information 519-776-5071, office@essexcrc.ca

Essex CRC Council Executive

Council Chair – Greg S
Vice-Chair – Matt V
Clerk – Ben V clerk@essexcrc.ca
Deacon Chair – Linda M

The December Banner and November/December Today booklets are ready for pick up on the back table.



ESSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071

www.essexcrc.ca

Sunday December 11, 2022

Morning Worship 10:00 am

SUNDAY DECEMBER 11, 2022

Weekly Offerings

Welcome to everyone either here in-person or online to our worship service this morning. Do plan to stay and enjoy a cup of coffee with us in the fellowship hall.

Our Church Family

Keep those family members and friends in prayer as they endure with various health issues **Jack D, Carl J, Gail L, Anna R, Gerry S, Winny S, Johanna W** along with our elderly in care homes or those receiving extra support (**Pete & Betty A, Cory B, Nick K Sr, Anna P, and Simon & Doris V.**)

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Congratulations to Pastor Steve V (Wed) & Greg Y (Fri). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

10:00 am – Third Sunday of Advent Morning Worship with Mr. Matt VandenBrink in-person or online at Facebook/Essex CRC.

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Catechism – Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Essex Ministerial Advent Luncheon – Wednesday at 12:00 Essex CRC

Our mid-week Advent services will be here at Essex CRC. Pastor Russell Rogers will be leading this half hour service followed by a lunch in the fellowship hall.

Praise Practice – Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Time of Prayer – Saturday at 8:45 am

Next Sunday December 18, 2022

10:00 am – Fourth Sunday of Advent Morning Worship with Pastor Steve Vandyk in-person or online at Facebook/EssexCRC.

THANK YOU,

I like to thank everyone for the prayers and best wishes I received while in the hospital. I feel good but it will be a while to fully recover.

Pete and Betty A

THE MITTEN TREE IS BACK

The Mitten Tree is ready to be adorned with some much needed winter weather accessories. Congregation, we would love to see the tree full of mittens, scarves and hats again this year. You can drop off your donations on Sunday morning or during church office hours.

Today's offerings are for the **FINANCIAL MINISTRY PLAN** and **MARANATHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

MCA is located in Windsor, ON. They provide an ideal environment for Godly growth of the mind, heart and soul of students in Junior Kindergarten through to Grade 12.

December 18 offering is for Essex Food Bank

TOUR THE BIBLICAL LANDS OF ISRAEL

March 6 – March 17, 2023. Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to toursofisrael.wordpress.com or call Peter Tuininga: 1 289 877 8433 or e-mail: peter.tuininga@gmail.com

COMMUNITY FLOURISHING COHORT

Is your congregation interested in helping your neighborhood and community thrive? This year-long cohort held in partnership between World Renew US and Diaconal Ministries Canada will inspire and mobilize your congregation to love, listen to, and engage with your neighbors, neighborhoods, and local organizations as you seek to cultivate a place of flourishing. Learn and practice the basic principles of strengths based community driven engagement and take steps to live them out in the congregation's neighborhood. Starts the evening of January 19 and then monthly on every third Thursday. For more information contact jkoeman@worldrenew.net or apply for the cohort at www.worldrenew.net/events

CANADIAN NATIONAL GATHERING 2023

Every three years, representatives of Christian Reformed churches and classes across Canada gather to discuss, pray, listen, and plan next steps for ministry at a congregational, regional, and national level. The next Canadian National Gathering will be held May 25-28, 2023 in Ottawa, Ontario, on the campus of Algonquin College and will focus on Indigenous justice and reconciliation. Representatives from every classis across Canada are invited to participate. If you are interested in attending to represent your area, please talk to someone who is attending the next meeting of your classis. For information, go to www.crcna.org/canadian-national-gathering

GOD'S LOVE AT CHRISTMAS

Share the warmth of God's love with a person living in poverty through your donation for World Renew's Gift Catalog this Christmas. Give a life-changing gift to a family that is facing hardship and hunger in the year ahead. Donate today at www.worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972.

ADVENT: GOD'S JOY

Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net We know the words to the song well, "Joy to the World, the Lord has come..." But what exactly is the joy of Christmas all about? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

DEVOTIONS FOR A BLUE CHRISTMAS

In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's word. A set of fourteen encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas seasons, you're not alone. Receive this free email series and ebook when you subscribe to Today at www.todaydevotional.com/bluechristmas

GROUNDWORK

MARY: THE ANGEL GABRIEL FORETELLS JESUS' BIRTH

Our understanding of the virgin birth begins with the story of the angel Gabriel appearing to Mary. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Luke 1:1-4, 26-56 to learn from Mary's strong example of faith, wholly trusting God and submitting to his will in our lives as we continue to prepare our hearts for Christmas. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

ADVENT AT-HOME FAITH FORMATION TIP

During Advent, we light the candle of Joy. Joy is not a fleeting happiness, but an attitude of the heart that springs from gratitude. What brings you joy? How might you spread joy to others? Wonder and talk about that this week. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY DECEMBER 11, 2022 MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

WORSHIP LEADER – MR. MATT VANDENBRINK
MUSIC – ASHLEY ALLEN, PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

- Prelude
- Welcome & Opening
- Call to Worship
- Advent Candle Reading
- † Gathering Song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LUYH 61:1,2,3*
- † God's Greeting
- † Song of Praise "O Come, All Ye Faithful" *LUYH 76*
"We Three Kings" *on screen*

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

- Prayer of Confession
- Assurance of Pardon

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

- Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *plate*
Maranatha Christian Academy – *bag*

THE PROCLAMATION

- Children's Song "Stay Awake, Be Ready" *on screen*
Children are invited to come forward during the children's song
- Children's Moment
- The Prayers of God's People and Illumination
- Scripture Reading Matthew 2: 1 – 16
- Message Wise Men Still Seek Him
- † Song of Response "The Perfect Wisdom of Our God" *on screen*

THE SENDING

- † Benediction
- † Doxology "My God, My King" *on screen*
- † Postlude
- † *Indicates Congregation standing if able*