

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Ella S, Marjan D, Chris K, Devon M
Dec 25 Kerry W, Rosanne V, Lillian K
Jan 1 Lillian K, Rosanne V, Christian S, Joseph D
Jan 8 Tammy K, Greg S, Chris K, Devon M

AV

Today Tim K & Emerson V
Dec 25 Beverley & John vH
Jan 1 Beverley & John vH
Jan 8 Chris & Sterling S

Sunday School

Renee B, Emerson V
Renee B, Emerson V
Renee B
Renee B

Coffee Clean Up

Today Fred & Linda M
Dec 25 John & Beverley vH
Jan 1 Matt & Charmaine V
Jan 8 Henry & Alta V

Greeters

Matt & Charmaine V
Jamie & Renee B
John & Beverley vH
Ben Schinkel Sr.

Offerings

Today Essex Food Bank
Dec 25 Essex Food Bank
Jan 1 Ministry Shares
Jan 8 Therefore Go Ministries

Preacher

Pastor Steve Vandyk
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 18, 2022

Morning Worship 10:00 am

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

Anna R is doing well after her recent surgery. She is feeling much better. The tingling and numbness in her neck, arms and hands has gone and will need to wear a neck brace for the next few months. She is thankful for all the well wishes and prayers for her over the past couple years.

Carl J had surgery this past week and the doctors were please with the surgery. We pray for continued good recovery at home. Both Carl & Florence are thankful for everyone keeping them in prayer.

Continue to keep those members in prayer who are recovering from all of the winter illness.

Keep our church family in prayer who ae grieving family members during this Christmas season.

Let us also pray for a safe time as many will travel for Christmas celebrations.

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 Marjan D (Thurs) & Cathy R (Fri). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

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

Praise Practice – Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Time of Prayer – Saturday at 8:45 am

Next Sunday December 25, 2022

10:00 am – Christmas Day Morning Worship with Pastor Steve Vandyk in-person or online at Facebook/EssexCRC.

ATTENTION CONGREGATION- 2022 DONATIONS

Please note the final count for 2022 will be held on **Sunday December 25, 2022**. Any monies received after that date will be posted to 2023.

We thank you for your dedication to meeting the Financial Plan of the Essex CRC for 2022.
The Treasurer and Counting Committee

Today's offerings are for the **FINANCIAL MINISTRY PLAN** and **ESSEX FOOD BANK**

December 25 offering is for Essex Food Bank

THE MITTEN TREE IS BACK

Today is the last day to donate to the Mitten Tree. This coming week the Deacons will bring the items to the Essex Food Bank.

SENDING A HUGE THANK YOU,

We would like to say a Huge Thank You to all who donated baked goods, soups & chili's for our Bake Sale & Luncheon last week. We had a good turnout of community & church families and friends come out to support us. We sold out of everything!! ♥ We are also so excited to give Gabriella S with monies towards her missions.

Also thanks to everyone who has supported us throughout 2022! We could not have done everything without you!
The Social Committee

SHARE GOD'S LOVE AT CHRISTMAS

Next week, around the world, God's faithful will gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Through Christ's birth, God revealed his unwavering love for us and hope for the future. Many of us will gather with family and friends to enjoy a meal, but across the globe there are people in conflict zones who will spend the day in fear; there are families who will have nothing to eat; and entire communities will be lamenting the impacts of extreme weather. For many the future looks bleak, but we can share God's love and hope through a gift from the World Renew Gift Catalogue: from nutrition kits for children, to training in a new income-generating skill like beekeeping, to tools that help reduce the workload of a farmer – each gift can help change the story of poverty and hunger. To give a gift of hope, visit: www.worldrenew.ca/gifts

BEGIN 2023 WITH FREE CRC LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Register now to take the Thriving Essentials virtual training in January at no cost (limit 25 persons). The two, 2-hour-long Zoom sessions (Jan. 11 + 18) can help get all church leaders on the same page concerning the key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Take the class for yourself, then decide if attendance would benefit your core church leadership. More info at: www.crcna.org/Thrive

SoCo BEACH PROJECT: SUMMER YOUNG ADULT DISCIPLESHIP EXPERIENCE

Are you or is someone you know a young adult (18 - 29) looking to dig deeper into the life of faith and what impact that has on their unfolding life story? Check out the SoCo Beach Project - an intentional Christian community experience from May-August located in Port Dover, ON. Applications are open for SoCo 2023- deadline is January 16, 2023. For more info, email Pastor Willemina Zwart info@southcoastbeachproject.org Check out www.southcoastbeachproject.org and this video to hear the reflections of last year's participants: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSxgWO4eNZs&t=3s>

ADVENT: LOVE AS AN ACTION

Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net People usually think of love as a feeling. Did you ever think of love as an action? Well, God's love is active! Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

GROUNDWORK: JOSEPH: THE VIRGIN BIRTH AND PROPHECIES FULFILLED

It isn't until Joseph receives angelic confirmation that he believes the miracle of the virgin birth. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 1:18-25 to discuss how this fulfills Old Testament prophecies and gives us confidence to trust in God's continued presence and faithfulness in our lives as we prepare for his second coming. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

2023 YOUTH ADULT WINTER RETREAT

Who: Young adults ages 18-30ish

What: A weekend retreat for young adults.

When: Friday January 20 - Sunday January 22, 2023

Where: Maranatha CRC, Woodstock, ON

Why: To help young adults (18-30ish) grow in their relationship with Jesus as well as with other young adults in the Southern Ontario region.

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/ovHG7Ja45wrVr64d9>

We wanted to highlight that the early bird registration deadline ends on Christmas Eve; the price for early birds is \$55. Following Christmas Eve, the price will increase to \$65 with the registration deadline being January 13. We are so blessed to be able to offer everything included at the same price as previous years, and are praying for an amazing turnout of young adults!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY DECEMBER 18, 2022 MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

PASTOR STEVE VANDYK
MUSIC – ASHLEY ALLEN, PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Opening

Advent Candle Reading

† God's Greeting

† Song of Praise “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *LUYH* 61: 1, 2, 3, 4
“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry” *LUYH* 70

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Prayer of Confession Psalm 86: 1 – 13

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Response “I Will Wait for You” *on screen*

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *plate*
Essex Food Bank – *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

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9: 6 – 7
John 10: 30 – 38

Message Rejoice

† Song of Response “What Child is This” *LUYH* 95

THE SENDING

† Benediction

† Doxology “Good Christian Friends Rejoice” *LUYH* 98

† Postlude

† *Indicates Congregation standing if able*