

How WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today

Usher

Today

Coffee Clean Up

Today

Scripture Readers

Today

Children's Moment

Elevator

Little Lambs

Today

Sunday School

Offerings

Today

Library

Pastoral Prayer

Today

Worship Leader



Our Church facility is equipped with an Induction Loop Assistive Listening System. See an Usher or 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!

Church Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Church Office Contact Information

519-776-5071

office@essexcrc.ca

From the Mat'ters – We need your milk bags for our mats. You can leave them in the grey box downstairs.



**ESSEX CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**

519-776-5071
www.essexcrc.ca

Sunday April 19, 2020
Morning Worship 10:00 am

SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2020

Our Church Family

Harry has received a Cancer free diagnosis from his recent kidney surgery. We thank God for this healing for Harry.

Calvin broke his leg this past week. Keep **Eric & Melissa** and **Calvin** in prayer as Calvin's leg heals and Melissa rests until the end of her pregnancy.

Keep those family members and friends in prayer as they endure with various health issues, **Gail, Wilma** along with those who cannot attend our services because they are in various nursing and retirement homes (**Pete & Betty, Cory, Diny, Nick Sr, and Anna**).

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Congratulations to Joel (Sunday) and Winny (Fri). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

All activities are cancelled for this week.

HUGE CADET YARD SALE

The cadets are planning to host a massive yard sale on the front yard of the church on the same weekend as the annual Cottam Yard Sale on Saturday, June 6.

What we need is YOUR STUFF! We need all of you to take a good look at your stuff to see what you would be willing to donate to our cause. We will take ANYTHING from artwork and armchairs to toys and tools.....baby clothes and bicycles to shoes and sports equipment.....books and board games to camping gear and cameras.

Anything will be accepted and any leftover items will be donated to the Mission Thrift Store in Windsor. Bring your items to church from now until the end of May and we will store it for the big day!!! Talk to any of the cadet leaders for details or to arrange a drop-off.

FROM THE REACH OUT

Due to the ongoing challenges we have during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Reach Out committee has cancelled April Movie Night and also the May Hymn sing scheduled for Sunday May 3. They hope to reschedule the Hymn Sing for the Fall!

FROM COUNCIL

The Ontario Government has continued to advise people not to gather. **Therefore, Council has cancelled all our worship services and activities for the month of April.** Council wants to remind us to keep in contact with our church members and encourage all of us to keep safe. If you have any concerns or needs, please let your Community Elder know. Community lists are found in the Church Directory.

Weekly Offerings

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

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

April 26 offering is for World Renew Refugee Sunday.

PAR – PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE PROGRAM

When the Pre-Authorized Remittance Program was established for our congregation the intent of the program was to allow donations to the Financial Ministry Plan of the church only. Some members have expressed a desire to be able to contribute to additional causes during the period when we are unable to be together on Sunday mornings. Effective as of the May 20th PAR Remittance, members who are enrolled in the PAR program will also be able to designate a second contribution amount that will be collected for Diaconal Causes. Please note that only one additional cause can be accommodated under this program. By designating funds to Diaconal Causes, the Deacons will be able to review needs monthly and forward funds accordingly. For those already enrolled in PAR who would like to contribute to Diaconal Causes as well, please e-mail Peter. If you are interested in enrolling in the Pre-Authorized Remittance Program and want some additional details or help setting it up, please contact Peter.

GET THE BANNER BY EMAIL

Stay connected with our weekly e-newsletter, the Banner Update, which delivers to you new online content for free. Signup at thebanner.org/signup

PRAYER BOX

Prayer requests can be placed in the box at the back of the church & they will be prayed for during the Tuesday morning prayer & Bible study time.

The April 2020 Banner is ready for pick up on the back table.

FROM CRC COMMUNICATIONS

A special meeting of the Program Committee of Synod (officers of last year's synod), the Executive Committee of the Council of Delegates, Rev. Kathy Smith (CRCNA polity adviser), and Rev. Dirk Van Eyk (pastor of the convening church of Synod 2020) was held last Friday to consider the meeting of Synod 2020 given the current COVID-19 pandemic.

There was consensus by the group that it is not safe for synod to meet in person—there would be significant risks to the health and wellbeing of delegates and their families. In addition, borders are closed, airlines have cut schedules, and we are unsure at this point of the use of the Calvin University campus.

After weighing several options, this group recommended and the members of the Council of Delegates voted electronically to approve: **That Synod 2020 be canceled due to the current COVID-19 crisis, and that the Council of Delegates of the CRCNA hold a special meeting (virtually) to address any matters that cannot wait until Synod 2021.**

This is the first time in the more than 160-year history of the Christian Reformed Church that synod has been canceled. While this is disappointing news and joins the other losses that we grieve, we remember that God's church will and does go on despite COVID-19. We do not need to have a denomination-wide meeting in order for God's kingdom work to continue. What a blessing this is to acknowledge.

WORLD RENEW – HYGIENE KITS FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Good News! We are now able to provide essential hygiene kits to displaced Syrian families to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Working alongside our local partners in the region, we have an opportunity right now to **provide hygiene kits** that will help prevent the spread of COVID-19 among displaced and vulnerable families. **For many of these families, physical distancing is not an option.** Living conditions are overcrowded and their homes often lack basic facilities or separation. The only way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases is through proper hygiene and care. **Each kit contains items like: bars of soap, bottles of hand sanitizer, packages of paper towels, and health information on how to reduce the spread of the virus.** World Renew is working with our partners to ensure that these kits are packaged and distributed. Any amount will help us meet this critical need for the thousands we have the privilege of serving. We have stood with families impacted by the Syrian conflict for nearly a decade – and we are resolved to be there for families who escaped the violence, only to face new dangers now. But we know that God is faithful. He never leaves or forsakes us. And He has called us for such a time as this to be his hope to others – to be Christ's light in the darkness. You can give online at www.worldrenew.ca. Thank you for giving generously both in resources and in prayer.

URGENT NEED FOR CLOTH FACEMASKS

Holland Christian Homes (HCH), our CRC Assisted Living and Long Term Care Centre in Brampton, Ontario, with over 800 residents, currently has an outbreak of COVID-19 Coronavirus and is URGENTLY requesting additional HOMEMADE FACEMASKS. These washable and reusable sewn cloth facemasks are for staff, residents, and the families of staff members. Instructions for HCH physician-approved masks and drop-off location can be found on the Holland Christian Homes homepage at www.HCH.ca. Your time and efforts, as well as your love and prayers, are deeply appreciated by all at this very difficult time. For more information, contact Ashley DeRoo at ashley.deroo@hch.ca. Numerous other senior centres including HCH are urgently reaching out to their communities for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as our seniors are most vulnerable. Please help us protect them. Sincerest thanks.

AT-HOME FAITH FORMATION TIP

From Psalm 65:8: "The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy." Make this passage your morning and evening prayer this week. During the day, look for God's "wonders" and point them out to the people you share life with. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

WEBINAR AND BOOK STUDY

Safe Church Ministry is hosting a webinar with Ruth Everhart, author of The #MeToo Reckoning: Facing the Church's Complicity in Sexual Abuse and Misconduct, on Wednesday, April 29 from 12 to 1:30 pm EDT (9 am Pacific). More info and zoom link can be found in the network post at network.crcna.org/safe-church/safe-church-webinar-ruth-everhart-author-metoo-reckoning. We will also be following up her conversation with a book study that anyone is welcome to attend. There is a form to fill out in the second network link, at network.crcna.org/safe-church/safe-church-book-study-metoo-reckoning. Book Study dates: Thursdays at 4 pm Eastern: May 7, 14, 21, and 28.

THE BANNER APPEAL WAS DISRUPTED - GIVE ONLINE

The Banner is delivered free in print and online. Our annual donation appeal makes it possible, but it has been delayed. To help us keep this community conversation going and make up for lost time please give online now at www.thebanner.org/donate