

## HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

### Nursery

Today

### AV

Today Beverley & John vH  
May 1 Christian & Sterling S  
May 8 Christian & Sterling S

### Coffee Clean Up

Today George & Ruth V  
May 1 Matt & Charmaine V  
May 8 Ben & Tina S

### Little Lambs

Today

### Offerings

Today GEMS  
May 1 Cadets  
May 8 Melo Clinic & Pregnancy Centre

### Preacher

Today Pastor Steve Vandyk  
May 1 Pastor Steve Vandyk  
May 8 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

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/EssexCRC](http://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](mailto:pastor@essexcrc.ca) 519-776-5071 (Church office), 519-919-9605 (Home)  
Church Office – Contact Information 519-776-5071, [office@essexcrc.ca](mailto:office@essexcrc.ca)

### Essex CRC Council Executive

Council Chair – Joanne W  
Vice-Chair – Jamie B  
Clerk – Ben V [clerk@essexcrc.ca](mailto:clerk@essexcrc.ca)  
Deacon Chair – Jim G

### Sunday School



**GEMS Sunday April 24, 2022**

**Morning Worship 10:00 am**

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

## GEMS SUNDAY APRIL 24, 2022

Welcome to everyone either here in-person or online to our worship service this morning. A special welcome to our GEMS who will be taking a leading role in the service this morning and all their families visiting with us today.

### Our Church Family

Keep **Doris V** in prayer as she is recovering at home from a leg infection. We are thankful for doctors and medications for a good recovery. Congratulations to **Cameron & Kristi O** with the birth of a son **Quinton John** born on Friday April 15, 2022. We thank God for his gift of children. Keep those family members and friends in prayer as they endure with various health issues **Jack D, Lea H, Anna R, Gerry S, Wilma W, Johanna W** along with our elderly in care homes or those receiving extra support (**Pete & Betty A, Cory B, Diny K, Nick K Sr, John O** and **Anna P**).

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Congratulations to Winny S (today), Jackson & Austin D (Thurs), Elise G (Fri) and Erika S (Sat). May the Lord bless you!

### What is Happening This Week

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

11:30 am – Connection Corner  
Youth Challenge

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Connection Corner – Monday at 7:00 pm on Zoom

Catechism – Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Reach Up – Tuesday at 8:00 pm on Zoom

Connection Corner - Wednesday at 10:00 am

Council Executive – Wednesday at 6:15 pm

Special Council Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Connection Corner – Wednesday 7:00 pm at the home of Andrea S

Youth Connection Corner – Wednesday at 7:00 pm on Zoom

Connection Corner – Saturday at 9:00 am in the Cadet Garage

Next Sunday May 1, 2022

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

### Weekly Offerings

Today's offerings are for the **FINANCIAL MINISTRY PLAN** and **GEMS**

GEMS is a ministry devoted to bringing the Good News of Jesus to girls around the world. The mission of GEMS Girls' Clubs is to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. Our vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others—girls equipped, motivated, and passionately engaged in living out their faith. Our goal for every club meeting is to create a welcoming, safe, and fun environment for girls to hear the truth that they are LOVED by God. Together, we learn how to love and care for one another, other people, ourselves, and our relationship with God. And we do this by learning about Jesus Christ, what He has done for us, and His plans for each of our lives.

May 1 offering is for Cadets. The goal of the Calvinist Cadet Corps is to provide Christian men with a structure, program, and materials that are uniquely designed to help boys grow spiritually in all areas of life – devotional, mental, physical, and social.

### THANKS TO THE YOUTH!

We would like to thank the L family and the Youth Group for cleaning up all around our house. It just looks great and now that some nice weather will be coming, we can enjoy sitting outside again. Have a great weekend!  
*Pete and Betty A*

### GET INSPIRED THIS SUMMER

Join us August 4-6 in Tinley Park, near Chicago for Inspire 2022. Be refreshed by three days of speakers, worship, workshops, prayer, and fellowship with CRC members from across the continent. **Register now for the early bird rate, and gather five or more from one church to get the group rate!** Learn more at [www.crcna.org/inspire](http://www.crcna.org/inspire)

### JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR SYNOD 2022

Synodical delegates, church leaders, and CRCNA members across the continent are praying for Synod 2022. Please join us! Prayer gatherings for synodical delegates are scheduled for April 27, May 11, and May 25. We will post prayer guides on the Network each time so that you can pray with us at a time that works for you as families, individuals, church councils, small groups, and others. Need some prayer points to pray through now? Find the March 30 prayer guide at [network.crcna.org/prayer/prayer-guide-synod-philippians-44-9](http://network.crcna.org/prayer/prayer-guide-synod-philippians-44-9)

## ATTENTION COUNSELORS, CADETS, AND PARENTS

Save the Date! The All Ontario Camporee will be held this year near Innerkip, Ontario from August 1-6, 2022. To register or find out more information check out the website: [www.camporee.ontariocadets.ca](http://www.camporee.ontariocadets.ca) Hope to see you all this summer! ~AOC committee

## 40 DAYS OF PRAYER - SIGN UP TODAY!

As part of the CRCNA's year-long prayer initiative, Together Seeking God's Face, you are invited into a 40-day season of intentional, guided prayer leading up to Synod 2022. Learn more and sign up for daily Scripture and prayer prompts to be sent to your email for 40 days: [network.crcna.org/prayer/seeking-gods-face-forty-days-prayer](http://network.crcna.org/prayer/seeking-gods-face-forty-days-prayer)

## TOGETHER WE CAN HELP FOSTER MOMS OF HOPE

In many communities around the world, women are denied opportunities to earn income and to thrive. In two weeks, learn how, through our gifts to World Renew's Free A Family® program, we can help share God's love and equip women with the tools and training needed to become Moms of Hope—women who help their families to journey away from hunger and poverty. For more information, go to: [www.worldrenew.ca/momsofhope](http://www.worldrenew.ca/momsofhope)

## YOUR SMALLEST AND BIGGEST TEACHERS

Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net) The Bible says that everything in nature, no matter how big, small, or even slimy, can teach us something about God. That's because he made everything with a purpose and he made a plan for all things. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

## FAITH PRACTICE REFLECTION TIP

Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Celebrating: Read Luke 15:20-24 and ponder or discuss the following questions. How would you feel if a child of yours whom you thought was dead appeared on your doorstep, seeking your forgiveness? If you were the father in this story, what would your celebration look like in today's world? What does this story tell you about God's character? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

Family Fire - 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](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

GEMS SUNDAY APRIL 24, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

PASTOR STEVE VANDYK

MUSIC – ASHLEY ALLEN, PRAISE TEAM

## THE GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Opening

Call to Worship

† Gathering Song “The River Is Here” *on screen*

† God's Greeting

† Song of Praise “Days of Elijah” *on screen*

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Response “Build Your Kingdom Here” *on screen*

## OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *plate*  
GEMS – *bag*

## THE PROCLAMATION

GEMS Litany

The Prayers of God's People

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading John 15: 1 – 17

Text John 15: 15

Message The Life of a Friend

† Song of Response “The Blessing” *on screen*

## THE SENDING

† Benediction

† Doxology “We Receive Your Blessing” *LUYH 947*

† Postlude

† *Indicates Congregation standing if able*