

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Rebekah, Tim
Dec 15 Tina, Erin
Dec 22 Janet, Vanessa

Greeters

Marvin & Marj
Mitchell & Rebekah
Albert & Niesje

Usher

Today Wayne
Dec 15 Elaine
Dec 22 Greg S

AV

Tammy K, Dan
Tim, Dan
Beverley & John

Coffee Clean Up

Today Hans & Geraldine, Nick & Sarah
Dec 15 Gerry & Ruth, John & Betty
Dec 22 Jack & Carolyn, Larry & Jacky

Scripture Readers

Today Ben Sr
Dec 15 Darcy
Dec 22 Sarah

Children's Moment

Betty V
Betty V
Sunday School

Elevator

John D
Joel
Fred

Offerings

Today Calvin College
Dec 15 Ministry Shares
Dec 22 Essex Food Bank

Library

Doris
Sarah
Doris

Pastoral Prayer

Today John vH
Dec 15 Carl
Dec 22 Tammy Y

Worship Leader

Pastor Fred Heslinga
Pastor Gord Brown
Mr. Peter Beimers



ESSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071
www.essexcrc.ca



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

Sunday December 8, 2019

Morning Worship 10:00 am

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

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2019

Welcome to our worship service this morning, especially if you are a guest with us today. Plan to stay after the service for a cup of coffee or tea.

Our Church Family

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

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Congratulations to Beverley (today) and Daniella (Tues). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

10:00 am – Second Sunday of Advent Morning Worship with Pastor Fred Heslinga. We will witness the baptism of Amélie and celebrate the Lord's Supper.

The Mat'ters – Monday at 10:00 am

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Coffee Break – Tuesday at 10:00 am at Lea's home

Prayer for Healthy Church – Tuesday at 10:00 am

Catechism – Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Advent Luncheon – Wednesday at 12:00 pm

Join us at our mid-week Advent services at St. Paul's Anglican Church. Major Jim Hann will be leading this half hour service followed by a light lunch. A free will contribution will be appreciated.

Praise Team – Thursday at 7:35 pm

Next Sunday December 15, 2019

10:00 am – Third Sunday of Advent Morning Worship with Pastor Gord Brown.

COFFEE & CAKE

Liane and Darcy would like to thank all of you for witnessing Millie's baptism this morning. To celebrate, cake and coffee will be served immediately following the service

CUSTODIAN

The Board of Administration is seeking applicants for the position of Custodian for the two-year term January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022. All applications should be submitted no later than Sunday December 8, 2019. For further information, please contact Greg Y or Linda M

Weekly Offerings

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

Calvin College is a comprehensive liberal arts college in the Reformed tradition of historic Christianity. Through their education, they push their students to seek to be agents of renewal in the academy, church and society.

December 15 offering is for Ministry Shares. This offering will provide dollars to fund programs that enable churches to send missionaries around the world, start new churches, train Pastors and Leaders, use media to spread the gospel and much more.

IT'S 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. *The Deacons*

ADVENT MEANS HOPE

With World Renew's 2019-2020 Gift Catalog, you can help a family with a filter for clean water to drink, give a child the food they need to grow with a nutrition kit, or provide shelter to a disaster survivor. Choose a gift that gives someone who is poor and hungry the opportunity for a better life today and hope for the future. Give at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972 to order.

TOUR THE BIBLICAL LANDS OF ISRAEL – MARCH 9–20, 2020

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 at 1 289 877-8433 or e-mail peter.tuininga@gmail.com

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

NEWS FROM THOSE WEAVING MATTS WITH MILK BAGS

Congratulations to all of you who have participated in ANY way to the milk bag mat project. I am super excited to tell you that we have met our goal of mats for this year and we still have a month to go. We have now sent 10,305 mats to people who need them somewhere around the world. Just so you can see how things have progressed, here is a summary of the mats sent since Milk Bags Unlimited began:

2008 - 2013... 1353 mats; 2014.....1707 mats; 2015.....3517 mats
2016.....5729 mats; 2017.....7255 mats; 2018.....6270 mats
2019.....10,305 mats and counting; Grand Total to date.... **36,136** mats

Number of bags kept out of the landfill...20,228,000 bags. AMAZING!! These are the numbers I know of; there are many mats and bags used that I don't know about, but just looking at these numbers lets you know we are doing something to help our environment and help people in need.

I have been working very hard these past few weeks to get a shipment of bags to Nicaragua. There are at least 3 groups of people in Nicaragua who know how to make mats, but they can't work anymore because they have run out of bags. Getting containers to any country costs a lot of money and takes a lot of time and effort to set it up. I am very happy to tell you that a container is being packed right now with unusable, misprinted or problem bags donated by Hood Packaging, the manufacturer of the bags. The container will leave for Nicaragua in the next few months with 14 skids of bags which is 1,176,000 milk bags. I am thrilled that the ladies will have the resources to work with to make more mats. With this donation they will be able to make over 2300 mats for the people in their communities. Once the bags arrive in Nicaragua, I will travel there to be with the ladies as they weave, and to start more groups of weavers. It is very important to me that we make mats and send them to countries where I cannot send bags, but it is also nice to see people in their own country make mats for themselves.

To donate and get a tax receipt for the 2019 tax year, send your donation: PAN Mission, 15 Bishop Court, Guelph, ON, N1G 2R8
Please designate your cheque to the "Milk Bag Project" so we can start saving for another container in the future.

Donate to Canadian Food for Children and get a tax receipt. Their address: Canadian Food for Children, 1258 Lakeshore Rd. E. Mississauga, On. L5E 1E9

I want to thank you for your help in this project; without you, this work would not exist.

When I hear the words in the song. "And so this is Christmas, and what have you done, another year over and a new one just begun" I hope you think about what you have done and feel compelled to keep doing what you do. *Merry Christmas! Angela*

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – JOY
MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

PASTOR FRED HESLINGA
MUSIC – ASHLEY ALLEN, PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

- Prelude
Welcome & Opening
Lighting of the Advent Candle – Joy
Song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LUYH 61: 3*
† Call to Worship
† Gathering Song "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" *LUYH 581*
† The God of Joy Greets Us
† Song of Praise "Sing to the King" *LUYH 474*

BAPTISM OF AMÉLIE BLAIS BULTS

- Song of Response "Cornerstone" *on screen*

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

- Offering
Financial Ministry Plan – *plate*
Calvin College – *bag*

THE PROCLAMATION

- Children's Song "I've Got the Joy! Down in My Heart" *on screen*
Children's Moment

after which children ages 3 – Grade 6 leave for Sunday school

- The Prayers of God's People
Prayer of Illumination
Scripture Reading John 15: 1 – 17 *pg 1158*
Message The Joy Given, Experienced and Shared
† Song of Response "Hark the Glad Sound" *LUYH 60: 1, 2, 4*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE SENDING

- † Benediction
† Doxology "Joy to the World" *LUYH 92: 1. 4*
† Postlude

† *Indicates Congregation standing if able*