

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Tammy K, Greg S, Chris K, Devon M
Jan 15 Tammy K, Rita O, Chris S, Avery V
Jan 22 Kerry W, Tina S, Chris K, Devon M
Jan 29 Lillian K, Greg S, Marjan D, Candice W

AV

Today Chris & Sterling S
Jan 15 Chris & Sterling S
Jan 22 Tim K, Emerson V
Jan 29 Tim K, Emerson V

Sunday School

Renee B
Renee B
Renee B
Renee B

Coffee Clean Up

Today Henry & Alta V
Jan 15 Reach Up
Jan 22 Joanne W, Rita O
Jan 29 Greg & Andrea S

Greeters

Ben S Sr.
Ben & Tina S
John & Marjan D
Fred & Linda M

Offerings

Today Therefore Go Ministries
Jan 15 Teen Challenge
Jan 22 Cadets
Jan 29 Edvance

Preacher

Pastor Steve Vandyk
Pastor Steve Vandyk
Pastor Steve Vandyk
Mr. Ben S Sr.



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 January/February Today booklets are ready for pick up on the back table.



ESSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071
www.essexcrc.ca

Sunday January 8, 2023
Morning Worship 10:00 am

SUNDAY JANUARY 8, 2023

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 **Carl J** in prayer as he is still recovering at home from recent surgery. He has had a couple set backs but hopes to be much better soon. 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 Stella W (Fri). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

10:00 am – Morning Worship with Pastor Steve Vandyk in-person or online at YouTube/essexcrcWorship/streams

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Catechism – Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Praise Team – Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Crossroads – Naming the Present – Thursday at 6:45 pm

Time of Prayer – Saturday at 8:45 – 9:30 am

Next Sunday January 15, 2023

10:00 am – Morning Worship with Pastor Steve Vandyk and Teen Challenge in-person or online at YouTube/essexcrcWorship/streams

CROSSROADS - NAMING THE PRESENT

We are planning to meet on Thursday January 12, beginning at 6:45 pm in the sanctuary. Looking in the mirror we see a reflection created in God's image. Let's examine ourselves as a church body. We need to be asking ourselves some hard questions as we take next steps in the crossroad process. Why are we "here"? What exactly does being "here" mean? How is God "here"? Are you "here"? We must to be honest, hopeful and balanced in our conversation. Please join us on Thursday Jan 12 @ 6:45pm in the church Sanctuary.

Discernment is God's call to intercession, never to faultfinding.

Corrie Ten Boom

COFFEE LIST

We need you! We are looking for a couple people who would be willing to prepare coffee on Sunday mornings. For more information call or email Tina S

Today's offerings are for the **FINANCIAL MINISTRY PLAN** and **THEREFORE GO MINISTRIES**

ThereforeGo Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization that focuses on assisting local congregations in their ministry to youth and emerging adults. We strongly believe that the local church is the tool God created to use to reveal himself to the world. We know that taking the call of ministering to today's youth is not for the faint of heart. Therefore, we are blessed by encouraging, supporting, equipping, and partnering with congregations across North America to reach this generation for Jesus Christ! www.ThereforeGo.com

January 15 offering is for Teen Challenge. Teen Challenge is a residential alcohol and drug addiction faith-based program. They offer help and hope to those struggling with alcoholism and/or addiction to other drugs.

COUNCIL REPORT

Council would like to share with members the following information discussed at the past couple meetings.

- Classis Ontario Southwest will be meeting on Saturday February 4, 2023 hosted by Crosspoint Community Church in Tillsonburg. Pastor Steve Vandyk and Elder Jamie B will be attending as delegates.
- The membership of Homer & Betty V was transferred Leamington United Mennonite Church. We are sad to see them leave but wish them God's riches blessings at they worship in Leamington. Council regrets the delay in notifying our members.
- As per request from Ryan, Sandra, Rylee, Waverly & Brody L their membership be withdrawn from Essex CRC. They feel God is calling them elsewhere. We are encouraged they remain steadfast worshipping the Lord and with love we wish them well. We just want to take this time to thank the whole family for their support, help and work they all did as a family from IT support to superintendent of Sunday school and their musical talent. The true church of God is few and eternity is near, please continue to love and fellowship with our Christian brothers and sisters in Essex and elsewhere.
- Please see the Community Garden announcement from Kerry W. Council approved this project in an earlier meeting.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON! JANUARY 15 WITH TEEN CHALLENGE

Join us for a **Potluck Lunch** following the service on **Sunday January 15**. Please bring a lunch item or a dessert **or** both! Getting together and sharing a meal is a great way we can connect as Brothers and Sisters in Christ. We look forward to seeing all of you!

EXCITING NEWS

Essex CRC is Partnering with the Essex Community Garden, for a project right here on our church property. We will be allowing the ECG to use the back of the property, for building and maintaining garden boxes. The ECG will build and fill the boxes with rich soil and families from the community will plant and care for their own garden box. We have an opportunity to keep a couple boxes for the church as a group project, or interested people can have a box to themselves. This is a wonderful opportunity for us as a congregation to connect and build relationships with people outside of our circle. Through those connections, and natural conversations the Word can be shared and the community can know us. We have an opportunity to share our lives, and that we are imperfect people in need of the Saviour. Our hope is that people will come to know Jesus, through an outreach happening in our backyard.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

With many of our members making their contributions via pre-authorized remittance (PAR) or E-transfers it no longer makes sense to incur the cost of distributing boxed envelopes each year. Some members who still make use of their envelopes this year give monthly or bi-monthly so they will have a large number of envelopes remaining at the end of the year. Please save these remaining envelopes to use to start off the 2023 giving year (the date on the envelope does not matter). Specially marked envelopes for the Essex Ministry Plan will be provided to you if you require additional ones. Please contact Peter W if you have any questions or concerns.

SPEAKER SERIES ABOUT THE HUMAN SEXUALITY REPORT

Talbot Street Church in London is hosting a speaker series about the Human Sexuality Report on Monday evenings beginning Monday January 16 though to Monday February 6. You can watch it here at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdPQwBMNHIpPA82D7frOSKq>

GOD IS CALLING YOU

Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net This week: You have a role to play in God's big story--and God is calling you to submit your gifts, talents, and work to him right now. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the The Bible in One Year Plan.

GROUNDWORK: GOD IS STILL WORKING

Life is messy. Sometimes that mess is our own doing and sometimes it is not. Join Our Groundwork conversation as we study the story of Rahab and the spies in Joshua 2 and see how God remains active, even in the messiness of our lives. We'll discuss his providence and learn to look for it in the most unlikely circumstances of our lives. Listen now at Groundworkonline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

SUNDAY JANUARY 8, 2023
MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

PASTOR STEVE VANDYK
MUSIC – ASHLEY ALLEN, PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

Prelude
Welcome & Opening
Call to Worship
† Gathering Song “The Heart of Worship” *on screen*
† God's Greeting
† Song of Praise “I Am Not My Own” *on screen*

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon
Song of Response “I Surrender All” *LUYH 739*

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *plate*
Therefore Go Ministries – *bag*

THE PROCLAMATION

Children's Song “My Jesus, I Love Thee” *LUYH 366*
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 Matthew 16: 21 – 28
Text Matthew 16: 24
Message Follow Me
† Song of Response “I Will Follow” *on screen*

THE SENDING

† Benediction
† Doxology “Praise God Whom All Blessings Flow” *LUYH 965*
† Postlude
† *Indicates Congregation standing if able*