

## HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

### Nursery

Today Tammy K, Chris S  
Dec 14 Greg S, Joseph D  
Dec 21 Heather S, Avery V  
Dec 25 Kerry W, Joseph D

### AV

Today Tim K, Emerson V  
Dec 14 Chris S, Sterling S  
Dec 21 Chris S, Sterling S  
Dec 25 John & Beverley vH

### Coffee Clean Up

Today Jamie & Renee B  
Dec 14 George & Ruth V  
Dec 21 Peter & Jacoba D  
Dec 25 John & Beverley H

### Offerings

Today Maranatha Christian Academy  
Dec 14 Essex Food Bank  
Dec 21 Benevolence  
Dec 25 Ministry Shares

### Lead Elder

Pete K  
Peter D  
Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Matt V

### Sunday School

Renee B  
Renee B  
Renee B

### Greeters

Peter & Jacoba D  
Ben S Sr.  
Jamie & Renee B  
Greg & Andrea S

### Preacher

Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Mr. Matt V



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](https://www.facebook.com/EssexCRC) Like us and keep informed with what is happening here!

### Church Office Hours

Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Contact Information

Church Office – Contact Information 519-776-5071, [office@essexcrc.ca](mailto:office@essexcrc.ca)  
Ana M – Contact Information [contact@essexcrc.ca](mailto:contact@essexcrc.ca)

### Essex CRC Council Executive

Council Chair – Greg S  
Vice-Chair – Matt V  
Clerk – Ben V [clerk@essexcrc.ca](mailto:clerk@essexcrc.ca)  
Deacon Chair – Linda M

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



ESSEX CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071

[www.essexcrc.ca](http://www.essexcrc.ca)

**Sunday December 7, 2025**

**Morning Worship 9:00 am**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 2025**

Welcome to everyone here or online to our worship service this morning. We are delighted that you are with us today. Do plan to stay and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with us.

**Our Church Family**

Keep **Michelle W** in prayer as she was in a car accident this past week. She broke her sternum and has other minor injuries. She is recovering in the hospital and hopes to be home soon.

Keep those family members and friends in prayer as they endure with various health issues **Robin & Zackara B, Gail L, Ben & Winny S, Niesje S, Wilma W, Ashley W** along with our elderly in care homes or those receiving extra support **Chris & Anne B, Bill B** and **Johanna W**.

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

Congratulations to Beverley vH (Mon). May the Lord bless you!

**What is Happening This Week**

9:00 am – Second Sunday of Advent Morning Worship in-person or online where we welcome Pastor Darrell Edgar

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Essex Ministerial Advent Luncheon – Wednesday at 12:00

Our mid-week Advent services will be at Cottam United Church with Major Wavey Birt leading this half hour service followed by a lunch.

Congregational Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Next Sunday December 14, 2025

9:00 am – Third Sunday of Advent Morning Worship in-person or online where we welcome Pastor Darrell Edgar.

**NOTE SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES**

Sunday services with Pastor Darrell Edgar will always be at 9 am. When we have a classical appoint or other preachers who may be travelling a distance our worship services will be at 10:00 am.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Mark your calendar for our upcoming Congregational meeting scheduled for Wednesday December 10 at 7:00 pm. An agenda package was sent out through email. If you would like a paper copy, contact the church office. A separate email was sent out on Thursday December 4 for a way you can send a proxy vote online. We need to make sure from ONCA regulations that we need a quorum therefore your vote is important. For more information, see Matt V.

**Weekly Offerings**

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

Maranatha Christian Academy is located in Windsor, ON. They provide an ideal environment for God's growth of the mind, heart and soul of students in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12.

December 14 offering is for Essex Food Bank

**THE MITTEN TREE**

The Mitten Tree is ready to be adorned with some much needed winter wear accessories. Congregation, we would love to see the tree full of mittens, scarves and hats again. You can drop off donations on Sunday mornings or during office hours.

**CATECHISM CLASSES**

In the early 1560's Frederick III desired that his subjects be led to a "devout knowledge and fear of the Almighty and His holy word of salvation". A group of ministers and theologians were commissioned to compose a summary of biblical truths that could be committed to memory and be an encouragement to personal faith and growth in Christ. The result was the Heidelberg Catechism which still stands today as a faithful testimony to the ancient Christian Faith. Pastor Darrell would like to start classes to study the Heidelberg Catechism. If you would like to learn or relearn about the foundations of the Christian faith, please contact Matt V.

**COMMUNITY DINNER – FRIDAY DECEMBER 19**

Essex CRC is hosting a free Community Dinner open for the Community on Friday December 19 @ 5:45 pm

Everyone is welcome to come, have a meal and connect with each other. For more details, see Ana M.

**SOUPER SUNDAY – JANUARY 25, 2026**

**GET OUT THOSE 2026 CALENDARS!**

After Church on Sunday January 25, 2026 you are invited to the home of your Elder from your Community group for Lunch and Fellowship...follow the bulletin for more details in the New Year! Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

**A HUGE THANKS!**

Thanks to all who donated soup and baked goods for the Essex Ministerial Advent Lunch this past week. Also to your set up and clean-up crew you are all the best! Jamie and Chris did a wonderful job with music and Jamie leading the message with a service prepared by Ben Sr.

## CAROL-A-THON!

Join Us at the Church of Epiphany in Kingsville for the Carol-a-thon! Celebrate the joy of the season with music and community! On Sunday, December 14 at 2:30 pm, —together with the Royal Canadian College of Organists—invites you, your family, and friends to a festive Carol-a-thon. Sing your favorite Advent and Christmas carols alongside guests from local churches and the wider community. Whether you love to sing or simply enjoy the spirit of the holidays, come share in the warmth, laughter, and beautiful music as we welcome the season together. All are welcome! And hot chocolate to follow!

**KIDS CORNER DEVOTIONS: ADVENT AT HOME: SILENT NIGHT**  
Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: Silent Night" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net) Do your worries ever feel really loud? You can tell them, "Shhhhhh! Jesus is here," and remember that He loves you and gives you peace. Explore all the great content at kidscorner.net, including the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

**GROUNDWORK: PREPARING FOR THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**  
Jesus Christ is the ultimate light of the world. During Advent, we celebrate his birth and anticipate his second coming. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 40:1-5, Matthew 3:1-3, John 1:1-14, and Matthew 25:35-40 to learn what it means to live in the light of Christ with expectation and to explore what it means to prepare our souls for the hope and illumination that Jesus brings. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

*Thrive Faith Formation Tip* - Advent is a season of waiting for Jesus. This week bring awareness to moments in your daily life when you are waiting. Instead of pulling out your phone or passing time with another distraction, use that time to connect with God in prayer. For example, if you're in a doctor's office waiting room, try praying with your eyes open, talking to God about the people who work there and those who come for care. If you have children, invite them to point out things you can pray for as you are waiting and then pray for them together. Whether you are in the school pick-up line, sitting in traffic, or waiting for vegetables to roast, embrace the opportunity to spend time with God. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 7, 2025 MORNING WORSHIP – 9:00 AM

LEAD ELDER PETE KUIPERS  
PASTOR DARRELL EDGAR  
MUSIC – PRAISE TEAM

### THE GATHERING

- |                   |                           |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| † Gathering Song  | "O Come, All Ye Faithful" | <i>LUYH 76</i>   |
| † Welcome         |                           |                  |
| † Call to Worship |                           |                  |
| † God's Greeting  |                           |                  |
| † Candle Lighting |                           |                  |
| † Song of Praise  | "Behold Him"              | <i>on screen</i> |
| Announcements     |                           |                  |

### OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

- |                    |  |                  |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| Offering           | Financial Ministry Plan – <i>Budget Box</i>          |                  |
|                    | Maranatha Christian Academy – <i>plate</i>           |                  |
|                    | The Prayers of the People                            |                  |
| † Song of Response | "My Lighthouse"                                      | <i>on screen</i> |
|                    | <i>Children are dismissed to go to Sunday School</i> |                  |

### THE PROCLAMATION

- |                        |                                   |                |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Prayer of Illumination |                                   |                |
| Scripture Reading      | Isaiah 40: 1 – 5; Luke 1: 76 – 79 |                |
| Message                |                                   |                |
| † Song of Response     | "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"        | <i>LUYH 61</i> |

### THE SENDING

- |                    |  |                  |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| † Parting Blessing |  |                  |
| † Doxology         | "Christ Be Magnified"                          | <i>on screen</i> |
| † Postlude         |  |                  |
| †                  | <i>Indicates Congregation standing if able</i> |                  |