

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Heather H, Avery V
Dec 15 Kerry W, Joseph D
Dec 22 Tammy K, Chris S
Dec 25 Greg S, Joseph D

Lead Elder

Greg S
Jamie B
Peter K

AV

Today Tim K, Emerson V
Dec 15 Chris S, Sterling S
Dec 22 Chris S, Sterling S
Dec 25 John & Beverley vH

Sunday School

Renee B
Renee B
Renee B

Coffee Clean Up

Today Matt & Charmaine V
Dec 15 Greg & Andrea S
Dec 22 Joanne W, Rita O
Dec 25 John & Beverley vH

Greeters

Ben S Sr.
John & Beverley vH
Fred & Linda M
Peter & Tammy K

Offerings

Today Maranatha Christian Academy
Dec 15 Essex Food Bank
Dec 22
Dec 25 World Renew

Preacher

Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar



ESSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071
www.essexcrc.ca



Our Church facility is equipped with an Induction Loop Assistive Listening System. See a member of the Sound team for assistance



Find us on 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

Essex CRC Council Executive

Council Chair – Greg S
Vice-Chair – Matt V
Clerk – Ben V clerk@essexcrc.ca
Deacon Chair – Linda M

Sunday December 8, 2024
Morning Worship 9:00 am

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

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2024

Weekly Offerings

Welcome to everyone either here in-person to our worship service this morning. Do plan to stay and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with us.

Our Church Family

We express our sincerest condolences to **Ruth S** in the passing of her brother-in-law Pastor Henry E. May God continue to comfort the family with his strength.

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

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

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

What is Happening This Week

9:00 am – Second Sunday of Advent Morning Worship in-person and online where we welcome Pastor Darrell Edgar where we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

GEMS & Cadets – Monday at 6:30 pm

Essex Ministerial Advent Luncheon – Wednesday at 12:00

Our mid-week Advent services will be at the Cottam United Church, Rev Christopher Davis will be leading this half hour service followed by a lunch.

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Next Sunday December 15, 2024

9:00 am – Third Sunday of Advent Morning Worship in-person and 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 appointment or other preachers who may be traveling a distance our worship services will be at 10 AM.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel." This refrain from the beloved Advent hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" calls us to rejoice—not because of our immediate circumstances but because of the promises we have in Jesus Christ. Ponder a few things that cause you to rejoice. Offer them up to God in gratitude. Brought to you by Thrive: cena.org/Thrive

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 15 offering is for Essex Food Bank

THE MITTEN TREE

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. You can drop off your donations on Sunday mornings or during the church office hours.

COUNCIL REPORT

Council met on Wednesday evening and the following items were discussed:

- Through months of prayer and discussions, Council wants to share with the Church the hope in hiring a Community Outreach Director. Council has begun the work of getting a Role Description and Job Posting finalized. We ask that you keep this in your prayers, and that God will provide us with the right person he has planned for Essex. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Community Elder or any member of Council
- The Deacons are so thankful for the generosity given thus far with the Giving Tree. If you have not had a chance to partake, you still have time as the Tree will remain up until Sunday December 15, 2024. What a blessing it is to have these gifts given to the community through the Essex Area Food Bank!
- We will be having our Christmas Day worship service with Pastor Darrell Edgar at 10:00 am.

THERE IS A NEED!

Ambassador is involved in helping a residential treatment home for women in Windsor called House of Hope, they are opening a second home in our area. They are doing some wonderful work with these ladies' recovery from a Christian foundation.

They are in need of 3 single mattresses for their residents. Ambassador has helped with that and outfitting their kitchen. Food as well.

Would anyone in the Congregation have a single mattress that they would like to donate. We can arrange pick up.

YOUNG ADULT WINTER RETREAT

The Young Adult Winter Retreat (YAWR) is back again at Maranatha CRC, Woodstock! We would like to encourage all young adults ages 18-30 to join us for this weekend of faith-based discussions, service, fellowship, and funtivities! We are excited to announce that Pastor Stephen Terpstra from First CRC Iowa will be leading us in a series of discussions on engaging in the church community. The retreat will take place from January 24-26, 2025, with the theme *Engage*. Early bird registration is \$60. Don't miss this chance to grow in faith, build lasting connections, and have fun! For more information or the registration link, follow us on Instagram ([yawinterretreat](#)), Facebook (Young Adult Winter Retreat), or email us at ya.retreat.team@gmail.com.

SHARE CHRIST'S HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

In two weeks, the global church will reflect on the hope that Christ's birth brings. But for people facing hunger, families in conflict zones, and communities that grapple with the effects of extreme weather, hope can seem lost. Through your World Renew offering, you can help renew hope for communities struggling with poverty, disaster, and injustice. Your gift will help World Renew equip communities with the resources and training needed, so they can move forward with faith in God's goodness—and his hope. To give a gift of hope, visit: worldrenew.ca/gifts or 1-888-975-3769.

KIDS CORNER: ADVENT WEEK 2: THE SERVANT

Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net This week, read the story of Mary in Luke 1:26-45. God had an important role for Mary. She responded, "I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said." Whatever God has for us to do, let our reply be the same as Mary's. No matter how young or old we are, God will give us everything we need to be a faithful servant. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Birth of Jesus.

GROUNDWORK: JESUS: OUR MIGHTY GOD

The prophet Isaiah next calls the coming Messiah "Mighty God." Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, and Revelation 5:6,11-14 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus. Together, we'll discuss how his presence as a helpless baby displays the awesomeness of God's power and gives us hope as we anticipate his return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 8, 2024 MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

LEAD ELDER GREG SCHINKEL
PASTOR DARRELL EDGAR
MUSIC – PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

- † Gathering Song "Jesus Messiah" *on screen*
- † Welcome
- † Call to Worship
- † God's Greeting
- † Song of Praise "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LUYH 61*
"Holy, Holy, Holy!" *LUYH 538*
- Advent Reading
- Announcements

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

- Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *Budget Box*
Maranatha Christian Academy – *plate*
- The Prayers of the People
- † Song of Response "Living Hope" *on screen*
- † Children's Song "Away in a Manger" *LUYH 86*
Children are dismissed to go to Sunday School

THE PROCLAMATION

- Prayer of Illumination
- Scripture Reading Matthew 17: 1 – 8
- Message Mysteries Revealed
- † Song of Response "Imagine" *LUYH 72*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE SENDING

- † Parting Blessing
- † Doxology "Jesus Name Above All Names" *on screen*
- † Postlude
- † *Indicates Congregation standing if able*