

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Greg S, Joseph D
Dec 8 Heather H, Avery V
Dec 15 Kerry W, Joseph D

AV

Today Tim K, Emerson V
Dec 8 Tim K, Emerson V
Dec 15 Chris S, Sterling S

Coffee Clean Up

Today Ben V
Dec 8 Matt & Charmaine V
Dec 15 Greg & Andrea S

Offerings

Today Benevolence
Dec 8 Maranatha Christian Academy
Dec 15 Essex Food Bank

Lead Elder

Peter D
Jamie Br
Greg S

Sunday School

Renee B
Renee B
Renee B

Greeters

Peter & Jacoba D
Ben S Sr.
John & Beverley vH

Preacher

Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar



ESSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



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!

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

519-776-5071
www.essexcrc.ca

Sunday December 1, 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 1, 2024

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 family of **Cory B** as she passed away on Monday November 25. A private graveside service will be held. May God continue to comfort the family with his strength.

We express our sincerest condolences to **Pastor Len B** and family in the passing of his wife **Nienke B** at the beginning of November. Pastor Len served as pastor in this church from 1983-1987. 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 Ruth V & Eric B (Tues) and Candice W (Fri). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

9:00 am – First Sunday of Advent Morning Worship in-person and 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 the Salvation Army Church, Major Jim Hann will be leading this half hour service followed by a lunch.

Council Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Praise Practice – Thursday at 7:30 pm

Next Sunday December 8, 2024

9:00 am – Second 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.

Weekly Offerings

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

This offering helps those with needs in our church and in the community.

December 8 offering is for 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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your Calendar and plan to attend our Christmas Dinner scheduled for Saturday December 7 at 5:00 pm. We are planning for Turkey and all the fixins! And save room for all the desserts! **Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend.** We love to see you all there!



GIVE A GIFT GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is on December 3rd! Your support on this day and beyond can help the CRCNA to equip CRC churches to grow gifts of spiritual disciplines, empower a new generation of leaders, foster hospitality among diverse groups of people, and share the gospel all across our country. Your gifts give extra horsepower to areas where God is already at work. Donate now: www.crcna.org/canada/giving-tuesday

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](https://www.instagram.com/yawinterretreat)), Facebook (Young Adult Winter Retreat), or email us at ya.retreat.team@gmail.com.

CANADA POST STRIKE

With the holiday season upon us and the Canada Post strike affecting mail delivery, we want to make it easy for you to support your favourite ministries! You can still make your year-end gifts quickly and securely online at www.crcna.org or through The Bridge App. If your donation was sent in the mail during the strike, we will confirm its receipt as soon as we can after the strike is over. Strike or no strike, your support makes all the difference for our ministries —thank you for making this season one of hope and generosity!

INTRODUCING THE POSTMA POST!

Stay connected with Al Postma, Executive Director of the CRCNA in Canada, as he shares updates, reflections, and key highlights about the incredible work God is doing in our communities. Through this new email, you'll receive updates like highlights from the Canadian Board meetings and insights into our strategic goals—delivered right to your inbox. Sign up today: www.crcna.org/canada/postma-post

KIDS CORNER: ADVENT WEEK 1: THE PROPHECY

Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net During this Advent season, we can remember God's faithfulness and our hope in Jesus, our Lord. Think of the names of Jesus in Isaiah 9:6: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. How do these names bring us hope? How do they express God's faithfulness? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Story of the Prophets.

GROUNDWORK: JESUS: OUR WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

The prophet Isaiah calls the coming Messiah a "Wonderful Counselor." Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Proverbs 1:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:18-24, and Colossians 1:15-19 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus and its connection to the biblical wisdom tradition. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

THE BANNER AND CANADA POST

With the Canada Post strike affecting mail delivery, please note that the December Banner delivery might be delayed in Canada. Additionally, please note you can still support The Banner despite the strike. You can make your year-end gifts quickly and securely online www.thebanner.org/donate or by phone (888-827-5272).

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Advent is a season of waiting. We wait expectantly for the birth of Christ, and we wait with hope for his coming again. Yet this season is often marked by hurried consumerism and overfilled calendars. How might you practice "waiting" in new ways this Advent season? Brought to you by Thrive: www.crcna.org/Thrive

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 1, 2024 MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

LEAD ELDER PETER DORIS
PASTOR DARRELL EDGAR
MUSIC – PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

- † Gathering Song "Ancient of Days" *on screen*
- † Welcome
- † Call to Worship
- † God's Greeting
- † Song of Praise "Angels from the Realms of Glory" *LUYH 81*
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" *LUYH 76*
- Advent Reading
- Announcements

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

- Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *Budget Box*
Benevolence – *plate*
- The Prayers of the People
- † Song of Response "What the Lord Has Done for Me" *LUYH 800*
- † Children's Song "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *LUYH 88*
Children are dismissed to go to Sunday School

THE PROCLAMATION

- Prayer of Illumination
- Scripture Reading Psalm 112
- Message The Way Forward is Backwards
- † Song of Response "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *LUYH 56*

THE SENDING

- † Parting Blessing
- † Doxology "Go Tell It On the Mountain" *LUYH 93*
- † Postlude
- † *Indicates Congregation standing if able*