

## HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

### Nursery

Today Greg S, Joseph D  
Jan 11 Heather S, Avery V  
Jan 18 Kerry W, Joseph D  
Jan 25 Tammy K, Chris S

### AV

Today Tim K, Emerson V  
Jan 11 Tim K, Emerson V  
Jan 18 Chris S, Sterling S  
Jan 25 Wayne & Electa B

### Coffee Clean Up

Today Matt & Charmaine V  
Jan 11 Greg & Andrea S  
Jan 18 Joanne W, Rita O  
Jan 25 Wayne & Electa B

### Offerings

Today Therefore Go Ministries  
Jan 11 ReFrame Ministries  
Jan 18 Edvance  
Jan 25 Cadets

### Lead Elder

Greg S  
Pete K  
Peter D  
Matt V

### Sunday School

Renee B  
Renee B  
Renee B  
Renee B

### Greeters

Greg & Andrea S  
Wayne & Electa  
Matt & Charmaine V  
Jamie & Renee B

### Preacher

Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Pastor Phil Apoll  
Pastor Darrell Edgar  
Pastor Darrell Edgar



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 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Friday 10:00 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 January 4, 2026**  
**Morning Worship 9:00 am**

## SUNDAY JANUARY 4, 2026

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 **Chris & Anne B** in prayer as Chris has been in hospital with pneumonia since before Christmas. Also Anne is confined to her room due to an outbreak of flu. If you plan to visit Chris, he is at MET Hospital. 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, Johanna W and Maartje W.**

### What is Happening This Week

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

[Council Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm](#)

[Prayer Meeting – Wednesday at 7:00 pm](#)

[Next Sunday January 11, 2025](#)

10:00 am – Sunday Morning Worship in-person or online where we welcome Pastor Phil Apoll from Mount Brydges, ON.

### 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.

### COMMUNITY DINNER – FRIDAY JANUARY 16, 2026

Essex CRC is hosting a free Community Dinner open for the Community on Friday January 16 @ 5:45 pm

Everyone is welcome to come, have a meal and connect with each other.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

We have had such wonderful success with our Community Dinners but we need your help. The plan is to have our Community dinners twice a month. We will be asking for helpers to sign up to help for each dinner. Sign-up sheets will be in the church office.

You can sign up for set up or cleanup – Whatever works in your schedule. For more details, see Ana M or Beverley vH

### Weekly Offerings

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](http://www.ThereforeGo.com)

[January 11, 2026 offering](#) is for ReFrame Ministries. At the start of a new year, people around the world are looking to grow in faith or to recommit in their relationship with Christ. Through offerings and ministry shares, Christian Reformed congregations help them find the biblical resources they need to start a new journey!

### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who supported the dessert auction and to all who made desserts. We raised over \$1500. I had enough funds for my trip to Guatemala with Global Shore Opportunities and the rest will go to support Ella Schinkel de Garcia. As I prepare for this trip, I would like you to pray for me that I would grow closer to God and better understand His love for all people, while encouraging the people in Guatemala and building meaningful friendships with them and that I would trust God to provide for every part of the trip, including safety and health. I will be leaving on January 22 and arriving back on February 1, 2026. Thank you for your encouragement.

*Joseph D*

### 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!

### KIDS CORNER DEVOTIONS: LOVE: GOD'S MOST POWERFUL GIFT

Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Love: God's Most Powerful Gift" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net) You were made to love and be loved—God made you special and gave you a heart that can share kindness, hope, and joy with others. When you choose love every day, you show strength, shine like Jesus, and make the world a brighter place! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

## GROUNDWORK: GOD'S COVENANTS AND OUR SALVATION

At times, we experience tension when trying to discern the relationship between God's grace and our works in relation to our salvation. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 15:1-18, Genesis 17:1-11, Matthew 26:26-29, and Hebrews 8:6-13 to let God's covenants provide a deeper understanding of how he works, his gift of grace, and what he expects from us as his people. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

## JOURNEY WITH US IN 2026

Planning your 2026 travel? Looking for a trip with a purpose? Journey with us to see the transformative work of World Renew, while experiencing God in another country and growing in your faith. Consider Guatemala, Tanzania, Cambodia, or Nicaragua! To learn more, please visit: <https://worldnew.ca/travel>

## GO DEEPER IN FAITH THROUGH A TRIP WITH RESONATE

Come on a journey with Resonate Global Mission—starting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, through Guatemala, and ending in Costa Rica as we visit stops along the route of people on the move. Together we will learn from their faith, hear their stories and connect them to our own, and learn to better love our neighbors as ourselves. The trip is April 17-28, 2026 with an application deadline of January 31, 2026. Learn more and let us know you're interested at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/move](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/move)

*Thrive Faith Formation Tip* - Epiphany (January 6) reminds us that Jesus was revealed to the Magi, who were considered outsiders and seekers. This week ask God to show you someone who might feel like an outsider or seeker. How can you reflect Christ's light and love to them? Sometimes the simplest act—an invitation, a kind word, a prayer—can be a guiding light in a weary world. Brought to you by Thrive: [www.crcna.org/Thrive](http://www.crcna.org/Thrive)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

SUNDAY JANUARY 4, 2026

MORNING WORSHIP – 9:00 AM

LEAD ELDER GREG SCHINKEL

PASTOR DARRELL EDGAR

MUSIC – PRAISE TEAM

### THE GATHERING

† Gathering Song	“The Heart of Worship”	on screen
† Welcome		
† Call to Worship		
† God's Greeting		
† Song of Praise	“How Great Is Our God”	LUYH 574
Announcements		

### OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Offering	Financial Ministry Plan – <i>Budget Box</i>
	Therefore Go Ministries – <i>plate</i>

### The Prayers of the People

† Song of Response	“Holy Forever”	on screen
<i>Children are dismissed to go to Sunday School</i>		

### THE PROCLAMATION

#### Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 2: 1 – 12; Lamentations 3: 22 – 24

Message New Beginnings

† Song of Response	“Be Thou My Vision”	LUYH 859
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### THE SENDING

#### † Parting Blessing

† Doxology “Praise God, whom All Blessings Flow” LUYH 965

#### † Postlude

† *Indicates Congregation standing if able*