

HOW WE SERVE AT ESSEX CRC

Nursery

Today Kerry W, Joseph D
Dec 7 Tammy K, Chris S
Dec 14 Greg S, Joseph D
Dec 21 Heather S, Avery V

Lead Elder

Greg S
Matt V
Peter D
Jamie B

AV

Today Tim K, Emerson V
Dec 7 Tim K, Emerson V
Dec 14 Chris S, Sterling S
Dec 21 Chris S, Sterling S

Sunday School

Renee B
Renee B
Renee B
Renee B

Coffee Clean Up

Today Joanne W, Rita O
Dec 7 Jamie & Renee B
Dec 14 George & Ruth V
Dec 21 Peter & Jacoba D

Greeters

Matt & Charmaine V
Peter & Jacoba D
Ben S Sr.
Jamie & Renee B

Offerings

Today Matthew House
Dec 7 Maranatha Christian Academy
Dec 14 Essex Food Bank
Dec 21 Benevolence

Preacher

Pastor Darrell Edgar
Pastor Darrell Edgar
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 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
Ana Mello – Contact Information contact@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 Banner and Today booklets
are ready for pick up on the back table.



ESSEX CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH

519-776-5071

www.essexcrc.ca

Sunday November 30, 2025

Morning Worship 9:00 am

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30, 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 those family members and friends in prayer as they endure with various health issues **Robin & Zackara B, Alissa B T, 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 Ruth V (Wed), Candice W (Sat). May the Lord bless you!

What is Happening This Week

9:00 am – First 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 the Essex CRC, Mr. Jamie B 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

Next Sunday December 7, 2025

9:00 am – Second 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 will be sent out through email. If you would like a paper copy, contact the church office.

Weekly Offerings

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

This offering will help the Matthew House which is a Christian organization supported by churches and individuals of different denominations to help refugees who are fleeing for their lives and coming to Canada. They are not part of any government program and receive no subsidies directly from the government. Please give generously to help this Windsor-based organization help others get a start in Canada.

December 7 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 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.

YOUNG ADULTS 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 Harry Frielink from Covenant CRC in Barrie will be leading us in a series of discussions on the importance of Christian friendships. The retreat will take place from January 23 to 25, 2026, with the theme "*The Gift of Friendship*." Early bird registration is \$60. Registration opens December 1st, 2025. 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.

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: O COME, O COME, IMMANUEL
Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: O Come, O Come, Immanuel" at www.kidscorner.net God promises to be with us in every moment—when we're sad, happy, or waiting for better days—and that gives us hope. This Advent, we can celebrate the hope of Jesus, who was born to be our Savior and will one day come again. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, bible stories, crafts, and activities.

GROUNDWORK: WAITING FOR THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Advent is a season of waiting. We're waiting for Jesus, the Light of the World. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 18:27-28, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 11:1-3, and Romans 13:11-14 to explore the Bible's theme of light and gain a fuller understanding of what we're waiting for as we begin to prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus at his birth at Christmas. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent, a time when we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus. There are many different ways we can get ready for Christmas—such as listening to music, reading Christmas stories, and lighting Advent candles. How will you practice getting your heart ready? Check out the Advent page of Thrive's Family Faith Formation toolkit for some ideas: www.crcna.org/advent-tools Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

JOIN THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

It's not a conference, it's a national conversation. At the Canadian National Gathering in May 2026, CRC leaders from across Canada will worship, pray, and discern where God is calling our churches next. Your gift is a way to participate and support this renewal: www.crcna.org/canada/giving-Tuesday

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2025 MORNING WORSHIP — 9:00 AM

LEAD ELDER GREG SCHINKEL
PASTOR DARRELL EDGAR
MUSIC — PRAISE TEAM

THE GATHERING

- † Gathering Song "Here I Am to Worship" *LUYH 567*
- † Welcome
- † Call to Worship
- † God's Greeting
- † Hope Candle Lighting
- † Song of Praise "Behold Him" *on screen*
- Announcements

OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Offering Financial Ministry Plan – *Budget Box*
Matthew House – *plate*

The Prayers of the People

- † Song of Response "O Come All You Unfaithful" *on screen*
- Children are dismissed to go to Sunday School*

THE PROCLAMATION

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9: 1 – 7; Romans 13: 11 – 12

Message

- † Song of Response "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *LUYH 56*

THE SENDING

- † Parting Blessing
- † Doxology "Hope of the Nations" *on screen*
- † Postlude
- † *Indicates Congregation standing if able*