



Exeter Christian Reformed Church

332 Huron Street West
Exeter, Ontario, NOM 1S2
Telephone: 519-235-2990
Website: www.exetercrc.on.ca

Pastor: Jay Crossen
Pastor's Email: pastorjay@exetercrc.on.ca
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:15-4:15
Publishing deadline: Thursday, 9:00 am
Administrative E-mail: bulletin@exetercrc.on.ca

Worship: 10am

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Pastor Jay Crossen

**Musicians: Michelle, Shawn,
Sylvia, Marian, Al, Shaun, Josh,
Orrin**

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

* Song **Great Things CCLI # 7111321**

God's Greeting:

* Song **Lord I Need You CCLI # 5925687**

God Renews Us In His Grace

Prayer of Confession

God's Assurance

Song: **His Mercy is More CCLI # 7065053**

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Message

Song: **Jesus Loves Me LUYH # 709**

Children (Dismissal age 3-to Grade 6) for Sunday School & Grade 7 & 8 Catechism

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-6, 23-24 and Psalm 32:3-5

Message: Self-Examination: Search Me, O God

*Song: **Open the Eyes of My Heart LUYH # 537**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Christian School Bursary Fund

Offertory **Sanctuary CCLI # 24140**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

*God's Sending and Blessing

*Song: **You are My King (Amazing Love) LUYH # 360**

* Indicates to please stand if you are able **LUYH** stands for Lift Up Your Hearts (the red song book in the pews)

Gathering for Worship

LARGE PRINT copies of the Lift Up Your Hearts hymn book are available for use during worship. They are located on the bookcase in the foyer next to the administrator's office. Large print copies of songs not in LUYH are available from the ushers.

Nursery and Sunday School programs will be available during the church service for those parents who wish their children to participate. We have classes for children aged 3 to Grade 6. Children will be dismissed during the worship gathering. The Education Committee, Sunday School, and Nursery, with the support of Council, have developed a plan to safely care

Valet service - designed for worshippers with mobility challenges, valet service is available for free with advance arrangements. Simply drive your car up to the east door (under the car port) and one of our friendly drivers will meet you, help unload your mobility device and park your car for you! If you are interested, please contact Mike Buckman in church, by phone (519-236-7940), by text (519-630-7827), through Facebook or via email at michaelbuckman@hotmail.com

Upcoming Services:

<u>Feb 1:</u>	Pastor Jay
<u>Feb 8:</u>	Pastor Jay
<u>Feb 15:</u>	Pastor Jay (Cadet Sunday)
<u>Feb 22:</u>	Pastor Jay

Exeter CRC strives to be a healthy community. If you are feeling unwell in any way join our worship gathering on-line. We continue to worship together as a community of God's people. **YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3yYa4ze>



Exeter CRC is accessible for those with hearing impairment. If you are hard of hearing, please have an usher direct you to the sound booth for an assistive device.

From the Deacons

The offering this Sunday is Christian School Bursary Fund

<u>Feb 8:</u>	Children of the Promise
<u>Feb 15:</u>	Cadets
<u>Feb 22:</u>	Coldest Night of the Year

The Deacons will collect your offering during the worship service. You can also respond with your offering by e-Transfer to ecrcgiving@gmail.com. Please state in the memo the cause(s) you are supporting. Coupons for the offering are available in the office; please ask one of the deacons for assistance if you are interested in buying coupons.

Common Plate A donation email has been set up for Common Plate it is as follows donations@Exetercommonplate.org



MemberCare⁺ is a free counselling program for Exeter CRC members provided through By Peaceful Waters. Please call **519-886-8577** or email mail@bypeacefulwaters.ca for more information.

Our Church Family

Calendar of Events: One of the features of our website is a calendar of meetings and events to help keep you up to date. Click on this [link](#) to have a look at everything happening at ECRC.

Condolences: As a church family we extend our deepest sympathies to Wibbina Toonk , Anthony & Angela Nyman & Dan & Sheila Vanderlaan and families with the passing of Wibbina's brother John Bylsma. We pray they may all feel God's nearness as they grieve this loss.

For those who have a prayer request or are sharing a thanksgiving, please feel free to include it on the church's Facebook page, or please contact your elder or the church office if you wish to include it in the bulletin or The Bridge App.

Exeter CRC Announcements

Celebrating 75 Year's of God's Faithfulness at Exeter CRC!

Hello Church Family!

With great excitement, we are making plans for a special weekend of celebrations to take place **April 24-26, 2026, D. V.** In your mailboxes, you will find a **"Save the Date"** card with more details. Please mark your calendars and help spread the word to former members and friends of Exeter CRC. Extra cards are available by the church office – feel free to take a few to share. Stay tuned for more information in the new year! We look forward to celebrating 75 years of God's goodness and faithfulness together in Exeter.

Young adults (ages 18-35) are welcome to come out on January 30th, at 7:30 pm for volleyball in the church gym. If you don't want to play volleyball you can come and mingle; there will be other games too 😊 Feel free to bring friends. We hope to see you there! Reach out to Savannah Z, Rachel B, or Rachel K if you have any questions.

'Coldest Night of the Year' Walk – Help Needed We are again hosting the CNOY walk this year on February 28 at our church, and we are looking for some volunteers. We are wanting 5 people to help in the kitchen with chili prep from 1 till 4 (ish) and 6 people to help with clean up 6:30 – 8 (ish). If you are willing to help out, please talk to Dan Vanderlaan. Be not afraid Dan is not running the kitchen..... Joan Brady will be there with her apron, culinary expertise, and wooden spoon (if necessary) to ensure the day runs smoothly.

Choir is starting up again! We're looking forward to lifting our voices together as we prepare two special songs - one for the Good Friday service and one for our 75th Anniversary celebration service. Please join us on **Monday evenings at 7:30, beginning February 9th**, in the church sanctuary. All are welcome - new voices and returning singers alike!

GEMS Rally will be held at the Exeter CRC on **Saturday, April 11/26**. There will be over 200 girls and leaders attending from Blyth, Clinton, Listowel, Stratford, Vanastra, and Wingham. Volunteers will be needed. There will be many different ways to help out like in the kitchen with food prep/serving, assisting with workshops, group leaders, set up/tear down and clean up at the end of the day to name a few. We are still in the planning stage working out our volunteer needs/schedule. If you can lend a hand, reach out to any of the ECRC GEMS leaders. In His Service, Leah Branderhorst, Joanne Branderhorst, Lauren Hoonaard, Sylvia Hoonaard, Karen Knip, Jody Mulder, and Deb Westerik.

Housekeeping: We are preparing in the spring for two BIG events in our church how exciting is that. In light of these events If anyone has any items borrowed and not yet returned, please if you could do so. Thank you!

Council Highlights from Jan. 8, 2026

- New Year, New Chair. Joe Lubbers was thanked for leading the Council for the past two years,
 - Great job, Joe
- We reflected on the past year and thanked Gerard for his year-in-review report, which he shared with the congregation on Jan. 4th. If you would like a copy, please talk with Gerard.

- The Christmas and Advent services were discussed. A lot of people contributed on many levels. It was a very well-done series of services. Thank You. A few people said they missed the New Year's service. The elders are looking into this. Please let them know your thoughts as well.
- Pastor Jay (P.J.) spoke briefly on his upcoming sermon series about the Disciplines.
- Joyce reported that the budget was reached. God is great, what a blessing and great news to start the New Year. Thank you, Exeter, for your monetary gifts and for contributing to God's plans here in Exeter.
- Safe church is looking for new members. Please prayerfully consider this if asked.
- Programs are restarting, busy times, please keep an eye on the bulletin for opportunities to help.
- Listening Circles. Council has been spending time reviewing the HSR report. On January 28th we will be participating in a council-only Listening Circle. We have two people from Clinton CRC leading it. Please keep council in your prayers as we seek God's will and direction for His church here in Exeter.

Collections Paid out in December 2025			
Exeter Common Plate (Correction)	4,667.78	Room2Grow	20.00
Huron Turning Point	65.00	CRCNA - World Renew	220.00
Huron Welcome Hub for Newcomers	20.00	Huron County Food Distribution Centre	20.00
Jessica's House	60.00	World Renew - Canadian Foodgrains Bank	1,146.58
Indwell	873.34	Mississippi Christian Family Services	1,000.00
Community Table	1,322.04	Resonate Global Missions	20.00
Huron County Christmas Bureau	2,105.45	Mission Services of London	1,307.68
Fellowship of Christian Farmers	20.00	Exeter Food Bank	7,250.00
The Lighthouse Centre	20.00	ThereforeGo Ministries	30.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators Canada	20.00	Huron Christian School	1,529.92
The Ministry to Seafarers	20.00	London Christian High	1,038.16
Family Outreach	20.00	London Christian Elementary School	163.92
South Coast Beach Project	462.33	Exeter CRC Deacons	1,380.00
		Total	24,802.20

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

Huron Christian School: Join us on Friday, January 30, 2026, for our annual Pancake Supper! Enjoy a delicious meal of pancakes and sausages, then test your luck in our exciting game rooms. Doors are open from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, and we'd love to see you there!

Groundwork: Did Paul and James Agree on Salvation? - Paul emphasizes salvation by grace, but James teaches the importance of our works. Do our works contribute to our righteousness? Join Groundwork as we study James 1:1-8, James 2:14-26, Colossians 3:5-10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 to compare what we learn from James to what Paul teaches about the relationship between God's grace and our works, and then consider what it means for our daily lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest." - Matthew 11:28 (The Message)

Ministry leaders and pastors are invited to the annual Listening to God: Leaning into Lent With Hope retreat. This three-day, two-night retreat will offer guided practices for self-reflection, unhurried time with Jesus, and space for true rest. Dates are Feb 15 - 17 at Crieff Hills retreat center near Guelph, ON. Registration info and details can be obtained by emailing Joan Brady, jbrady@crcna.org. The retreat is open to all spiritual leaders.

Reframe: Friends For 75 years, *Today* has been part of the daily rhythms of faith for readers around the world. I'm grateful for the many ways God has used these devotions to speak hope and point people to Christ.

I'd love to invite you to a special Direct Connect as we celebrate this milestone together. I'll be joined by:

Rev. Darrell Delaney, Pastor, cohost of Groundwork, and *Today* writer

Christopher Hunt, *Today* and ReFrame Ministries writer.

Rev. Beth Fellingner, Pastor and *Today* writer

Together, we'll reflect on God's faithfulness, share stories from behind the pages of *Today*, Q&A from viewers, and look ahead to what God is still doing through this ministry. I hope you'll join us. You can sign up for the online event by visiting reframeministries.org/events. If you cannot attend the live event, signing up will allow us to send you the recording to view later. Thank you for your partnership in ministry with ReFrame! In Him, Rev. Kurt Selles

Ladies: You're invited to IF: One Night at Clinton Christian Reformed Church on Sunday, March 1 from 5:30 - 9:30 pm. Your tummy and heart will be filled as we come together to worship, learn and enjoy the fellowship of other women. The cost is \$10 and can be e-transferred to clintoncrctreasurer@tcc.on.ca. Sign up by February 18th by calling the church (519.482.5264) or emailing clintonministrycoordinator@gmail.com.

Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference We are pleased and excited to inform you that the Annual Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference is scheduled for March 7, 2026, from 9:00am-3:30 pm. at the Waterloo CRC.

Speakers: Dr. James Watson (Tyndale Seminary) will be the plenary speaker: Grace and Truth: What Shapes our Shared Spiritual Life? and he will also lead a workshop entitled: Healthy Directions: A Way Forward for Leaders.

Cathi Watson (Interfaith Community Counseling Center in New Hamburg) will lead a workshop entitled: Responding to Spiritual Abuse as a Congregant.

Dr. Stephen Vander Klippe, a medical practitioner in Wingham and member of the Synodical Taskforce dealing with medically-assisted dying, will be hosting a workshop on: Power dynamics surrounding Medically-Assisted Suicide.

Julia Rathbun, Safe Church Consultant with the CRCNA, will also be leading a practical safer church workshop.

At a time of history when truth is being challenged and when power is being abused, please come and join us for a time of learning and discussion. For further information contact Carel Geleynse (Classis Huron Safe Church Coordinator) at carelgeleynse20@gmail.com.

Julia Rathbun, Safe Church Consultant with the CRCNA, will also be leading a practical safer church workshop.

At a time of history when truth is being challenged and when power is being abused, please come and join us for a time of learning and discussion. For further information contact Carel Geleynse (Classis Huron Safe Church Coordinator) at carelgeleynse20@gmail.com. For more information contact Anthony Nyman or Gerald Kodde.

Faith walking Module 1 Feeling reactive or stuck in unhealthy patterns that undermine your life of faith? Faith walking is a discipleship journey designed to help you grow in self-awareness, deepen your connection with God, and live more freely by aligning your life with the teachings of Jesus. Join this **10-week Zoom course on Monday nights, 7:30-9:00 p.m., starting Feb. 23, 2026. Cost: \$50USD** Sponsored by Resonate Global Mission. Space is limited.

Info & registration: Pastor Willemina Zwart - wzwart@crcna.org

Groundwork: The Biblical Meaning of Forgiveness - Telling someone to forgive is easy. Actually, offering forgiveness can be a lot more difficult. Join Groundwork as we study Exodus 34:4-9, Matthew 6:12-15, Psalm 51:1-9, Hebrews 4:14-16, Colossians 1:9-14, and 1 John 1:5-10 to discuss the biblical concept of forgiveness by beginning with God's forgiveness and what it teaches us about God's character. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

An Opportunity to Serve - The CRCNA is looking for nominees willing to serve as At-Large members of the Council of Delegates and the Canada Ministry Board. The [Council of Delegates](#) acts as the interim governing body of the CRCNA, providing governance and oversight of the denomination's ministries and activities between our annual Synods. The [Canada Ministry Board](#) provides governance and oversight of the work of the Canadian Ministries. If you have skills and expertise in board governance and a heart for the CRCNA, or know of someone who does, we invite you to complete this [nomination form](https://bit.ly/COD-nominations) (<https://bit.ly/COD-nominations>).

Join Classis Huron as Our Youth Ministry Leader!

Are you passionate about **equipping and inspiring youth ministry leaders**? Classis Huron is looking for a **Youth Ministry Consultant (YMC)** — a pastoral role (30 hrs/week) focused on **supporting, training, and encouraging youth leaders** in our congregations and Campus Ministries.

This is your chance to **shape vibrant discipleship pathways for youth and young adults**, build strong leader networks, and make a lasting impact in our churches.

What we are looking for:

- 3–5 years of youth ministry leadership experience
- Bachelor's in theology, ministry, or youth ministry (Master's preferred)
- Ordination/commissioning **preferred but not required**.
- Strong relational, leadership, and organizational skills

Deadline for applications: Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so early applications are strongly encouraged. Applications will be received until the position is filled.

Start date: September 01, 2026

Applications or requests for further information may be sent to: jbrady@crcna.org. A full job description can be found on the [Youth Ministry](#) page on the Classis Huron website.

Be the **catalyst that strengthens youth ministry across Classis Huron!**

This Week Feb 1-7 2026						
<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Sunday School age 3 to Grade 6 Catechism Grade 7 & 8	<u>Monday</u> Gems 7-8:30 pm	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church Youth 7-9 NHS 7pm Exeter Villa	<u>Wednesday</u> Council Meeting 7:30 pm Coffee Break 9:30 – 11:00 am	<u>Thursday</u> Cadets 7 pm	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
SERVING SCHEDULE						
	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 22		
Elder	Jake Zantingh	Gerald Kodde	Joe Lubbers	Jake Zantingh		
Deacon	Dianne, Anthony	Anthony, Dianne	Joy, Anthony	Anthony, Dianne		
Coffee Clean-Up	Sandra Newton, Ang & Anthony, Joyce P	Gerrit & Dianne , Curtis & Kassidy, Henry & Sadie	Derek & Danielle S Gerard & Tanya S	Clarence & Betty T, Wibbina T, Jean V		
Greeters	Sandra N., Jean V.	Wendy W., Sam V.	Clarence & Lori	Kathryn L., Wibbina		
Ushers	Betty, Joy	Colton, Al V.	Tim, Leo	Sylvia, Jake		
Children’s Message	Sylvia Hulshof	N/A	Sylvia	Pastor Jay		
Nursery	Karen Knip, Norma Vanderlaan, Mikayla Vink	Kevin Mulder, Hannah Glavin, Avery Knip	Jake Zantingh, Michelle Meinen, Lily DenHollander	Kassidy Heyink, Jolene deBoer, Avery Poortinga		
Sunday School	Joyce Pelley, Rachel Boersma, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman	Joyce Pelley, Rachel Boersma, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman	Joyce Pelley, Rachel Boersma, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman	Joyce Pelley, Rachel Boersma, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman		
Valet	Tim DeWeerd	Albert Hummel	Bill Branderhorst	Mike Zandwyk		
Tech Booth	Greg (P) Job (A) Aaron (V)	Dan (P) Job (A) Gerard (V)	Sam (P) Trevor (A) Dan (V)	Greg (P) Nathan (A) Aaron (V)		
Hall Monitor	Joy DeWeerd	Al Vanderlaan	Leo Weverink	Jake Zantingh		