



# Exeter Christian Reformed Church

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Exeter, Ontario, NOM 1S2  
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Website: [www.exetercrc.on.ca](http://www.exetercrc.on.ca)

Pastor: Jay Crossen  
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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:15-4:15  
Publishing deadline: Thursday, 9:00 am  
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**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

**Worship: 10am**

**Pastor Jay Crossen**

**Musicians: Steve & children**

## **God Gathers Us in His Presence**

Words of Welcome

- \* Call to Worship
- \* Songs: **Lord I Lift Your Name on High LUYH 610**
- \* God's Greeting
- \* Song: **God of Wonders LUYH 4**

## **God Renews Us In His Grace**

Baptism of Zachary Zantingh

Song: **Shout to the Lord LUYH 603**

## **God Speaks to Us Through His Word**

Children age 3 – Grade 6 are dismissed for Sunday School

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Col. 2:11-12, 3:1-17 and Titus 3:1-8.

Message: Baptism: Living the Baptized Life.

Song: **Take My Life and Let it Be LUYH 863**

## **God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings**

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering – World Renew - Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Offertory: **Instrumental**

## **God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing**

- \* God's Sending and Blessing
- \* Song: **Glory Be to Father LUYH 959**

\* 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 – 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 for your children.

### Upcoming Services:

February 23: Pastor Jay leads the service – baptism of Zachary Zantingh

March 2: Pastor Jay leads the service Cadet Sunday

March 9: Pastor Jay leads the service

March 16: Pastor Jay leads the service

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 for World Renew - Canadian Foodgrains Bank

March 2: Cadets

March 9: Huron County Food Distribution Centre

March 16: CRC Office of Social Justice

The Deacons will collect your offering during the worship service. You can also respond with your offering by e-Transfer to [ecrcgiving@gmail.com](mailto: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.



**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](mailto: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.

**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

### **Council Highlights Feb Meeting**

- Council and a few members from church attended a demonstration for the AED, which was hosted by the BOA, very well attended for a demo.
- Council welcomed Joyce Pelley, our new office administrator.
- Classis is to be held in Palmerston on Feb 19th, Exeter delegates are part of the overture committee.
- Pastor Jay shared his experiences going to Arizona, how wonderful it was and how he plans to use what he learned in future services.
- Council is having ongoing discussions and listening circles about Synods decisions and have met with Sean Baker about what our next steps are.

Ladies, it is not too late to join do you want to grow in intimacy in your relationship with the Lord? If so, join us for **Women's Coffee break** each Wednesday, from 9:30-11am for a 6-week study where we will build intimacy in our relationship as women as well as in our relationship with the Lord. We will be meeting weekly to learn about how to pursue intimacy with God, what to do if we do not feel worthy of His love, how to embrace God's perfect love, and to recognize our own beauty and worth in His eyes through studying the book of Song of Solomon. Childcare will be provided. Women of all ages and stages are welcome! Bring a friend and enjoy growing in the Lord together! If you would like a sneak peak at what we will be studying check out the following link: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/133573>

**Limited mobility parking spaces:** Please be advised we will be using the posted spaces as they are intended for our members that require parking closer to the building to avoid slip and falls. The rear doors will be open once again to allow easier access from the parking lot. Thanks for everyone's cooperation in this matter.

**Youth Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser** :Mark your calendars: the youth will once again be serving up a delicious breakfast complemented by food grown and donated by our congregation and local businesses! Enjoy breakfast and fellowship at church 8-10am Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Donations given will go towards the All-Ontario Youth Convention and SERVE fees for our youth this spring and summer.

**SUMMER SERVE OPPORTUNITY!** This summer, 7 youth are going on SERVE to Niagara from July 12-19! We are looking for **one female leader to join the team**. Serve is a fantastic week of service, worship, and fun...if this is of interest to you or if you have more questions, please talk to Job Garritsen, Darren Bouman or Sharon Kodde

## From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

**MEDIA: NAVIGATING EVERYTHING.** Monday, **February 24**, 7pm at Clinton Christian Reformed Church (243 Princess St., Clinton). Brett Ullman, a well-known Christian youth culture, media and mental health expert will be addressing specific steps to take to better use media for good and boost wellbeing, and decrease its harmful effects, like social isolation, misinformation, cyberbullying, sextortion and more that contribute to anxiety and depression. How do we navigate media well - social media, video games, music, and TV/streaming? Come join in on this most important conversation. Come away better informed to approach media with intention in your life and family. Please let us know if you have any questions at all. Pastor Ray Vander Kooij Clinton Christian Reformed Church [pastor.cccrc@tcc.on.ca](mailto:pastor.cccrc@tcc.on.ca) 519-482-5264

**Mercy & Justice Webinars** - - Gain Christian spiritual insight and practical understanding on timely and complex issues to do with the church's calling to practice mercy and justice. **Feb 4:** Changing Immigration Law & Refugee Support w/ Dena Nicolai; **Feb 11:** Disability without Poverty, w/ Rachel Vroege and Amanda Lockitch; **Feb. 18:** Positive Care & Grace in Dementia, w/ Steve Berkenpas; **Feb 25:** Reflecting on MAID, w/ Caroline Short. For more info or to register, go to [crc1life.ca/2024/12/spotlight-on-mercy-justice-an-online-webinar-series/](http://crc1life.ca/2024/12/spotlight-on-mercy-justice-an-online-webinar-series/)

**Gather West Coast:** Join us on February 28th-March 1st to unite as Christians for 25 hours of worship, prayer, and commissioning. Trinity's doors will be open for the full 25 hours during this "come and go" event. Pop in at any time to hear stories of how God is working on every continent of our world. To learn more follow us @gather25westcoast or email us at [gather25westcoast@gmail.com](mailto:gather25westcoast@gmail.com). It would not be a global gathering of the Christian Church without YOU there! **Video Link:** [https://assets.gather25.com/library/videos/OurStoryShort\\_English.mp4](https://assets.gather25.com/library/videos/OurStoryShort_English.mp4)

**Attn All Young Adults:** Roots 2:7 is hosting a young adults brunch as a part of the events that Listowel Evangelical Missionary Church has planned for the Gather 25 event (info on the Gather25 event here at [Gather 25](#)). We are hosting a brunch at Drayton Reformed Church on **March 1** from 8am-12pm for all the young adults in the area aged 18-30 and their kids. We will be playing the Gather 25 livestream and are planning a community outreach activity to bless people in the community. We hope that you will share the attached announcements and invite the young adults in your congregation and community to come out. We will have lots of food and thank you for your help spreading the word! :)

**Denomination Survey: Many Parts, One Body: Have you been heard?** Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2025 CRC denominational survey. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please visit [Denominational Survey](#) to answer the survey questions **by March 31**.

**Annual Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference.** The 2025 Annual Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference is scheduled for March 1, 2025, from 9:00 am-3:30 pm at the Waterloo (Ontario) CRC. Sheila Wray Gregoire will be the plenary speaker. Dr. Amanda Benckhuysen and Julia Rathbun, both Safe Church Consultants with the CRCNA, will be leading workshops. The conference is hosted by the Classis Huron Safe Church Team. To register please go to: [Safe Church Conference 2025](#) Please register by February 27.

**Huron Christian School:** Join us for a fun-filled Comedy Evening on Thursday, March 21, 2025, at Trinity Church Goderich! Enjoy a night of laughter while raising funds to provide essential support for our students with hearing impairments. Doors open at 7:00 PM, show runs from 7:30-9:00 PM. Admission is by donation, no tickets required! Don't miss this chance to laugh, connect, and make a difference!

**Consider joining together on Friday, March 7th for the 2025 World Day of Prayer** to celebrate the theme, "I made you wonderful."

The Christian women in The Cook Islands prepared the 2025 service. This group of 15 islands in the South Pacific Ocean has a rich and colourful Māori heritage and a deep connection to nature. Join in prayer and reflect on the theme 'I made you wonderful'. The scripture base is Psalm 139 – verses 1-18. World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical movement which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world — through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later. A worldwide wave of prayer... A one-hour video has been prepared by the Women's Inter-church Council of Canada based on the theme. - The video link is available at [World Day of Prayer 2025 Cook Islands Service Video/](#)

**JOB OPENING:** *Are you looking for rewarding work? Do you want to be part of a dynamic and committed team that equips and supports community-minded and justice-oriented Christ-followers in the CRC?* Diaconal Ministries Canada is currently accepting applications for the full-time position of **National Director**. The National Director is responsible for the integrity, viability, and quality of all components of Diaconal Ministries Canada including programs, communications, staff, promotion, and fiscal management. This person will oversee the development and use of effective tools and resources that will help us inspire, empower, and equip Deacons as they animate congregations to join in God's transforming work in communities across Canada. Visit our website for more details and the full job description at: <https://diaconalministries.com/our-team/careers-opportunities/>. *Application deadline: **March 21, 2025.***

<b>This Week: February 23-Mar 1 2025</b>						
<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship with Sunday School age 3 - Grade 6 and Grade 7/8 Catechism	<u>Monday</u> Gems 7:00 -8:30 pm	<u>Tuesday</u> 7pm Youth Group 6:45pm NHS in Bluewater Rest Home	<u>Wednesday</u> 9:30am - Coffee break	<u>Thursday</u> 7pm Cadets Praise Team Practice 7:30 pm	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u> Youth Pancake Breakfast 8-10 am

<b>SERVING SCHEDULE</b>				
	<b>February 23</b>	<b>March 2</b>	<b>March 9</b>	<b>March 16</b>
<b>Elder</b>	Gerald Kodde	Jason Mulder	Joe Lubbers	George Poortinga
<b>Deacon</b>	Dianne & Harry	Harry & Connor	Connor & Anthony	Connor & Anthony
<b>Coffee Clean-Up</b>	Gerard & Tanya Betty & Clarence	Wibbina Toonk, Jean Vanderlaan, Wendy Westerik	Al & Norma Vanderlaan Jeff & Yvonne VanSoest	Dan & Sheila Vanderlaan Rachel & Lucas Kaumanns
<b>Greeters</b>	Wendy Westerik & Ann Zwaan	Albert Hummel & Sandra Newton	Clarence Toornstra & Sam Vanderlaan	Kathryn Langendyk & Wibbina Toonk
<b>Ushers</b>	George Poortinga & Colton Mulder	Clare Toornsta & Cliff Knip	Anthony Nyman & Tim Deweerd	Dianne Soer & Betty Toornstra
<b>Children's Message</b>	Pastor Jay	Leo Weverink	Sylvia Hulshof	Sylvia Hulshof
<b>Nursery</b>	Katelyn Heyink, Joanne Branderhorst, Wendy Stafford, Averi Mulder	Ann Zwaan, Danielle Dykstra, Curtis Heyink, Sydney Lubbers	Melissa VanSoest, Savannah Zantingh, Michelle Meinen, Lily DenHollander	Marique Crossen, Joanne Boersma, Salome Kodde, Avery Poortinga
<b>Sunday School</b>	Joyce Pelley Janelle Bouman, Angela Nyman, Tanya Steenbeek	Sylvia Hulshof, Jolene de Boer, Laura Garritsen, Tanya Steenbeek	Sylvia Hulshof, Jolene de Boer ,Laura Garritsen, Tanya Steenbeek	Sylvia Hulshof, Jolene de Boer ,Laura Garritsen, Tanya Steenbeek