



# 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, March 23, 2025**

**Worship: 10am**

**Pastor Jay Crossen**

**Musicians: Steve**

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

Words of Welcome

- \* Call to Worship
- \* Song: **Beautiful Saviour LUYH # 17 vs 1-4**
- \* God's Greeting
- \* Song: **O Sacred Head LUYH # 168 vs 1-3**

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

Lenten Liturgy

Song: **When I Survey the Wondrous Cross LUYH # 175 vs 1-4**

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

Children's Message

Children age 3 – Grade 6 are dismissed for Sunday School

Catechism Grade 7 & 8

Song: **Jesus Strong and Kind CCLI # 7139992**

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Luke 22: 54-62

Message: Selflessness of Grace

Song: **I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace LUYH # 690 vs, 1,2,4**

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

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Christian School Bursary Fund

Offertory: **Video**

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

- \* God's Sending and Blessing
- \* Song: **Blessed Assurance LUYH # 363 vs 1-3**

\* 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:

March 23: Pastor Jay leads the service Lent Week # 3

March 30: Pastor Jay leads the service Lent Week # 4

April 6: Pastor Jay leads the service Lent Week # 5

April 13: Pastor Jay leads the service Lent Week # 6 Palm Sunday, Preparatory for Lord's Supper

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 Christian School Bursary Fund

March 30: Deacons Benevolence

April 6 : Resonate Global Mission

April 23: Kimberley & Carlos Belez - Serge

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<sup>+</sup>** 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

**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.

**Weekly Community** Dinner plans are underway! The churches in Exeter are teaming up to meet a need in our community. We want to fill hungry bellies and build community through weekly communal meals. Please consider joining us in this mission where you can serve, get to know our neighbors, and perhaps even meet a new friend. If you are interested in being part of a team to serve on rotation (once every month or two) please contact Marique Crossen by April 1 at [mariqueb@gmail.com](mailto:mariqueb@gmail.com) or 519-918-9645.

**Coffee Break:** Ladies, please join us for a spring session of Coffee break! Enjoy a time of fellowship and growth as we journey together through the book of Jonah; reflecting on when God's purpose is not always in our plans. We will be meeting weekly starting April 2nd for an EVENING session beginning at 7:15 PM. Women of all ages and stages are welcome, and we hope you will come and bring a friend! Feeling called to be involved? We would love some additional volunteers to help with leading these sessions and with clean up afterwards. To get involved or if you have any questions, please reach out to Joyce Pelley or Sarah Mulder.

**Mark your Calendars!** Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 PM at the Exeter Arena! The Community Stream would like to invite you to a fun-filled evening of pizza and family skating, followed by a hockey game of young folk's vs not so young folks! If you have any questions, talk to Dan Vanderlaan or Connor Van Soest!

**THANK YOU from the Youth Group** Thank-you so much to everyone who came out to support our Youth Group pancake breakfast! We raised \$1200 which will offset some of the costs of AOYC and SERVE. We had fun cooking in the kitchen and the happy chatter in the gym was obvious! Thank-you to everyone who helped make our morning a success.

**Seniors' Dinner:** The Senior's Dinner will be held in the gym on Saturday, April 5, starting at 11am with a coffee social followed by dinner and guest speaker Joanne Schreuders. The Deacons have sent out invitations to all our seniors but if someone was missed, we apologize and please let Joy DeWeerd know of your desire to attend.

**Catechism:** Classes will be starting again on March 23 during Sunday school time and will run for six weeks (excluding Easter Sunday.). We look forward to seeing you there.

**Council Nominations:** It is that season again and we ask for you to please help us out. We will need to fill some vacancies on council this spring, 3 Elders and 2 Deacons. Talk to a council member and let them know that you would love to have a term on council, or if not so bold, volunteer another member whom you believe to have a heart for the church and ask them if you can bring their name to council. It would be wonderful to have a full slate of names (double those required) for both deacon and elder. Please have these names in by March 31st.

### **Collection funds paid out in February:**

\$ 614.00 Compassion Canada  
\$2,862.27 Deacons (JAN & FEB)  
\$1,179.50 Tuition Assistance  
\$ 867.80 Children of the Promise  
\$2,670.60 Teen Challenge  
**\$8,194.17 Total**

### **Council Highlights**

- Discussed the announcement for office bearers, that we will be needing 5 new council members. Please give it some thought if you are approached or would like to volunteer your name.
- Vanastra CRC is using video sermons from Pastor Jay's series on unity, we are glad we can share these videos with them.
- Pastor Jay was nominated and selected at Classis to go to Synod in Ancaster
- Council accepted the membership of Deb Westerik
- Faith formation reported that there are 7 Sunday School graduates
- Catechism starting again at the end of March for another 6-week session

### **From the CRCNA and the Broader Community**

**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 [crcna.org/survey/5522](https://crcna.org/survey/5522) to answer the survey questions **by March 31**.

**Sanctuary London :** On April 12 Sanctuary will be holding a "Trekking for Home" fundraiser. We are encouraging participants to either walk 5k, run 10k or cycle 30k and ask their friends, families, and communities to support them and us as they do. The event will begin in the Talbot Street Parking lot, and we will be having a parking lot party and BBQ to celebrate the finish.

**SOCO Fundraising Event** ~ Friday, March 28 at Good News Church (London) - doors open at 6:45 p.m. and show starts at 7:15 p.m. Enjoy the one woman play, "The Downs" and support the SOCO ministry. Come hear Mille Johnson as she takes us back to 1940's farm life in northern New Brunswick with all the thrills and chills that came along with washin' laundry by hand. When workin' hard had whole different meanin' and homemade bread and a cup of tea warmed your heart. Tickets are \$40. For more information and to purchase tickets: <https://socobeachproject.regfox.com/the-downs-soco-fundraiser>

**This Week: March 23-29 2025**

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship with Sunday School age 3 -Grade 6 and Grade 7/8 Catechism	<u>Monday</u> Gems 7 – 8:30 pm	<u>Tuesday</u> Youth Group 7 pm	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u> Cadets 7 pm Praise Team Practice 7:30 pm Executive Meeting - 7:30 pm	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
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**SERVING SCHEDULE 13**

	<b>March 23</b>	<b>March 30</b>	<b>April 6</b>	<b>April 13</b>
<b>Elder</b>	Gerard Steenbeek	Clare Toornstra	Jake Zantingh	Al Heyink
<b>Deacon</b>	Joy & Connor	Connor & Anthony	Anthony & Dianne	Dianne & Joy
<b>Coffee Clean-Up</b>	Conner & Melissa VanSoest Mike & Emmy Zandwyk	Frieda Zandbergen, Ann Zwaan, Jake & Savannah Zantingh	Matt Bakelaar & Jessica Bakelaar Eugene & April Boersma	Ken & Trinia Boersma Dave & Joan Brady
<b>Greeters</b>	Scott & Wendy Stafford	Jean Vanderlaan & Yvonne Van Soest	Lori Triebner & Norma Vanderlaan	Kathryn Langendyk Clarence Toornstra
<b>Ushers</b>	Dianne Soer, Sylvia Hulshoff	Al Heyink, Colton Mulder	Gerald Kodde, Cliff Knip	Joe Lubbers, Betty Toornstra
<b>Children's Message</b>	Sylvia	Sylvia	Sylvia	Sylvia
<b>Nursery</b>	Ang Nyman, Rolinda deRuijter, Kassidy Heyink, Avery Knip	Sarah Mulder, Sylvia Heyink, Yvonne VanSoest, Lillian Crossen	Lisa Heyink, Karen Knip, Jolene DeBoer, Layla Den Hollander	
<b>Sunday School</b>	Sylvia Hulshof, Jolene de Boer, Laura Garritsen, Tanya Steenbeek	Joyce Pelley, Jolene de Boer, Laura Garritsen, Tanya Steenbeek	Sandra Ducharme, Michelle Meinen, Sarah Mulder, Joyce Pelley	Sandra Ducharme, Michelle Meinen, Sarah Mulder, Joyce Pelley