



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

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Worship: 10am

Pastor Rick DeGraaf

Musicians: Steve

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

- * Song: **Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna LUYH # 204 Vs 1-3**
- * God's Greeting
- * Song: **I Know That My Redeemer Lives LUYH # 193 Vs 1,2,3,7**

God Renews Us In His Grace

Prayer of Confession

God's Assurance

Cal to Responsive Living

Song: **Come to Us, Beloved Stranger LUYH # 207 Vs 1-3**

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Message

Song: **Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah CCLI 3422814 (2X)**

Children age 3 – Grade 6 are dismissed for Sunday School & Grade 7 & 8

Catechism

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Matthew 18:21-35, Luke 7: 41-42

Message: Ready to Forgive?

Song: **Forgive our Sins as We Forgive LUYH # 638**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Mississippi Christian Family Service

Offertory: **Your Labour is Not in Vain CCLI # 7097868 vs 1-4**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

- * God's Sending and Blessing
- * Song: **Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God LUYH # 953 Vs 1-2**

* 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:

April 27: Pastor Rick DeGraaf

May 4: Pastor Jay (Gems Sunday)

May 11: Pastor Jay

May 18: 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 for Mississippi Christian Family Service



May 4: Gems

May 11: ReFrame Ministries (Formerly Back to God Hour)

May 18: Resonate Global Mission - Mario Matos

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.



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.

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.

Valet Drivers Needed! In my role as disability advocate, I would like to restore the valet program for our members with mobility issues. The valet would meet the member at the side door, help them out of their car along with any mobility device they may have, and park their car. At the end of the service, or after coffee, the valet would do the same in reverse. I am hoping to get 4 or 5 volunteers so each volunteer would only be called on once a month. If you are able to help, please see me in church, send me an email at michaelbuckman@hotmail.com or call me at (519) 236-7940

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. In the Youth Room Women of all ages and stages are welcome, and we hope you will come and bring a friend! Reminder that if you feel because you have missed a couple weeks no worries, we still would love for you to come. There is always an empty chair that is just for you.

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.

Bridge App: All church committee's have been added to the church's directory on the Bridge App. For every committee you are on can you please check your information that it is indeed correct. If you have been missed from a committee, please let me know so I can get you added. If a committee has been missed all together, please let me know and I will get it on there. Or if you are just curious of who is on what committee, enjoy. If you have any questions, please let me know, Maria Bakelaar

"Men's breakfast May 3, here at the church. Starting at 8:00 am. We will continue with our study of the beatitudes. Please RSVP to either pastor Jay or Mike Zandwyk.

Senior Bible Study: Meets May 14 @ 2pm. We will continue our study on 1 Peter 2

Help! Our church has an amazing video ministry, and, like all ministries, there needs to be a group of dedicated people using their gifts serving in this job. The video ministry needs one or two more people to serve by recording Sunday services once a month. There will be lots of training available as it is a techy job. If you have any questions or need more information, please talk with one of our current team, Gerard, Tony, or Aaron. If we do not have some new volunteers soon, we may need to begin the hard conversation of skipping weeks.

Hockey: Many, many thanks to the congregation for attending the youth vs not so youthful hockey night. It was a wonderful night of community, fun and fellowship....perhaps we should do that again? Many thanks to those who helped out for the evening it was muchly appreciated. And lastly congrats to the youth, while the score was perhaps not in your favour, the Chuck a Puck was a highlight and will be remembered much longer than the score. (PS 4-3 for the old guys). The Community Stream

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.

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

Journey with World Renew in Uganda! - Join the World Renew Uganda Discovery Tour from August 9–19, 2025 and experience the transformative power of God firsthand. Visit communities focused on maternal and child health, food security, and conservation agriculture. Connect with youth empowerment clubs and village savings groups, witnessing how lives are being changed for a brighter future. Experience the breathtaking Murchison Falls, embark on an exciting safari adventure, and immerse yourself in the incredible beauty of Uganda. For more information and to register, visit: <https://bit.ly/2025ugandainfo>

Hymn Sing: Join us on Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 pm at the Clinton Christian Reformed Church for a time of praise. The building is accessible for those with mobility concerns via the doors on the east side of the building. All are welcome to participate and select favourite hymns from the grey hymnal in our church pews. Bring your voice and join us in song!

"London Christian High is hosting a Relay for Life event in support of the Canadian Cancer Society. On May 23, 2025, we will be relaying at our school. Our event will help those living with cancer get to life-saving treatment appointments and provide access to other support programs. As a school, this event is a way for us to fulfill our calling as Christians outlined in Galatians 5:13, "...but through love, serve one another." We invite you to support this important cause by making a financial donation at relayforlife.ca/lch. Your generosity will help us reach our fundraising goal of \$35,000. We also invite you to come relay with us from **4:00–5:30 PM on May 23 for our Community Relay**, a chance to walk together in support of this meaningful cause. If you have any questions, please contact Alanna Poortinga at apoortinga@lchonline.ca."

Wingham and District Right to Life: Annual Banquet and Live Auction. We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting our 49th Annual Banquet on Wednesday, April 30 at 6:45 at the Wingham Columbus Centre. The theme for the banquet will be **Serving With Compassion**, with speakers from Death Doula (Linda VanWyk) and Solace Singers (Deb Shelley). Tickets for the roast beef dinner must be ordered in advance and are \$30 (\$20 for youth). Tickets may be ordered from any of the board members in your parish or contact winghamrighttolife@gmail.com. All tickets must be ordered by **April 21**. The evening will also include a Live Auction. Proceeds will be forwarded to Death Doula, Solace Singers, and One Care Home and Community Support Services.

The Third Annual Huron Christian School Golf Tournament is happening July 5, 2025, at Woodland Links in Clinton. This is a great way to get together as a school community and have fun! Contact Justin Damsma at jdamsma@eigroup.ca for more information!

Mark Your Calendars – Celebration of Learning! Join us on **Friday, May 2nd at 7:00pm** for our Celebration of Learning — a wonderful opportunity to see what students have been working on throughout this past school year. There will be plenty to see, hear, and experience as you explore the school! Contact the school office for more information at office@huronchristianschool.ca

Huron-Perth Christian High You may or may not have heard some rumblings in the community about the new Edvance-affiliated **Huron-Perth Christian High** in Mitchell - we're excited to tell you that it's true! We're getting ready for a September 2026 launch, and we are pleased to invite you to an information/brainstorming session. These sessions are open to all supporters of Christian education. Whether your children are already in high school, are starting high school soon or are starting in a few years or whether it's your grandchildren that will be blessed by this, all are invited to share their input. We will be holding three Open Houses at area Christian elementary schools where we will invite your feedback on the Mission/Values/Goal Statement and where we will have a small group discussion to gather your ideas and suggestions. No RSVP required. The Open House dates and locations are:

Huron Christian School – Wed. May 7 - 7:30-9pm

Stratford Christian School – Thurs. May 8 - 7:30-9pm

Listowel Christian School – Thurs. May 15 7:30-9pm

If you have any questions in advance, feel free to call Chris Huizinga at 519-955-2513, Jeff Bylsma at 519-525-5815, or Becky Bosma at 519-525-5096 or e-mail hpchristianhigh@gmail.com Looking forward to seeing you there!

Classis Huron Corner

The delegates of Classis Huron (regional assembly of churches) met for a special meeting, on Monday night, April 7, 2024, at the Community CRC in Kitchener, in response to the request of several of our churches.

- Opening devotions were led by Rev. Tom Bomhof, the pastor of Community CRC.
- The chair of the meeting was Mr. Peter Kingma, elder at Water Street CRC in Guelph.
- An overture (a formal written proposal) was received, to send a request to Synod 2025, as a late-agenda item. Classis agreed to send the request that “Synod 2025 revisit and revise the decision made by Synod 2024 regarding “limited suspension” by withdrawing restrictions on seating classis delegates unless and until necessary revisions are made to Church Order”.
This request has been sent to the synodical office, along with an explanation why it is important to include this request on this year’s agenda.
- Did you know that Synod 2025 will be meeting at Redeemer University in Ancaster this year?
- Two staff members of Thrive joined classis via Zoom, to provide information about the process of calling a pastor.
Several resources are available to the churches and search committees.
They also cautioned about several pitfalls search committees need to be aware of.
- The complete set of minutes will be available at www.classishuron.ca.

This Week: April 27-May May 3 2025

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship with Sunday School age 3 -Grade 6 and Catechism Grade 7 & 8	<u>Monday</u> GEMS - 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	<u>Tuesday</u> Youth Group 7 pm	<u>Wednesday</u> Evening Coffee Break 7:15-8:45 pm Senior Bible Study 2pm	<u>Thursday</u> Cadets - 7pm - Final Night & Bridge Bust! Praise Team Practice 7:30 pm	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u> Men's Breakfast – 8:00 am
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SERVING SCHEDULE 13

	April 27	May 4	May 11	May 18
Elder	Jason Mulder	George Poortinga	Gerard Steenbeek	Clare Toornstra
Deacon	Anthony & Dianne	Dianne & Joy & GEMS	Joy & Connor	Connor & Anthony
Coffee Clean-Up	Aaron & Jolene Adrian and Maria	Derek & Sharon Mike & Teresa	Derek & Miranda Tony & Marian	Ron & Rolinda Job & Laura
Greeters	Sam Vanderlaan, Albert Hummel	GEMS	Gerben & Ria Steenbeek	Bert Visscher, Yvonne Van Soest
Ushers	George Poortinga, Colton Mulder	GEMS	Clarence & Betty Toornstra	Jake Zantingh, Wilma Visscher
Children's Message	Teresa Buckman	GEMS	Joan Brady	Bert Visscher
Nursery	Sylvia Hulshof, Kevin Mulder, Amanda Desgagne, Sydney Lubbers	Hannah Glavin, Katelyn Heyink, Wendy Stafford,	Sheila Vanderlaan, Ann Zwaan, Joanne Branderhorst	Marian deBoer, Kathryn Langendyk, Curtis Heyink
Sunday School	Sandra Ducharme, Michelle Meinen, Sarah Mulder, Joyce Pelley	Kassidy Heyink Only SS for 3,4,5- year-olds	Sylvia Hulshof, Kassidy Heyink , Maria Bakelaar Joe / Danielle Dysktra	Sylvia Hulshof, Kassidy Heyink, Maria Bakelaar Joe / Danielle Dysktra
Valet	Lori Triebner	Mike Zandwyk	Tim Deweerd	Dan Vanderlaan