



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, May 17, 2026

Worship: 10am

Pastor: Jay Crossen

**Musicians: Steve, Bill, Lori,
Joanne**

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

* Call to Worship

* Song: **Gather us In LUYH # 529**

* God's Greeting

* Song: **Come Holy Ghost LUYH # 232**

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Song: **Amazing Grace LUYH # 691**

Baptism: Levi John Zantingh

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

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's message

Dismissal of (Age 3– Grade 6)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Message: Through the Water

Song: **Oceans CCLI # 6428767**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Canadian Food Grains Bank

Offertory: **Instrumental**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

*God's Sending and Blessing

*Song: **O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing LUYH # 590**

* 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>May 17:</u>	Pastor Jay (Baptism Levi John Zantingh)
<u>May 24:</u>	Pastor Jay (Lord's Supper & Profession of Faith Jenelle Vanderlaan, Cameron Knip & Eli Crossen)
<u>May 31:</u>	Pastor Matthew Verhoog
<u>June 7:</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 Canadian Food Grains Bank

<u>May 24:</u>	Edudeo
<u>May 31:</u>	Resonate Global Mission - Mario Matos
<u>June 7:</u>	Christian School Bursary Fund



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

Request from Huron Newcomers: "One of our newcomers is a young man named Joel who is looking for a one-bedroom apartment in Exeter. He has a full-time job as a cook nearby but has no car at the moment. However, he has a ride to work from Exeter so it needs to be in town. He is a very responsible hard worker and would be a fine tenant. He is currently renting a two-bedroom that is too expensive at \$1500 a month and would like to find something smaller and cheaper."

Contact Dianne or Joy if you are able to help with this request.



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.

Births: We as church family congratulate Kevin & Keira Vanderlaan & big brother Brody on the birth of Adelynn Elizabeth on May 9 2026. Thanking God for the gift of new life.

Condolences: As a church family we extend our deepest condolences to Peta Branderhorst & family on the loss of Peta's sister and brother-in-law John & Wilma Hessels in a tragic motor vehicle accident on May 5 2026. May you feel God's comfort and presence as you grieve.

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

WOW! What an incredible weekend we had! Our hearts are full of joy, gratitude, and thankfulness as we reflect on the time, we spent together celebrating and remembering. It was truly a beautiful weekend from start to finish. Thank you to the MANY hands that helped make it all possible—we truly came together as a church family! To everyone who helped - whether seen, or behind the scenes - with set up, yard work, decorating, food prep, serving and with take down & clean up -We couldn't have done it with you! THANK YOU for stepping up to help out! To God be the Glory! Many Thanks, The 75th Anniversary Committee: Bert, Kathryn, Sarah, Sylvia, Sheila & Dan

Nursery: The nursery needs a few more adult volunteers and helpers. If you are able to help in this ministry, please contact Cassidy Heyink.

Coffee Clean-up Volunteers: To ensure we can continue to enjoy coffee and fellowship after the service each Sunday morning. There is a request that starting in June those on the list for coffee also put the coffee and sugar and creamers out. There will be a list in the kitchen of the duties needed. Thank you for all those who serve in this capacity. Any question reach out to Leo or Harry.

Craft & Connect: We are having such a wonderful time together that we have decided to continue to meet every Tuesday (1-3pm) in May. Whether you are finishing a project or beginning a new one, join us in the church library for a time of creativity and conversation.

Young Adults Trivia Night Join us on May 29th at 7:30 in the gym at Exeter CRC! Put your knowledge to the test and join us for a fun night of trivia, snacks, laughter, and friendly competition! Whether you're a trivia champion or just in it for the fun, everyone is welcome. Invite a friend and come hang out with other young adults for a great evening together.

Save the Date – Church in the Park Mark your calendars for July 26, for Church in the MacNaughton Park! Join us for a special time of worship, fellowship, food, and fun outdoors as we gather together. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope you can join us for this wonderful time together!

March & April 2026 Collection Pay Outs

Deacons	2,565.00	Carlos & Kimberly Belez	570.00
Huron Christian School	1,084.71	Coldest Night of the Year	220.00
London Christian High	345.14	Exeter Food Bank	2,370.00
Stratford Christian School	213.65	Huron County Dist Ctr	1,321.70
Children of the Promise	210.00	Reframe	915.00
Office of Social Justice	678.15	Compassion Canada	1,312.35
Common Plate	970.90	Total	12,776.60

Council highlights for the meeting of May 6th, 2026

- The meeting was opened with scripture and a reading on “Following Jesus.”
- The 2025 year-end finances were presented and approved.
- Deacons reported on their work and on the Building Community Partnership conference they went to. Also, look out for a handout from the deacons for all to fill out.
- Pastor Jay reported on his past month. Busy was the word to best describe it.
- Safe church welcomed two new members.
- Park service was discussed, and July 26 is the day.
- Gerard reported on the iPad use for the services, and it is going well. It is for those who have trouble seeing or standing and would like to follow along with the service. If you would like to try one, talk with Gerard or Joe.
- Some time was spent discussing Elder and Deacon nominations. We are close, so if you are asked, please prayerfully consider the opportunity.
- Some time was spent on the HS report; more details will be presented shortly.
- Joe closed the meeting in prayer.

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

SOCO Beach Project Update The SOCO group has officially arrived — and SOCO 2026 is underway! Read all about the excitement in this week’s newsletter. Be sure to mark June 19 on your calendar and grab your tickets for the upcoming SOCO Fundraiser featuring *The Downs*, the powerful one-woman play by Sheryl Scott, along with inspiring stories from current participants. For tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/the-downs-fundraiser-2> Calling all young adults! Join us for our very first SOCO Sunday on May 31 in Port Dover for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship. We can’t wait to see you there!. Newsletter link: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-may-14-8575855>

Groundwork: Humanity Falls - Just after the story of creation, the Bible tells us the story of humanity’s fall. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 2-3, Romans 5:12, Romans 8:20-22, and Romans 3:9-23 to examine the second major theme of the Bible, the Christian doctrine of the fall. This theme emphasizes the catastrophic impact of sin on humanity and creation, and clearly articulates our universal need for a Savior in Jesus Christ. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Worship: Women of all ages are invited for an evening of worship on Sunday, May 31 at 7:30 PM at the Clinton CRC. Our hope is to create a place where hearts are encouraged and the presence of God is experienced in a meaningful way. We plan to gather on the last Sunday of every other month. Please join us through the door by the soccer fields. Worship, treats, and genuine connection—you belong here, be part of something special. For more information, please contact clintoncrc@tcc.on.ca or call 519 482 5264.

Seminary Education Financial Support: Are you feeling called to deepen your theological knowledge through seminary-level education in order to serve in ministry? Classis Huron (“Classis Ministry Leadership Team”) provides financial support for seminary students called to serve in our Christian Reformed denomination. Please contact Pastor Wes Collins at pastor.wes@draytoncrc.org for more information or applications (due no later than June 1st).

Family Outreach Ontario: Special Event Family Outreach Ontario invites you to an information evening on Friday, June 5 at Bethel Christian Reformed Church (345 Elizabeth St E, Listowel, ON N4W 2P7). Our Executive Director, John Kowtecky, will present “An Overview of Addiction” and Rick H. will give his story of addiction and recovery. Please plan to attend and tell others about it as well. It will be an evening you will be sure to remember. A collection will be taken to cover our costs. 7:00 - Doors open, Refreshments/Meet & Greet; 7:30 - 9:00 - Presentation and Q&A period followed by refreshments and opportunity for talk with Mr. Kowtecky or other Family Outreach members

Small Towns. Big Mission. — You're Invited! What does it look like to share the hope of the Gospel right here in our own communities? Join us on May 27 at 5:30 PM at Vanastra CRC for an engaging and practical evening focused on small-town outreach with our CRC sister churches. Hear directly from local Huron County missionaries, April and Mark Hardwick, as they share real insights into the unique needs around us and offer simple, meaningful ways you can be part of God's work in your everyday life. Dinner provided. Please register by May 18 by emailing: holly@trinitychurchgoderich.com or filling out the [REGISTRATION FORM](#). God is at work in small towns.

Calling all Graduates: If you are graduating from high school, are pursuing post-secondary education, and have made a contribution to the pro-life movement, we would love to hear from YOU. You may be eligible to WIN the Wingham and District Right to Life Bursary of \$100.00. Please contact Brenda Sjaarda at 519-440-2744 or email sjaardabrenda@gmail.com to obtain an application for this award. If you know of someone who may be eligible, please encourage them to apply. We would love to hear all of the wonderful ways youth are making a difference in support of life. Deadline for applications is June 1, 2026.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Wingham and District Right to Life would like to thank all 147 people who attended our 50th Annual Banquet and all those who donated items to our Silent Auction. We have used the proceeds from the Silent Auction to donate \$1000.00 to the Association for Reformed Political Action (our speaker) and have budgeted \$1500.00 to our Diaper Drops. We donate approximately \$500 of diapers and wipes three times a year to the **North Huron Foodshare** and the **Community Foodbank in Clinton** in September, December, and March.

Single in Classis Huron? Inge Rylaarsdam (Palmerston CRC), Samantha Kappers (Bethel CRC - Listowel) and Grace-Emma Bierma (Stratford CRC) are collaborating to host a curated speed dating social for Christian singles between the ages of 25-40. **When:** Friday, June 26 from 6:00pm-10:00pm [Dinner will be served at 6:30pm hosted by Holy Smokes BBQ] **Where:** Moorefield, ON **Cost:** \$25 Reserve your spot (as space is limited) by June 12, by emailing: speeddatingsocial1@gmail.com Once you've registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the details regarding payment, the specific location and an overview of the evening. Looking forward to seeing you there.

This Week May 17-23 2026

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Sunday School age 3 – Grade 6	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church Craft & Connect 1-3 Library Deacons Meeting 7:30 pm	<u>Wednesday</u> Elders Meeting 7:30 pm	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
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	May 17	May 24	May 31	June 7
Elder	Joe Lubbers	Joe Lubbers	Gerald Kodde	Jake Zantingh
Deacon	Dianne, Marian	Marian, Joy	Joy, Anthony	Anthony, Dianne
Coffee Clean-Up	Tony & Marian Tim & Joy	Job & Laura Al and Sylvia	Curtis & Cassidy Scott & Lisa	Greg & Kaitlyn ,Derek & Sylvia ** Please note announcement
Greeters	Jean, Wendy	Gerben & Ria Steenbeek	Wibbina, Sam V.	Yvonne, Kathryn
Ushers	Betty, Anthony	Tim, Gerard		
Children’s Message	Sylvia	N/A	Verhoog Family member	Pastor Jay
Nursery	Laura Garritsen, Leah Branderhorst, Ashley Breukelman	Kathryn Langendyk, Marique Crossen, Avery Knip	Katelyn Heyink, Hannah Glavin, Sadie Bouman	Tanya Steenbeek, Joanne Boersma, Layla Denhollander
Sunday School	Teresa Buckman, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman, Jordan Boersma, Sheila Vanderlaan	Sylvia Hulshof Sandra Ducharme, Jolene De Boer, Jody Mulder	Teresa Buckman, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman. Jordan Boersma, Jody Mulder	Joy DeWeerd, Cassidy Heyink, Laura Garritson, Sharon Kodde, Sarah Mulder
Valet	Bill Branderhorst	Ron deRuiter	Greg Langendyk	
Tech Booth	(P) Eli (A) Adrian (V) Gerard	(P) Greg (A) Job (V) Aaron	(P) Landon (A) Trevor (V) Tony	(P) Dan (A) Nathan (V) Dan
Hall Monitor	Anthony Nyman	Gerard Steenbeek	Marian DeBoer	Dianne Soer