



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 September 27, 2026

Worship: 10am

Pastor: Jay Crossen

Musicians: Michelle

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

* Call to Worship

* Song: **Holy, Holy, Holy LUYH # 538**

* God's Greeting

* Song: **Great are You Lord CCLI # 6460220**

God Renews us in His Grace

Prayer of Confession

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Assurance

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

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Message Children's Song: **He's Got the Whole World LUYH # 26**

Dismissal of Children ages 3– Grade 6

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 4:1b-11 & 12 Samuel 7:2-12

Message: God will Not be Used

* Song: **Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing LUYH # 521**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: The Lighthouse

Offering Song: **Take my Life and Let it be LUYH# 863**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

* God's Sending and Blessing

* Song: **Living Hope CCLI # 7106807**

* 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. Nursery is available for all children up to age 3. 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>Sept 27:</u>	Pastor Jay
<u>Oct 4:</u>	Pastor Jay (Preparatory for Lord's Supper)
<u>Oct 11:</u>	Pastor Jay (Lord's Supper)
<u>Oct 18:</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 The Lighthouse

<u>Oct 4:</u>	Christian School Bursary Fund
<u>Oct 11:</u>	Exeter Community Food Bank
<u>Oct 18:</u>	NewGround Endowment 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

Thanksgiving Food Drive! Many in our community face every day without enough food, and some parents go without so their children can eat. Please support the Exeter and Area Food Bank by donating canned goods and pantry staples. Our drive runs from Sunday, September 20/26 to Sunday, October 04/26, so families have time to prepare for Thanksgiving. Please help us bless our friends and neighbours. A box will be available in the foyer. Thank you from the Deacons.



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.

Congratulations: We thank God and we congratulate Nathan & Rachel Boersma on the safe arrival of Casey Andrew born Sept 18 2026. All are doing well.

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

To our cherished Seniors: We see you, and we want you to know how important you are to our church family. Whether you need a ride to an appointment or to visit family, a warm meal, a companion for a walk, or just a friendly chat over coffee, **Our Senior Care Team is here for you!** Please reach out to Norma Vanderlaan, Lori Triebner, Bill Branderhorst, Marique Crossen, Laura Garritsen, Joanne Branderhorst or Melanie Buxton - we would love to connect with you!

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.

GEMS Kick-Off and Registration Night for all girls born 2012-2017 (grades 4-8). Parents are asked to join the Kick-Off on **Thursday, October 1/26 at 7:00pm** at the church and register their daughter(s) in-person. This will give you a chance to meet the leaders, hear about the plans for the year and have your questions answered. There will be refreshments. Girls are encouraged to bring a friend. Invite a neighbour, classmate or teammate to come out and see what GEMS is all about. Everyone welcome!

Sunday School is Back: For ages 3 to Grade 6.

We are still in need of teachers and could really use your help! Please prayerfully consider whether you could volunteer and help make Sunday School possible for our children this year. If you can help, please speak with Janelle Bouman, Sarah Mulder or Jolene de Boers or sign up on the sheets by the Sunday School desk.

Craft & Connect will resume on Tuesday's. Pack up your current craft project and join us in the church library from 12:30-3:30. For more information contact Dianne Soer

Women's Young Adults Bible Study (ages 18-35): We are excited to re-launch our fall session of the Women's Young Adults Bible Study. Come join a great group of ladies seeking deeper relationships with one another and with Jesus. We plan to meet **bi-weekly** throughout the fall (Tuesday or Wednesday evenings). Further details will be posted on the Young Adults Facebook page. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel Kaumanns or Rachel Boersma.

Profession of Faith Classes: Starting this fall we hope to have a profession of faith class. If any one is interested, please connect with Pastor Jay.

Bible Ready Group: Any one wanting to connect and read through scripture together is encouraged to come to the church the first Friday of every month @ 3:00 pm. Currently we are reading through Psalms

Church can feel lonely sometimes. We often long for a deeper connection to others and to God. That's what this Women's Retreat is all about.

On Friday October 6 and Saturday October 7 We will have opportunity to worship together, laugh together and hear stories of God's goodness and faithfulness in our everyday lives.

Our stories for God's glory!

"Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power. Psalm 145:4

We have room for 16 participants. Cost is \$20 Please let us know of any food allergies.

Invites are in your mail slots. Please contact Kiera Vanderlaan to register

Keirawiersema14@gmail.com or text @ 519-851-7841

Common Plate is looking for more volunteers! Would you like to love our neighbors by helping to provide a meal and fellowship opportunity for them? Would you like to get to know and strengthen your ties with other Christians in Exeter by serving alongside them? Come join our Common Plate team! Did you know that 7 local churches are working together to provide complimentary weekly meals for our community!?! We are currently looking for people who would be willing to volunteer on one Tuesday every seven weeks. Please contact Marique Crossen if you are interested or have any questions.

Attention All Youth (Grades 9-12): We are getting ready to kick off our regular lessons starting Tuesday, October 6, and we want you to be there! All youth are welcome Tuesday nights from 7-9. Feel free to bring a friend.

This Tuesday, Sept 29 we are hosting a corn hole tournament in the church gym with the Elders. Come ready to compete, enjoy some snacks, and have some fun!

Coffee Break: We will be starting Wednesday Oct 7 @ 9:30 – 11:00 am. Our first morning will be a Potluck Brunch. Child care will be available. We will be studying the book of Job. All welcome!

Volunteers Needed: Coffee Break is starting Wednesday, October 7/26 and will run weekly from 9:30-11:00am till December 9/26. Once again, childcare will be provided. Volunteers will be needed to help care for the little ones in the nursery. If you can help out, even for one morning, please contact Karen Knip.

Small groups will soon be starting up again. Are you interested in joining a group this fall? Please speak to Sheila Vanderlaan to sign up or find out more information.

GUESS WHO'S COMING FOR LUNCH: Would you like to build more connections in our church community? Perhaps you are new and would like to get to know some people. Perhaps you have attended all your life but tend to chat with the same people every week. This is your opportunity to make some new connections! Sign up for Guess Who Is Coming for Lunch, which will be held on Sunday, October 4. You can sign up to be a host or a guest and you will be randomly matched. Connect with Marique Crossen to sign up.

Young Adults Kick Off Attention young adults! Caleb and Nathan Kodde are hosting a young adults campfire at their place on Friday October 23rd. Come anytime after 7:30 and bring a lawn chair. Feel free to bring a friend as well.

Collections for Aug 2026

Deacons	1792.5	Huron Christian School	756.92
London Christian High	240.84	Stratford Christian School	149.09
Exeter Food Bank	2050	Resonate	355
World Renew Foodgrains	300	Huron Cty Food Dist	250
Welcome Hub Newcomers	250	World Renew Justice for All	430
Sanctuary London	1787	New Ground	250
		Total	8611.35

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

THE DOWNS — An Evening to Support the SOCO Beach Project

Join us for *The Downs*, a delightful one-woman show that takes us back to farm life in Northern New Brunswick in our grandparents' day—before phones, television, and modern conveniences. Millie Johnson will have you laughing one moment and fighting back tears the next as she shares stories of simple living, hard work, love, and the lessons of a bygone era. Come enjoy an entertaining evening of storytelling while supporting the ministry of SOCO Beach Project! **Friday, October 23 at 7:15 p.m. at Faith Christian Reformed Church, Burlington, ON** To purchase tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/the-downs-fundraiser-oct-23rd--2026>

Groundwork: A Wise Perspective on Work - Much of our adult life revolves around work: work for our jobs, work on our houses and for our families, and work for the Lord. Join Groundwork as we study Ecclesiastes 4:4-8, 5:10-15, 9:7-10 to listen to the Teacher's wisdom on what makes our work meaningful. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Family Outreach Ontario Addiction to alcohol and/or drugs; how bad is it? Not that bad? Is "*that bad*" a skid row drunk, losing your family, home, job.....??? "*That bad*" is irrelevant -- what is relevant is help before it gets "that bad", for yourself and your loved one. We are available to share our experience, strength and hope. Confidentiality guaranteed. 905-933-3994 or www.familyoutreachontario.com.

GriefShare Support Group support group for those grieving the death of a loved one will begin on Thursday, September 24. Meetings will run weekly from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. through December 17, and will include a special session on "Surviving the Holidays."

Each session features a video presentation followed by a time for sharing and support. The group will meet at Trinity CRC Goderich. Additional details are available on the poster on the bulletin board by mail slots.

For more information, please contact Linda VanWyk at [519-955-0338](tel:519-955-0338) or visit griefshare.org.

Bethel CRC Young Adults invite you to a worship night on October 25. Come join us in worship and hear a message from Kevin Nethercott. Doors open at 7:00 PM for refreshments and worship starts at 7:30 PM.

Women's Worship: Women of all ages are invited for an evening of worship on Sunday, September 27th at 7:30 PM at the Clinton CRC. We plan to gather on the last Sunday of every other month. Enter through the door by the soccer fields. Worship, treats, and genuine connection—you belong here, be part of something special.

Grace-Emma Bierma BIO I am pleased and humbled to serve in a new position as Youth Ministry Consultant for Classis Huron. I look forward to getting to know each of the congregations and youth ministry leaders better in the years to come. My goal is to visit each church within the first year so I can see your unique ministry context and meet you face to face. In the meantime, please feel free to email: classishuronYMC@gmail.com or call/text: 226-261-3010 for any support or inquiries.

Christian Singles Mixer For those who were unable to attend the first event or for those who would like to mingle further, we invite you to a Christian Singles Mixer for those ages 25-40(ish) Inge Rylaarsdam (Palmerston CRC), Samantha Kappers (Bethel CRC - Listowel) and Grace-Emma Bierma (Stratford CRC) are hosting again. **|When:** Friday, October 16 from 6:00pm-11:00pm [Dinner will be served at 6:30pm] **|Where:** Moorefield, ON **Cost:** \$20 Reserve your spot (as space is limited) by October 9, by scanning the QR code on the flyer. All the details for the event will be there and you'll be confirmed once payment is received. Looking forward to seeing you!

Ladies Day Out: We're looking forward to hosting another Ladies Day Out on Saturday, November 7 from 9am – 2pm at Compass Community Church, 405 Drury Lane, Strathroy. The theme for the day is "Stepping In - How Are You Preparing to Step In? Throughout Scripture, we meet ordinary women who recognized a need, responded to God, and stepped into the moment He placed before them. From Esther and some of the other women of the Old Testament to Achsah, Caleb's daughter, and the women named in Romans 16, their stories remind us that God still calls and positions women today. Together, Beth, Anita, and Debbie will explore what it means to recognize God's invitation, live into His calling, and have the courage to step in, even when we don't feel ready or know exactly where the path will lead. So, what shoes are you wearing for the journey? And are they the right shoes for where God is calling you next? Our hope is that by the end of our day together, you will be encouraged and challenged to step into the right shoes for faith walking, trusting that God has already created you to step in. You have been created to Step In. Join us for a day of praise and worship through music and speakers Beth Fellingner, Debbie DeVries and Anita Plat-Kuiken. You can register at office@compasschurchstrathroy.ca. Registration for the day is \$40 which includes coffee, tea, hot chocolate, snacks, lunch and a swag bag to take home with you. We're looking forward to a great day together!

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (April 2 - 12, 2027): Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at [616-328-3110](tel:616-328-3110) or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Huron Christian School Auction: Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 21, 2026 for the 39th Annual Auction in the school gym, with the silent auction beginning online on Thursday, November 19 and closing Friday, November 20.

Advertising, financial contribution, and donations of items or services would be greatly appreciated to make this event a successful fundraiser for HCS. Could you or your business donate an item, a service or an advertisement? What about donating a gift card from your favourite local business? Please send completed forms back to the school no later than **October 20, 2026**. Forms and electronic copies of advertising can also be sent to auction@huronchristianschool.ca. Thank you for your support!

Classis Huron seeks nominations for the part-time paid positions of Stated Clerk of Classis and the Alternate. The clerk ensures accurate records/minutes of all classis proceedings and manages the various communications of classis from routine correspondence to official communications relative to ministerial credentials, congregational status, and overtures to synod. A stated clerk also ensures that the protocols and decisions of the classis conform to the Church Order of the CRCNA. Nominations must be submitted to the current Clerk of Classis by January 13, 2027, at classishuron@gmail.com.

Classis Huron is seeking nominations for the Classis Huron representative to the Council of Delegates (COD). This is the governing board of the Christian Reformed Church. As an ecclesiastical governance entity serving in the interim of synod (the broadest assembly), the COD provides governance by means of the authority delegated to it by synod and with its synodically elected membership representing classes. This appointment is for three years. More information is accessible at [Council of Delegates | Christian Reformed Church](#). Nominations must be submitted to the clerk of classis by January 13, 2027.

Classis Huron Corner.

- The delegates of Classis Huron (regional assembly) met on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at New Life CRC in Guelph.
- The chair of the meeting was Rev. Sid Couperus (First CRC, Owen Sound).
- The meeting began with devotions by New Life CRC pastor Rev. Jeff Vandermeer.
- Rev. Beth Fellingner (Resonate), Rev. Cam Oegema (Bethel CRC, Listowel) and Joan Brady (Classis Huron Mission Catalyst) led a sharing/prayer Round-Table session with a focus on *discipleship*.

Classis received several reports:

- Rev. Joel Vande Werken (Director of Ecclesiastical Governance) shared about his work at our denominational office, which includes responding to Church Order questions. He also explained why church governance is important.
- The four delegates who attended Synod 2026 (the annual general assembly of the CRC) reported on their experiences at Synod and encouraged the elders and deacons to consider attending future sessions of Synod.
- The Canadian Church Relations Liaison for Calvin Theological Seminary, Rev. Shawn Brix, reported that currently there are close to 400 students enrolled, including 60 Canadian students. Six of those are from churches in Classis Huron. After 150 years, Calvin Seminary continues to provide quality education to our future pastors.
- Classis also received reports from World Renew, Resonate and Diaconal Ministries Canada.
- Deacon Ed Koopman (New Life CRC) shared about their church's ministry, the Clothing Closet, that is providing individuals in the neighbourhood with clothing. He invited the delegates to visit the ministry during the lunch break.

Classis made various decisions:

- In accordance with the Synod's decision to affirm the Covenant for Office Bearers, Classis shall have its delegates sign the Covenant before each Classis Huron session.
- Grace-Emma Bierma was welcomed as the new Classis Huron Youth Ministry Consultant. Her focus will be to serve local youth leaders as a prayer partner, encourager, equipper, connector, and be present. Classis appointed five individuals as an oversight and support team.
- Classis also approved the list of members of the Waterloo Campus Ministry Committee and that of the Classis Huron Safe Church Team.
- The 2027 proposed Classis Huron budget was accepted.
- Classis approved the work of Joan Brady, the Classis Huron Mission Catalyst, and the work of the Safe Church Consultant Carel Geleynse.
- Two Church Visitors' reports were received.
- The work of the Classical Counsellors was approved. It was noted that candidate Joey Tuttle accepted a call extended by the Blyth CRC. Rev. Tim Keep (Trinity CRC, Goderich) has accepted a call to a church in Kalamazoo.
- Classis approved the request for the renewal of Stan Puklicz's license to exhort for five years.
- Classis thanked Jack Tacoma, who decided not to renew his license to exhort. He thanked Classis Huron for having allowed him the humble honour of serving the Church in this way for 29 years.
- Pastor Sid was thanked for his excellent leadership during the day.
- The New Life CRC volunteers were thanked for hosting Classis and for providing the excellent lunch, refreshments and audio/visual services during the day.
- Classis adjourned at 3:14 PM.
- The complete set of minutes will be available at www.classishuron.ca.

This Week Sept 27-Oct 3 2026

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Live Streamed Sunday School ages 3- to Grade 6 Cadet Camping	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church Craft & Connect 12:30-3:30	<u>Wednesday</u> Executive Meeting @ 7:30	<u>Thursday</u> GEMS	<u>Friday</u> Bible Reading Group @ 3:00	<u>Saturday</u>
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	Sept 27	Oct 4	Oct 11	Oct 18
Elder	Jake Zantingh	Cliff Knip	Adrian Bakelaar	Al Vanderlaan
Deacon	Cam, Dianne	Teresa, Cam	Cam, Marian	Anthony, Teresa
Coffee Clean-Up	Deb W, Anne Z Mike & Emmy Z ** Please note announcement	Shawn & Angela Adrian and Maria ** Please note announcement	Derek & Sharon Eugene & April, Wendy W * Please note announcement	Matt & Jessica Ken & Trina * Please note announcement
Greeters	Scott & Wendy Stafford	Michael & Teresa	Norma V., Albert	Anne Z., Sandra N.
Ushers	Sylvia, Jake	Cliff, Anthony	Colton, Dianne	Tim. Cam
Children's Message	Leo	Karen	N/A	Teresa
Nursery	Hannah Glavin, Ann Zwaan, Rolinda deRuiter	Mikayla Vink, Sandra Ducharme, Ashley Breukelman	Janelle Bouman, Sheila Vanderlaan, Avery Knip	Katelyn Heyink, Jody Mulder, Sadie Bouman
Sunday School	Sunday School for ages 3-Grade 6 Sandra Ducharme Shelia Vanderlaan, Clara Steenbeek, Janelle Bouman, Jody Mulder	Sunday School ages 3-Grade 6 Sylvia Hulshof, Tanya Steenbeek, Michelle Meinen, Angela Nyman	Sunday School for ages 3-Grade 6 Sylvia Hulshof, Sarah Mulder, Michelle Meinen, Angela Nyman	Sunday School for ages 3-Grade 6 Tanya Steenbeek, Michelle Meinen, Angela Nyman
Valet	Albert Hummmel	Ron deRuiter	Bill Branderhorst	Tim DeWeerd
Tech Booth	<u>(P) Landon (A) Nathan (V) Tony</u>	<u>(P) Sam (A) Job</u>	<u>(P) Greg (A) Trevor (V)</u>	<u>(P) Eli (A) Adrain (V) Tony</u>
Hall Monitor	Jake Zantingh	<u>(V) Gerard</u> Anthony	<u>Aaron</u> Dianne	Cam