



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 Sept 6 2026

Worship: 10am

Pastor: Jay Crossen

Musicians: Steve & Kids Praise Team

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

* Call to Worship

* Song: **Come Now is the Time LUYH # 526**

* God's Greeting

* Song: **My Lighthouse CCLI # 7002032**

God Renews us in His Grace

Lord's Supper

Song: **In Christ Alone LUYH # 770**

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Song:

Dismissal of Children 3–5-year-olds

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1

Message: When God Seems Silent

* Song: **Cornerstone CCLI # 6158927**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Fellowship of Christian Farmers

Song **This Little Light of Mine LUYH # 930**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

* God's Sending and Blessing

* Song: **Build Your Kingdom Here CCLI # 6186078**

* 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 5. 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>Sept 6:</u>	Pastor Jay (Lord's Supper)
<u>Sept 13:</u>	Pastor Jay
<u>Sept 20:</u>	Pastor Jay
<u>Sept 27:</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 Fellowship of Christian Farmers

<u>Sept 13:</u>	The Ministry to Seafarers
<u>Sept 20:</u>	World Renew
<u>Sept 27:</u>	The Lighthouse



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



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

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.

HELP US COLLECT MILK BAGS!!!

Anyone who has attended a loading for Global Literacy has likely seen the stacks of woven plastic mats we use to pad delicate items, fill holes and level loads. These mats are so helpful during our loadings — but their true purpose is even more remarkable. In African schools, these mats are used in so many important ways: Sleeping mats for small children during nap time To make sitting on dirt or concrete floors more comfortable for students without desks To provide protection from insects for people sleeping outdoors or on dirt floors To create safe play areas for pre-schoolers mats are made locally by a dedicated group of volunteers and generously given to us to deliver. But here's the problem...It takes hundreds of 4-litre milk bags to weave just one mat, and right now, there simply aren't enough bags available for the mat makers. Can you help us bridge the gap? COLLECT your empty milk bags and rally your friends, neighbours and kids to collect them too! It's such a small thing, but together we can help ensure these incredible volunteers can continue making mats that provide comfort, protection and a place to learn and play for children in African schools. Please lay the bags flat — not crumpled — and when you have a bunch gathered, message me. We'll find a convenient mutual meeting place to get them from you. Bethany Schmidt

Coffee Break: Wow how the summer flies by ... we are starting to think about coffee break for this coming fall season. If anyone is interested in being part of the planning/facilitator team there is a meeting planned for Sept 9 @ 7:30 @ the church. If this ministry is calling you or you just want to check out what may or may not be involved in being part of this ministry please come. If you are interested and cannot make it, please reach out to Joy DeWeerd, Joyce Pelley or Marique Crossen.

GEMS Leaders Needed! GEMS is a night where girls and leaders grow together as we learn to follow Jesus. GEMS will meet weekly on **Thursday nights** starting in October and will run till the end of April with a month off over Christmas. Any questions please speak to Joanne Branderhorst, Lauren Hoonard, Karen Knip (Club Coordinator), Jody Mulder or Deb Westerik.

GEMS Regional Gathering will be held Saturday, September 19/26 from 8:30am-3pm at Maranatha CRC in Woodstock. Leading girls is one of the most meaningful things you can do, but you weren't meant to do it alone. Regional Gatherings are a chance to step away from the busyness of ministry, connect with other leaders, and return to your club with fresh ideas, renewed encouragement, and practical resources for the year ahead. To register click [HERE](#) For more information speak to Karen Knip.

Sunday School Starts September 13!

We are looking forward to welcoming children ages 3 to Grade 6 back to Sunday School! We can't wait to see you! 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, September 15, 2026. Pack up your current craft project and join us in the church library from 12:30-3:30. For more information contact Dianne Soer

Men's breakfast will begin on Sept. 19th at 8 a.m. all men young and old are invited. We will resume the study on the book of James. Please RSVP to Mike, or pastor Jay.

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. Our first fall meet-up will take place on **Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:30 pm** at Josie VandenBrink's house. Please bring a fall-themed snack or appetizer with you to share! 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.

Year to Date Giving 2026

Total Annual Budget	\$409475 (\$409475/12*7 = \$238,860
General Giving January-July	\$172,351
Year to Date Deficit	(\$\$66509)

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

SOCO Beach Project Update Wow - we reached the end of this summer's cohort! Read about *Faithful Living at the South Coast* and the last things we did together. A reminder of the SOCO house rental and retreat ministry. A HUGE word of thanks for helping us reach our summer fundraising goal. Read all about it in this week's newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-august-27-8577596>

Groundwork: Faith that Endures - We've heard the call in Hebrews to stay close to Jesus. How do we cultivate a lasting faith? Join Groundwork as we study Hebrews 10:19-12:3 to learn why community and the testimony of fellow believers are essential to remaining faithful and cultivating a faith that endures through the difficult seasons in life. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Hymn Sing Join us for an evening of singing. Sunday September 20 at 7:00 pm. Clinton Christian Reformed Church, 243 Princess St E. Bring a friend. If you need more info, call 519-482-9948 Herman or 519-525-6283 Ann.

Blyth CRC: We are going on a road trip— NOTE THERE IS STILL A FEW SEATS LEFT Come join us on Tuesday September 8 for our Fall 'Mystery "bus trip. So, like last year, you won't know our destinations will be until that day. Snacks and Lunch will be provided and included in the cost. There also will opportunities to purchase items along the way at the venues. We will be meeting at Blyth CRC parking lot at 8:15-8:30 am. Pick-ups will also be at Clinton Casino at 8 am and also in Frosty Queen, Wingham at 8:55 am. Cost will be \$90 per person, cash, cheque or eTransfer to deacons.blythcrc@gmail.com . Please register with Susan at Susanbuffinga57@hotmail.com, 519-523-9216, 519-441-1029 or talk to me at church or any of the other deacons. Plan to come with us to see what "Mystery" we have in store for you. We should be back in Blyth around 5-530 bus

Huron Christian School: Everyone is invited to join us for our Beginning of the Year Assembly on Tuesday, September 8 at 9:00 a.m. as we gather to begin another school year together. Our theme this year is "All for the Glory of God" from *1 Corinthians 10:31b*. We look forward to celebrating the year ahead together with students, families, and friends!

5th Annual Diaspora Leaders Retreat: Who are you becoming while leading others? Theme Forming Leaders on Purpose. September 17-19 @ Singing Waters Retreat 673394 Hurontario St. Mono Ont. Tim Sheridan, Director of Church Planting for Resonate Global Mission is keynote speaker. Registration is open <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/diaspora-leaders-retreat>

This Week Sept 6-12 2026						
<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Live Streamed Sunday School ages 3-5	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church NHS Bluewater 6:45 pm	<u>Wednesday</u> Coffee Break Planning Meeting @ 7:30 pm	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>

	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 27
Elder	George Poortinga	Leo Weverink	Yvonne VanSoest	Jake Zantingh
Deacon	Dianne, Anthony	Anthony, Cam	Cam, Anthony	Marian, Dianne
Coffee Clean-Up	Conner & Melissa Al & Norma ** Please note announcement	Jeff & Yvonne Bert & Wilma ** Please note announcement	Jake & Savannah Mikayla & James ** Please note announcement	Deb W, Anne Z Mike & Emmy Z ** Please note announcement
Greeters	Jean, Wendy	Gerben & Ria Steenbeek	Clarence, Kathryn	Scott & Wendy Stafford
Ushers	Cliff, Cam	Betty, Dianne	Tim, Al	Sylvia, Jake
Children’s Message	N/A	Sylvia	Pastor Jay	Leo
Nursery	Norma Vanderlaan, Wilma Visscher, Avery Mulder	Kathryn Langendyk, Sylvia Heyink, Lillian Crossen	Tanya Steenbeek, Joanne Branderhorst, Wendy Stafford	Hannah Glavin, Ann Zwaan, Rolinda deRuiter
Sunday School	Sunday School for all ages 3,4- & 5-year-olds only Bethany	Sunday School for all ages 3-Grade 6	Sunday School for all ages 3-Grade 6	Sunday School for all ages 3-Grade 6
Valet	Bill Branderhorst	Ron deRuiter	Mike Zandwyk	Albert Hummmel
Tech Booth	(P) Eli (A) Adrian (V) Gerard	(P) Greg (A) Job (V) Aaron	(P) Clara (A) Trevor (V) Tony	(P) Landon (A) Nathan (V) Dan
Hall Monitor	Cam	Dianne	Al Vanderlaan	Jake Zantingh