



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

Worship: 10am

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Pastor Jay Crossen

Musicians: Steve

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

* Song **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty LUYH # 575**

God's Greeting:

* Song **When Peace Like a River LUYH # 451**

God Renews Us In His Grace

Lenten Litany

Prayer of Confession

God's Assurance

Song **I Worship You, O Lord LUYH # 668**

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Message

Song: **God is so Good LUYH # 777**

Children (Dismissal age 3-to Grade 6) for Sunday School , Catechism Grade 7 & 8

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Mark 12: 41-44 2 Corinthians 8: 1-12

Message: Generosity: The openhanded way of God

*Song: **Jesus, All for Jesus CCLI # 879168**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Reframe Ministries

Offertory **Open Hands CCLI # 7217311**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

*God's Sending and Blessing

*Song: **Shine Jesus Shine CCLI # 30426**

* 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>Mar 22:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Lent week 5)
<u>Mar 29:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Lent week 6)
<u>April 3:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Good Friday)
<u>April 5:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Easter 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 Reframe Ministries

<u>Mar 29:</u>	Serge - Kimberley & Carlos Belez
<u>April 3:</u>	Exeter Community Food Bank (Good Friday)
<u>April 5:</u>	The Common Plate



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

Easter Food Drive - This Easter season, the Deacons are hosting a food drive from **Sunday, March 22 to Sunday, April 5** to support the **Exeter Food Bank**. Bring non-perishable items to the collection bin located by the front entrance. Some suggestions: canned soup, canned vegetables, cereal, school snacks, rice, pasta, sauces



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

Celebrating 75 Years of God's Faithfulness at Exeter CRC!

With great excitement we are making plans for a special weekend of celebration to take place April 24-26, 2026, D.V. In your mailboxes, you will find an invitation card with more details. Please mark your calendars and help spread the word to former members and friends of Exeter CRC. Extra invitations are available by the church office – feel free to take a few to share. Please remember to RSVP to the Saturday night dinner by March 31st! RSVP to exetercrc75@gmail.com or talk to one of the planning committee members (Dan Vanderlaan, Sheila Vanderlaan, Sylvia Heyink, Sarah Mulder, Kathryn Langendyk, Bert Visscher). Payment for tickets can be e-transferred to ecrcgiving@gmail.com (please put in the notes that it is for tickets).

75th Anniversary – Memories Wanted

Our church is preparing to celebrate 75 years of ministry, fellowship, and faithful service. As we look ahead to this milestone, we'd love to look back as well. We invite you to share memories, stories, or photos from over the years – whether from long ago or just yesterday. From meaningful moments to those we still smile about, your memories help tell the story of our church family. Thank you for helping us celebrate where we've been and all that God has done among us. Please submit by March 15th. Email to exetercrc75@gmail.com or place in Kathryn Langendyk's mailbox.

GEMS Rally will be held at the Exeter CRC on **Saturday, April 11/26**. There will be over 200 girls and leaders attending from Blyth, Clinton, Listowel, Stratford, Vanastra, and Wingham. Volunteers will be needed. There will be many different ways to help out like in the kitchen with food prep/serving, assisting with workshops, group leaders, set up/tear down and clean up at the end of the day to name a few. We are still in the planning stage working out our volunteer needs/schedule. If you can lend a hand, reach out to any of the ECRC GEMS leaders. In His Service, Leah Branderhorst, Joanne Branderhorst, Lauren Hoonard, Sylvia Hoonard, Karen Knip, Jody Mulder, and Deb Westerik.

Musicians Needed: there are a few weeks this summer that our regular musicians are not available to lead us during the worship service. We are seeking musicians who can lead us in worship. Whether it be with voice, piano, or guitar; for one week or two. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please talk to Sylvia Hulshof.

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

Choir: There will be **NO choir** practice for the next two weeks, March 16 and March 23. Practices will resume on Monday, March 30 at 7:30pm.

VASES NEEDED! If you are doing some spring cleaning and have some clear glass vases and bud vases you are wanting to get rid of... we would happily reuse them for some upcoming events at church! Simply place in the "Vase donations" box in the kitchen or talk to Sarah Mulder! Thanks in advance!

Coffee with Pastor Jay: Coffee with Pastor Jay is back again!! Pastor Jay has been here almost 2 years!! and he would like to provide an opportunity for those who would like to connect with him!! This is an opportunity to talk about your faith formation, wrestle with scripture, or perhaps just to catch up with one another. Please feel free to sign up on the sign-up sheet outside my office. Thanks!

Seniors' Dinner - The Deacons are hosting the Seniors' Dinner on Saturday, March 28, 2026.

Social time begins at 11:00 in the gym, followed by a delicious dinner and then a hymn sing. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!

Catechism :Next session of catechism will be running March 22,29, April12,19 May 3& 10. Hope to see you there!

Soup Lunch: Join us after church for a soup potluck on March 22. Bring soup or buns and enjoy some extended time of fellowship

The Nursery Committee is once again collecting donations to bless members of our church family who are expecting babies this year. If you would like to contribute, a donation tin will be available at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks - Katelyn & Cassidy

Men's Breakfast: There will be a men's breakfast on Saturday Mar. 21st at 8 am all men young and old are welcome. We will continue our study of James. Please RSVP to Mike or Pastor Jay.

Women's Young Adults Book Study Kickoff Night (ages 18-35): We're starting a women's young adults book study — and you get to pick the book! Come hang out, get to know each other, enjoy cozy snacks, and help us choose our Jen Wilkin book study for the season. You will help shape what our first book study will look like. Join us on **Monday, March 30th at 7:30 p.m.** at Rachel Boersma's house.

If you can't make this first evening but are interested in joining the book study, please let Rachel Boersma know.

Young adults (ages 18-35) are invited to BINGO night on Friday March 27, 7:30 pm at the church. Note that we will be meeting in the large Sunday school room, not the gym. Please contact Savannah Zantingh, Rachel Kaumanns, or Rachel Boersma if you have any questions.

Thank you This last week marked 2 years since we moved here to Exeter and became part of this church community. We would like to thank you all for the many ways you have been an encouragement and support to us in our ministry here at Exeter CRC. From help with our home, surprise gifts of food, words of encouragement, childcare, text messages of affirmation on a Sunday afternoon, and most recently a surprise night away to relax and reflect. We are very thankful to be part of Exeter CRC and are grateful for your continued support and encouragement. What a blessing! With love and gratitude, Pastor Jay and Marique Crossen

Council highlights for March 4

- Dianne opened with devotions. 1 Kings 19: What are you doing here, Elisha?
- An update on listening circles was presented, and a plan was started to bring to the congregation at a meeting in early May.
- Council approved a request from Pastor Jay to go with the youth on Serve July 18-25.
- Safe Church is still looking for members. Please prayerfully consider this, it is important for our members and people coming in for the first time to know that we care about people's well-being
- Community stream proposed a park service for late July; the council supported this and encouraged them to investigate this further. It was nice to also think about summer.
- Profession of faith classes have ended, and now dates are being worked on for the Public Profession of Faith. If you have done the classes but not done Public Profession of faith and would like to please talk to Pastor Jay or anyone else on the council Super exciting.
- A time of Mutual Censure was enjoyed.
- Al closed the meeting.

From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

Groundwork: Jesus: Judged, Beaten, and Crowned with Thorns - At the fifth Station of the Cross, we reflect on Jesus before Pilate, and at the sixth, we witness Jesus endure mocking and beating from Roman soldiers as they placed a crown of thorns on his head. Join Groundwork as we study Mark 15:1-15 and John 19:1-3 for a Lenten reflection on Jesus' suffering and persecution, and what it means for his followers. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Teen Challenge: Tickets are now available! for the **Annual Spring Gala Banquet for the Ontario Men's Centre, Teen Challenge Canada!** It will be a special evening featuring powerful stories of transformation, a delicious dinner, and an exciting choir performance by the Men's Choir from Teen Challenge! **When:** Friday May 1st **Where:** Hellenic Community Centre **Ticket price:** \$90/ticket; table of 8 for \$650 **Time:** Doors open @ 4:45pm; Dinner @ 6pm **Purchase tickets today:** <https://www.hopebeyondaddiction.ca/event/omc-gala>

Invitation: Centralia Faith Tabernacle is doing a presentation of "The Upper Room" on Saturday April 4th at 6pm. There is no cost, but they do ask that people register on their website so they can have the available seating. www.centraliafaith.com

Huron Christian School: We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Grandparents and Grandfriends Day at Huron Christian School on April 10, 2026. It would be a joy to have you join us for this special occasion. The day will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the school gym, where you will enjoy a short program. A delicious lunch will follow, and afterward you are warmly welcome to visit the classrooms and spend some time seeing what the students have been learning. Kindly RSVP by phone or email at 519-482-7851 or office@huronchristianschool.ca.

Prayer Request Al Brown. Please keep Al, Ruth and family in your prayers. Al has recently been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer in his liver and lung. Al is not a member of Exeter CRC but attends Centralia Faith Tabernacle. The Lord put on his heart to pray for the Exeter CRC about 10 years ago and has been faithful to that calling. He has been joined by a group of 4-5 members who come together every Tuesday morning to pray for our church, the members and the community around. Please keep him in your prayers.

Groundwork: The Daughters of Jerusalem and Jesus' Crucifixion - At the ninth Station of the Cross, Jesus gave a warning to women he called "Daughters of Jerusalem." Then comes the tenth Station of the Cross: Jesus' crucifixion. Join Groundwork as we study Jesus' words in Luke 23:26-38 and Matthew 27:39-43 and discuss his meaning, what he accomplished on the cross, and what it all means for our lives today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

This Week March 22-28 2026

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Sunday School age 3 to Grade 6 Catechism Grade 7 & 8 Soup Potluck after service	<u>Monday</u> Gems 7-8:30 NO Choir	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church Youth 7-9	<u>Wednesday</u> Executive Meeting 7:30 pm	<u>Thursday</u> Cadets 7 pm	<u>Friday</u> Young Adult Bingo 7:30	<u>Saturday</u> Deacons Dinner 10-3 Gem's Sleepover 3-11
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SERVING SCHEDULE

	Mar 22	March 29	April 3 (Good Friday)	April 5
Elder	Leo Weverink	George Poortinga	Gerard Steenbeek	Gerard Steenbeek
Deacon	Anthony, Dianne	Dianne, Joy	Marian, Joy	Joy, Anthony
Coffee Clean-Up	Deb W, Frieda Z Mike & Emmy	Shawn & Angela Jake & Savannah	No Coffee	Wendy W, Anne Z, Joanne & Leah Branderhorst
Greeters	Anne Z., Jean	Wendy, Sandra	Gerben & Ria Steenbeek	Kathryn, Sam V.
Ushers	Tim, Anthony	Sylvia, Gerald	Cliff, Marian	Colton, George
Children's Message	Teresa B.	Pastor Jay	N/A	
Nursery	Joanne Branderhorst, Joyce Pelley, Sadie Bouman	Leah Branderhorst, Jody Mulder, Alanna Nyman	Parent Volunteers	Rolinda deRuitter, Sheila Vanderlaan, Wendy Stafford
Sunday School	Sylvia Hulshof, Michelle Meinen, Darren Bouman, Angela Nyman, Jordan B	Sylvia Hulshof, Michelle Meinen, Darren Bouman, Angela Nyman , Rolinda deRuitter	N/A	Joyce Pelley, Mikayla Vink, Jolene de Boer, Tanya Steenbeek
Valet	Bill Branderhorst	Mike Zandwyk	Mike Z	Greg Langendyk
Tech Booth	(P) Sam (A) Job (V) Dan	(P) Greg (A) Trevor (V) Gerard	(P) Eli (A) Nathan (V) Aaron	(P) Dan (A) Job (V) Tony
Hall Monitor	Anthony Nyman	Gerald Kodde	Marian DeBoer	George Poortinga