

Clinton Christian Reformed Church

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Pastor Ray Vander Kooij

November 30, 2025

Advent Worship

O Come All Ye Faithful Welcome/Call to Worship/God's Greeting Hark the Herald Angels Sing How Great Thou Art

Baptism

Baptism Promise of Support Jesus Strong and Kind

We Journey to Bethlehem

Children's Time (ages 3-Grade 6)
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Prayers of the People
Luke 1:26-28 (pg 1012, lp 1588)
Mary of Nazareth

Unexpected and Mysterious (Grade 7-12 exits)

Advent Blessings

Offering: Huron Christian School Bursary Fund God's Parting Blessing Magnify the Lord

How might you show your support?

drop off a meal/snack
support via church ministries
visit/phone call/text
Intentional prayer
other:

Birthdays this week:

November 30: Frank Rozendal December 2: Francine Durrer, Jocelyn deLange, Margot Uyl December 5: Blake Kuiper

Prayer Circle for Families – This Sunday, November 30. The Pastoral Elders invite you to share in a prayer circle in the wing after the worship service. We'll share together in praying for families – immediate and extended – as we look to journey together through the Christmas season.

How will you apply today's message to your life?

Keeping in Prayer: Mary Guetter

This Sunday we launch the Advent season — The Journey to Bethlehem — beginning in Nazareth with Mary. We also look forward to witnessing and celebrating the baptism of Elise Sharon, daughter of Jeff & Laurie Bylsma.

Praying Through the Church Directory. The Pastoral Elders encourage you to use the new Church Directory as a Prayer Guide, fulfilling the Bible's call to "prayer for one another." This week please pray for the households on page 9. As a guide you can pray for God to BLESS them: Body, Labour, Emotional wellbeing, Social relationships inside and outside their home, and Spiritual health.

Pop-Up Advent Calendars — On the Road to Bethlehem, are available for pick up in the rack between the library book shelves. A wonderful complement to our Advent worship services as we journey to Bethlehem. For each day of Advent, beginning November 30, a window is opened and as the days pass a scene unfolds, with the final window opened on Christmas Day.

The last of our series on **Hope and Hospitality** is tonight at 7:00 here at the church. If you haven't joined us yet, no problem, come on out anyway. Each lesson stands alone. Tonight it's about Hospitality and Discipleship. And we'll be sharing some food together! The <u>study guide</u> is attached to the weekly email and the video can be found <u>here</u>. See you tonight.

Walk to Bethlehem Advent Pilgrimage. On this first Sunday of Advent the Clinton & Area Ministerial welcomes you to start the journey of the 112km Mary and Joseph travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. A guiding document provides biblical passages to reflect on as you do so, and space to track your progress. An electronic copy is attached to this email and paper copies are available at the back of the church or on the surface between the library book shelves. On Saturday, Dec. 6, 10:00 am anyone interested is welcome to meet in the parking lot of the Clinton CRC to walk 4-5 km together. You're also welcome to join the "Walk to **Bethlehem"** group on StepUp, https://join.thestepupapp.com/PTMtok.

Old Scrabble Tiles Wanted: Do you have an old scrabble game lying around that you no longer use? Consider donating the tiles to the GEMS for a future craft project. Pieces can be dropped off to the church office anytime. Thank you.

Join Us for the Clinton Christmas Parade! The Clinton CRC is entering a float into the Clinton Christmas Parade, and we want YOU to join in on the fun! Meet-Up: Upper Parking Lot at the Libro Community Centre. Look for Ann's large Canadian Flag - this is our meeting point. Time: Meet at 6:30 PM; Parade leaves the Clinton Racetrack at 7:00 PM Date: Friday, December 5, 2025. After the parade, the fun continues with pizza at Anthony and Lorraine DeRijk's while dismantling the float. Everyone is welcome to join us in being part of the Christmas Parade float. Help us spread the message: Jesus is the reason for the season. The more the merrier — dress for the weather and bring your holiday spirit! Any questions, please reach out to Joleen at 519-440-2484 or joleenotten@gmail.com.

Huron Christian School invites you and your family to join us for this year's Christmas program, Handel's Messiah for Young Voices. Come celebrate the joy of Christmas as our students share the story of Jesus' birth through beautiful music and praise. Performances will take place on: Wednesday, December 10 at 1:00 PM, Friday, December 12 at 1:00 PM and Friday, December 12 at 7:00 PM. We look forward to worshiping and celebrating the Christmas season with you! Follow the link to reserve your spot at one of the performances: https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/handels-messiah-for-young-voices

Parent Information Open House: London Christian High is hosting an Open House on Thursday, December 4, from 7:00–8:30 p.m. It's a great chance to see the school, connect with our team, and discover how LCH can be the right fit for your family! To RSVP, visit londonchristianhigh.ca/event/open-house/.

Trinity Church invites YOU to join us on Sunday, December 21st as we celebrate the Christmas season. The Candlelight Service is always a highlight as we gather together for Christmas songs and readings. We look forward to sharing the story of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love through Christ's birth. He is the true light of the world! All are welcome, so invite your friends and family and share in this experience. Doors open at 6:30pm. Service will be 7:00pm-8:00pm. There is a light shining in the darkness, a light which shines through the word, and the word is light and the light is the light of the world!

Giving & **Supporting**

TODAY: Huron Christian School Bursary Fund

NEXT WEEK: Room2Grow

e-transfer to clintoncrctreasurer@tcc.on.ca (cause in memo); cheque in offering or by mail;

PAR (pre-authorized remittance is for the budget only)

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday 8:30AM-4:00PM **3rd Annual Central Huron Community Christmas Dinner:** Thursday, December 25, 2025 at the Libro Hall, Central Huron Community Complex. **Social:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Dinner:** 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. All are warmly invited to join. The dinner is free of charge, however advance tickets are required. (*No takeout available.*) Tickets available until December 5 by calling 519-482-5270 or email: mmaloney@clintonraceway.com. Donations of cash, cheque, or e-transfer (to *Clinton Raceway*) are gratefully accepted. All proceeds will benefit school nutrition programs within Central Huron. Come and share in the joy of community and the spirit of Christmas.

<u>SAVE THE DATE!</u> If you are between 18 and 30, this is for you! On Friday, January 2, 2026, the Young Adults of Stratford CRC are hosting a New Year's Banquet. Doors open at 7 pm. All Young Adults are called on to "dress-your-best" for a dinner, followed by a game show, and door prizes. Reserve your seat by e-transferring 15\$ to: <u>treasurer@stratfordcrc.org</u> Include your first and last name with this transfer. For further questions, you can reach out to: <u>estherlucille99@gmail.com</u> It will be an evening to remember! https://www.instagram.com/youngadults.stratfordcrc?igsh=MXZwcTQ4eG1ybnQxOA%3D% 3D&utm source=qr

The Young Adult Winter Retreat (YAWR) is back again at Maranatha CRC, Woodstock! We would like to encourage all young adults ages 18-30 to join us for this weekend of faith-based discussions, service, fellowship, and funtivities! We are excited to announce that Pastor Harry Frielink from Covenant CRC in Barrie will be leading us in a series of discussions on the importance of Christian friendships. The retreat will take place from January 23 to 25, 2026, with the theme "The Gift of Friendship." Early bird registration is \$60. Registration opens December 1st, 2025. Don't miss this chance to grow in faith, build lasting connections, and have fun! For more information or the registration link, follow us on Instagram (yawinterretreat), Facebook (Young Adult Winter Retreat), or email us at ya.retreat.team@gmail.com.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent, a time when we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus. There are many different ways we can get ready for Christmas—such as listening to music, reading Christmas stories, and lighting Advent candles. How will you practice getting your heart ready? Check out the Advent page of Thrive's Family Faith Formation toolkit for some ideas: crc-na.org/advent-tools. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Kids Corner Devotions: Advent at Home: O Come, O Come, Immanuel - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: O Come, O Come, Immanuel" at www.kidscorner.net. God promises to be with us in every moment—when we're sad, happy, or waiting for better days—and that gives us hope. This Advent, we can celebrate the hope of Jesus, who was born to be our Savior and will one day come again. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, bible stories, crafts, and activities.

Groundwork: Waiting for the Light of the World. - Advent is a season of waiting. We're waiting for Jesus, the Light of the World. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 18:27-28, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 11:1-3, and Romans 13:11-14 to explore the Bible's theme of light and gain a fuller understanding of what we're waiting for as we begin to prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus at his birth at Christmas. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.