



worship and music

Minister's Message

As we continue our journey of Advent, we reflect on peace, peace for those who are suffering and living with HIV/AIDS as we reflect on World AIDS Day. We also remember that on December 6, 1989, 14 women were killed simply because they were women. I vividly remember that day as I was working at The Globe and Mail at that time and when it came over the wire, many of us stood and watched everything unfold on CBC Newsworld. It seemed surreal then, but sadly it is the world we live in. Today December 6 has become a day of working towards an end to violence against women. Let us all work to remember and to strive towards peace for all.

Blessings, Rev. Ruth Noble

Sunday, December 5, 2021 – Advent 2: The order of service and hymns are also found on our website under Home, Events & News and Our Ministry – Spirit pages.

[December 5 Order of service](#)
[December 5 Hymns](#)

December 12: Advent 3 service at 10:30 a.m.

7 p.m. Carols by Candlelight

December 19: Advent 4

December 24: 7 pm Christmas Eve Family

10 pm Christmas Eve Communion

December 26: Christmas 1 with Rev. Linda Butler preaching



Sunday offering: RHUC, like other churches, depends on donations and rentals to pay our bills. We appreciate those who use Pre-Authorized

Remittance (PAR). For those not on PAR, please consider making sure you get your weekly envelope money in (mailed in or mail slot on Centre. St. door). You can use e-transfer to office@rhuc.org, Canada Helps, <http://www.rhuc.org/donate.html>, or cheques to the Church, 10201 Yonge St., Richmond Hill, L4C 3B2.

programs for all

Shalom Seekers: Please join us on **Monday, December 6th at 10 a.m. on Zoom** for our last session before the holidays. We will be discussing Chapter 10 of *The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge* by Rev. Alf Dumont.

Afterwards, we will have a social time including some Christmas/holiday trivia. We hope you can enjoy a coffee or tea and join us.

New members are always welcome. Please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator, for more details.

We will continue to livestream Sunday service using Zoom as well as returning to in-person services. If you would like to attend, you are required to provide proof of your Covid-19 2nd vaccine at the Yonge St., entrance (either QR code or a paper copy) each Sunday, as well as signing in and the wearing of masks.

Details regarding how to connect to this platform will be emailed each week to those on our contact list. If you are not on our contact list and would like these details, contact the office at office@rhuc.org). Following the online service, a recording of the full service will be posted on our Facebook page. Follow this link: [facebook.com/RichmondHillUnitedChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/RichmondHillUnitedChurch/). In addition, the weekly message will be posted on the [RHUC Blog](#).

If you ever find you're encountering issues using Zoom on Sunday, you can always visit <https://status.zoom.us/> to check the site status. To access the home-based worship resource so you can use to follow along or take time for personal reflection, use the links found on our website and below.



H.A.I.R.: Our Monday evening study group, HAIR (Heretics, Agnostics, Infidels and Other Riffraff), meets every Monday from 7:00 – 8:15 pm. **We will continue to meet online, via Zoom, until further notice.**

These discussions are open to anyone interested, and new members are always welcome. For further information, or to get the zoom link for our next meeting, please contact David Leyton-Brown at dlbrown@yorku.ca

RHUC Book Club: Please join us in the New Year on **Wednesday, January 26th at 4 p.m. on Zoom** to discuss a book of historical fiction entitled ***Fast Girls: A Novel of the 1936 Women's Olympic Team*** by Elsie Hooper. This is the fascinating story of the first women from the U.S. to compete in Track & Field at the Olympics.

New members are always welcome to join us! Please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator, for more information about the club.

church news

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO HEAR THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

On December 12th, 2021 at the conclusion of a slightly shorter worship service, we will be receiving the recommendation from the Search Team regarding a call for a new full-time minister for Richmond Hill United Church. The congregation will be asked to vote on the recommendation. Information will be provided to those who are online and in the sanctuary regarding voting procedure. On behalf of the Board and congregation, I would like to express our most sincere thanks to the Search Team for their diligent work over the last several months. This is not a small undertaking and many hours have been spent discerning who should walk with RHUC through the next phase of our journey as a community of faith.

Members of the Search Team:

Howe Foo	Nancy Hart (Co-Chair)
Anne Leyton-Brown	Sandra Loughton (Co-Chair)
Doug Loweth	DJ McCready
Sharon McNutt	Sara Perez
Ruth Perratt	

Thanks also to Rev. Henry Poutiainen, the representative from Shining Waters Regional Council who has journeyed with our Search Team and provided guidance regarding process.

We are aware that there is a Climate Action event happening after worship and wanted to ensure that there was sufficient time for the congregational meeting. The Climate Action event will now start at 12.30pm rather than noon.

Jane Wedlock, Board Chair

Audio Visual Team: It's been really exciting for us as we transition into our hybrid in-person and online Sunday Morning Worship services—it's been a lot of fun to get to know the new equipment and what we can do with it!

To better facilitate our transition, we are making a couple of changes about how the service operates.

1. For everyone joining us on Zoom, we will now be using the Waiting Room prior to the start of the service. There is a lot of activity in the Sanctuary, and we all need time for set-up, testing and rehearsing. Everyone online will now be admitted into the service approximately 5 to 10 minutes prior to the start.
2. If you are participating in the service as a reader, leading a prayer, or giving an announcement, we ask that you arrive at 10:15am – either in-person in the Sanctuary, or be in the Zoom Waiting Room. This helps us significantly with our preparation for the service.
3. Zoom Fellowship will run for a maximum of 30 minutes following the conclusion of the service. In the past, it was easy for us to go beyond that to 12noon, but now that we're operating from the Sanctuary, we need to be respectful of the demands for that space, and the time involved for our volunteers.

Thanks to everyone for their kind words and encouragement during this time of transition. *Brandon Moore*

outreach

gifts with vision

A United Church of Canada's alternate gift giving catalogue, (not a tie or tea towel for someone who has everything). These suggested gifts offer assistance working towards justice for all people, in Canada and around the world.

One story to share: Serving Families: In Guelph, Ontario, people from many different cultures experience food insecurity. The number of those in need is increasing because of the pandemic, especially among families with small children. The Serving Families program at Chalmers Community Services Centre is choosing to tackle food insecurity in a more respectful way by purchasing nutritious foods that honour the cultural food needs of the people they serve. The program focuses on children first, so no family needs to worry about where their child's next meal will come from. Your Gift of \$62 will provide two day's worth of nutritious and familiar food for a family. Go to www.giftswithvision.ca to see all the stories and you can place your order and pay on line, making shopping easy! Give others and yourself the gifts of this Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Donna Smith 905-884-6307



This year's Advent Givings Recipient - Blue Door:

Blue Door fits nicely with Richmond Hill's United Church's desire to support the community and those dealing with food, home and job insecurity. It's exciting to see how Blue Door helps so many in our community and all who will benefit from your generosity.

More about Blue Door...

24,485 NIGHTS OF SAFETY (2020)

100% CONSTRUCT GRADUATES EMPLOYED (2020)

73,455 MEALS PROVIDED (2020)

"Founded in 1982 and the largest emergency housing provider in York Region, Blue Door provides lifesaving support to children, youth, men, women, and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

To address the root causes of homelessness and to meet the unique crisis needs of individuals and families, Blue Door offers:

Three (3) emergency housing programs:

1. Leeder Place: 15 families nightly
 2. Porter Place: 30 men nightly
 3. Kevin's Place: 12 male youth nightly
- Supportive Counselling and Case Management: Housing Navigators are available 24/7 and Community Housing Workers provide case management to help people achieve their goals and access community support.
 - Housing Retention Program: Offers aftercare support to men, families, and youth moving from Blue Door's emergency housing programs into a home of their own.
 - Housing to Health Program: A Housing First program offering comprehensive housing services for those experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness. Housing to Health is a proud partnership between Blue Door, The Krasman Centre, and LOFT Crosslinks Housing and Support Services.
 - Construct – A Social Enterprise by Blue Door (www.ConstructGTA.ca): An employment social enterprise providing youth and adults the education, skills training, hands-on experience, and wraparound support needed for participants to secure well-paying, in-demand careers in construction trades.
 - Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold – A Program by Blue Door: A coalition of over 50 interfaith communities across York Region who come together and from November to March and provide safe emergency housing, warm hospitality, and wraparound supports such as meals, clothing, shower facilities, medical care, and intensive case management. "

Three (3) supportive housing programs:

1. Abode: Second stage housing for families
2. Forward: Supportive housing for senior men
3. INNclusion: Safe supportive housing for 2SLGBTQ+ youth

This year's Gift-in-Kind Recipient - The Krasman Centre

If you'd like to give a Gift in Kind, we're supporting The Krasman Centre this year. Our gifts of knapsacks and/or items (listed below) are greatly appreciated and go a long way to helping those in our community.



WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

NOVEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 15

Help us collect and donate NEW wellness & winter items to adults in York Region and South Simcoe living with mental health, addiction and housing challenges.

WELLNESS ITEMS

Notebooks and Pens
 Word & Number puzzle books
 Playing Cards & Fidget Toys
 Travel-sized board games
 Art Supplies
 Colouring Books
 Gift Cards to Tim Hortons or
 McDonalds in small denominations

WINTER NEEDS

Gloves, scarves, hats
 Hygiene items
 Non-perishable snacks
 Backpacks and Bags
 Hand & foot warmers
 Socks & underwear
 Sweaters & Pants
 Thermos & water bottles

Please feel free to leave your donation on Sunday mornings or contact Deb Fratin in the office, if you wish to drop off during the week. Also, we look forward to hearing Krasman's Executive Director Susan Dobson share during our sermon [Sunday December 12, 2021](#).

net zero

Upcoming events: Virtual Climate Lunch and Learn # 2

Time: Dec 12, 2021 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register on Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-lunch-and-learn-2-tickets-172141438677> (zoom link will be provided after registration).

We have scheduled a third Climate Lunch and Learn for February 6th, 2022.

Please ensure that you attend at least one of the virtual Climate Lunch and Learns before next summer. We all need to do our part.



other things

Driver needed: I'm a long-time member of the church and I'm looking for someone to hire that would be willing to drive me to appointments, etc. Please call or speak to Donna Smith 905-884-6307 who will relay a message to me. Thank you.



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