



We are back to in-person worship!! If you would like to attend, please bring your proof of double vaccination and a mask. Up to 75 people can be seated with social distancing. As well, we will continue to livestream our Sunday service via Zoom.

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. 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.

worship and music



Message from Karen:

When you do things for the first time it is a wonderful gift to have someone accompany you. This week I was asked to make a visit at the Mackenzie

Richmond Hill Hospital. I had looked at a map, been given helpful directions by Deb and Dan and when the time came to leave, Ruth said she would walk with me. Wow!

Now you need to know that it was raining, and the sidewalks were treacherous in places but it was so good to walk together. Ruth walked me to the hospital and pointed to the best door to enter and off I went buoyed by her presence. Thank you, Ruth.

I have heard many stories of how Ruth has accompanied individuals and groups engaged in the ministry of RHUC. She has generously given of her gifts, passions and lived faith. We have all benefited from this time when Ruth has been walking beside us.

Accompaniment is a biblical model for acting justly in the way of Jesus. When we accompany others, we are present, we engage and hopefully become part of bringing about change. This is what the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel does.

How do you accompany others? Are there more opportunities for us as a faith community to walk beside individuals or groups? Something to think on and pray about.

February 27 @ 10:30 a.m. via Zoom: The order of service and hymns are also found on our website under Home, Events & News and Our Ministry – Spirit pages.

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



The following **Minute for Mission** was read during the service on February 20th. You can read the story and send a donation using the link below:

' In the last two years, visits to Canadian food banks have climbed 20 percent. Today, over 33 percent of foodbank users are children. For families already struggling, there's no relief in sight. Food prices are set to rise another 5 to 7 percent this year. Record numbers of families are turning to our Mission & Service partners for support.

That's why on February 21—as many provinces celebrate Family Day—Mission & Service is launching a special appeal to support Canadian families. Your gift of just \$25 will provide a family of four with a warm, nutritious meal. \$50 will support a family with two meals. \$175 will ensure a family can eat a good, healthy meal every day of the week.

Whether you are celebrating Family Day, Heritage Day, or if it's just another day, let's make February 21 a day of generosity. If you are able, please make a special gift (opens in a new tab) to help families, and make sure your friends know there is an opportunity to give. With new variants, rolling school closures, lockdowns, fear, and uncertainty, families are more stressed than ever. It doesn't cost a lot to show we care.'

<https://united-church.ca/stories/support-canadian-families>



Sunday offering: 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), 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

H.A.I.R.: 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

Shalom Seekers: Please join us on **Monday, February 28th at 10 a.m. on Zoom** for a discussion of a **Tapestry** interview. **Tapestry** is a CBC Radio One show devoted to the topic of spirituality and religion. The link for the interview will be sent out on Friday and the link for the Zoom meeting will be e-mailed on Sunday evening. New members are always welcome to join the group. It is a wonderful way to start your week -- in lively discussions about faith, social justice issues, theology, etc. For more information, please contact Sandra Loughton, Facilitator.

RHUC Book Club: We will be meeting again on **Wednesday, March 30th at 4 p.m. on Zoom** to discuss the novel **THE READING LIST** by Sara Nisha Adams.

The Reading List is "an unforgettable and heartwarming debut about how a chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb. The author lives in London and was born in Hertfordshire to Indian and English parents. Her debut novel is partly inspired by her grandfather, who lived in Wembley, and immediately found a connection with his granddaughter through books." The setting of the book is contemporary as opposed to historical.

Please contact Sandra Loughton, Facilitator, for more information about the group. No previous book club experience is necessary. New members are always welcome to join us.

church news

Congregational Update: Friends - it is the time of year when we moving towards our **Annual Meeting** which is going to be held after worship on **Sunday April 3rd** rather than March 6th. In preparation we will be putting our Annual Report together and also undertaking our nominations process for leadership positions. We welcomed Rev. Karen Dale on Feb 14th who will have a two week overlap with Rev, Ruth Noble as we transition to a new pastoral relationship.

Over the past few weeks during our Sunday worship, Ruth has focused on abundance and stewardship. We have been invited to think about our gifts and responding with deep gratitude - financially, but also with our time and talents.

There are many ways to be involved in the life and mission of this congregation. Involvement creates opportunity for building community, learning, service to the life of our community, our neighbourhood and the wider world and ways to deepen our faith. Over the next few weeks, we will be doing a deeper dive into some of those opportunities to give you a chance to reflect on what is happening and how you might engage in new ways! Thank you everyone for all the ways that you make RHUC awesome! *Jane Wedlock, Board Chair*

In 2013, RHUC became an Affirming Congregation and joined Affirm United.

Many may think the Vision Statement, that was approved by the Congregation then, refers to our 2SLGBTQ+ Community but I want you to read the Vision Statement now and NOTE that it refers to race, gender, and all people in addition and does not put gender orientation in any special spot. We need to honour all in our Congregation as we continue to share with each other.



Affirming Ministry Vision

We are proud to declare that Richmond Hill United Church is an affirming ministry, celebrating diversity and committed to the inclusion of, and justice for, all people, regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ability, economic circumstance, or any other difference that has led to exclusion, marginalization, or oppression within the church or society.

In response to God's deep and caring love, as expressed in the teachings of Jesus, we strive to offer that love to others.

DJ McCready, Forum facilitator for Leadership and Congregational Development



Cash Cards: The next order for cash cards will be **April 20**. This is an ongoing fundraiser for RHUC that gives 1 – 10% back to the church on your gas, grocery, restaurant, coffee or gift purchase!

outreach

Kairos Canada is hosting an online *Ecumenical Migrant Worker Justice Gathering: Simcoe County & Bradford March 7, 2022 from 7:00- 8:30 pm*

"Please join us at an online Ecumenical Meeting to Support Migrant Workers. Several churches and church networks are already supporting farm and other migrant workers. This is a call to churches to learn more about the workers and some of the incredible initiatives that are in the works. Find out how to be in solidarity with the migrant workers in your community by supporting existing networks, starting your own initiative, or joining in national advocacy."

To Register go to ..

<https://secure.kairoscanada.org/civircrm/event/register?reset=1&id=280&ga=2.51607273.1333559794.1645640322-475811503.1645640322>

Downie Wenjack Fund Presents: We are All Treaty People
DWF Manager of ReconciliACTIONS, Michael Etherington, shares knowledge about treaties across Canada. This video provides great information regarding the history of treaties in Canada, treaty concepts and Indigenous world views, land acknowledgements, UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) and more.

(video is 37 min long)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pYtMiOHOsQY>

community news

Now extended to February 28, 2022, explore Richmond Hill's Culinary delights from a wide variety of local restaurants with premium access to special menus and discounts on scrumptious meals! Each restaurant will be offering its own Winterlicious promotion so be sure to visit each of them:

Lone Star Richmond Hill Sunnyside Grill Richmond Hill

Adrak King Henrys Arms

Crave Restaurant at Sheraton Parkway

Miss P – Ready to Go Foods

Nerpys Inc.

Tochal Restaurant

Covernotes Coffee House

Istanbul Grill

Amazing Thai

Oyaji Sushi Aneal's Taste of the Islands

resources for seniors



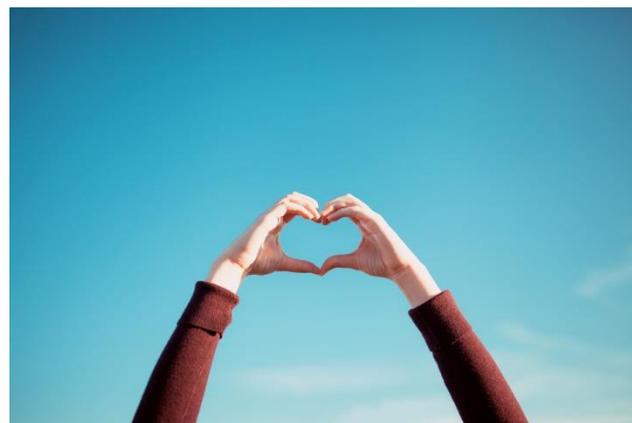
Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations
La Société des Organisations des Citoyens Aînés de l'Ontario

[Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations](#)

North York Seniors Centre - [North York Seniors Centre - Enhancing Lives - North York Seniors Centre \(nyseniors.org\)](#)

"Learn about programs and services for seniors, like how the Canada Pension Plan can work better for you, changes to the Guaranteed Income Supplement, fraud prevention, and more."

Visit <https://canada.ca/seniors> or, https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/seniors.html?utm_campaign=not-applicable&utm_medium=vanity-url&utm_source=canada-ca_seniors or Call **1-800-622-6232**



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