

This week at a glance

Sunday, July 1 – Happy Canada Day!
10:30 a.m. Service – Sanctuary

Monday, July 2 – Canada Day
Building closed

Saturday, July 7

3:30 p.m. Djembe drumming –Garden Room

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER

Worship

July 1: Worship service led by Joanne Scofield

Minister's Message

On holiday: Beginning June 21, James will be on holiday visiting family in Manitoba. While he is away, Rev. Warren Ball from St. Matthew's United Church will be covering any emergencies. Please contact Deb for his number. Worship will be led by Rev. Jane Sullivan on June 24 and by Joanne Scofield on July 1. James will return on July 6.

Worship Notes

Looking ahead, we look forward to hosting several guest preachers over the summer months when James will be away. The Reverend Jane Sullivan of Living Waters Presbytery, Minister for Congregational Support, will be with us for three Sundays: June 24th, July 22nd, and July 29th. On July 1st we will be fortunate to hear from our own Joanne Scofield, a candidate for ministry. As always, if you have any concerns or celebrations to share with us around worship at RHUC, please speak to any member of the Worship Committee: Anne Dunn, Anne Leyton-Brown, Craig Lee, Dawn Moon, Dominick Shelton, Harry Ramsaran, Joan Verner, Linda Clark, Rev. James Ravenscroft, Barry Peters, or me, Sandra Loughton, Worship Committee Chair.

Do you ever look at the small print on the back of the Sunday bulletin? The last item in the information box says, "Please turn all cellphones and other electronic devices to silent."

Recently, some new information was brought to the attention of the Worship Committee by Craig Lee, one of our committee members. He was told by a colleague that pandemonium ensued at a hospital in Hamilton when cellphones went off loudly and en masse due to a provincial Amber alert. You can imagine what chaos and disturbance that caused at the hospital. The same thing could happen during one of our worship services if people have their cellphones turned on. It was noted that even if your phones are on silent or vibrate, they could still go off loudly in the case of an emergency message or Amber alert! We realize that if it's a provincial safety warning about the weather, for example, that we would want to hear about it and let the congregation know. In that case, several people will have their cellphones turned on to silent or vibrate and the information could be relayed as necessary to the minister or other worship leader and then be conveyed to the congregation.

As such, we are asking that if you feel comfortable, please turn your cellphones and other electronic devices off during the service. We realize that, at times, people are waiting for an important call or need to be reached urgently by family members, so having the phone on silent or vibrate is necessary. We are not supposed to have our cellphones turned on during movies, theatre performances, and concerts, weddings or funerals, so why should our worship services be any different?

After the Canada Day weekend, if you have any questions or concerns regarding worship services please speak to a member of the Worship Committee or to Rev. James Ravenscroft. I will be available again in mid-August. The members of the Worship Committee are as follows: Anne Dunn, Anne Leyton-Brown, Craig Lee, Dawn Moon, Dominick Shelton, Harry Ramsaran, Joan Verner, Linda Clark, Barry Peters and Rev. James Ravenscroft. My term as Chair of the Committee will end on September 1st and a new Chair has not yet been appointed.

Thank you for your cooperation. The Worship Committee

Christian Development

We are looking ahead to our children's programming for next year. **We are searching for two people to co-ordinate our programmes.** There is an honorarium for these positions. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please contact Joan Verner at joanverner@rogers.com or 905-539-1222.

Chime Players Wanted

This is a follow-up notice about the need for a few more people to join the existing Chime Players team. If you can play a melody line on the piano (i.e. one hand only!) you would be able to play the chimes on our wonderful church organ. Please speak to Barry Peters, Kathleen Crosbie, or Sandra Loughton if you'd be interested in this exciting volunteer opportunity. The commitment would be 10 minutes just before the start of the service once every five or six weeks from September to May. *Sandra Loughton Chair ~ Worship Committee*

HOSPITALITY & WORKING FOR JUSTICE

Minute for Mission *Called to be the Church*

United Church partner Affirm United offers a process, the Affirming Ministry Program, to help all ministries truly welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Our gifts for Mission & Service support the Affirming process. Our planning and conversations are made possible by your support for Mission & Service. Any ministry in the United Church can become Affirming, but so far there are no Affirming outdoor ministries or camps. Camping experiences can offer spaces filled with friendship, faith, community, and a deep appreciation of God's diverse world. But sometimes differences can create barriers. Campers or staff with diverse ethnicities, economic statuses, sexual orientations, and gender identities or expressions can be pushed to the side, even unintentionally. This year, to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the church's 1988 decision to welcome LGBTQ+ people into full membership and ministry, all United Church outdoor and camping ministries have been invited to consider becoming Affirming. In an exciting pilot project, three United Church camping ministries have agreed to test the Affirming Ministry Program and to work with Affirm United to develop a process that can easily be used with all outdoor ministries. In the future, we hope to hear more words like these from a camper at the United Church's Camp Kidston in Nova Scotia: "[Here] I felt truly safe and free to be who I am. I began to understand that I am part of creation, a reflection of the Divine—all of me—acceptable and loved." We hope that our United Church Outdoor/Camping Ministries will publicly and intentionally embrace all differences.

ENGAGING, CHALLENGING & GROWING OUR FAITH

Special Occasions

While we include in our prayers, the names of people who are ill or mourning, we are not always aware of the special occasions which give rise to rejoicing. Please let us know to add any special occasions that are coming up.

Shalom Seekers

Please note that the adult study group, Shalom Seekers, is on a break now until Monday, September 10th. We gather on Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel to discuss all kinds of issues related to faith and theology, social justice, and living in today's world. We do this through books, art, DVD series, and podcasts of radio programs. New members are always welcome to check us out. Please keep your eye out for more information when RHUC On-Line starts up again after the summer. Facilitators: Dawn Moon, Peg Hiscoke & Sandra Loughton

RHUC Book Club

The RHUC Book Club is taking a break over the summer and will reconvene on **Wednesday, September 19th at 7 p.m.** in the Chapel. (Please note that this is the third Wednesday of the month instead of the usual 4th or 5th Wednesday.)

We will be discussing John Steinbeck's novel ***East of Eden*** which was published in 1952 and is often described as the author's most ambitious novel.

The book for discussion for the meeting on October 24th will be ***The Lightkeeper's Daughters*** by Jean Pendziwol.

New members are always welcome to join us and see if a book club is for them! For more details, please speak to Sandra Loughton in person or e-mail Sandra at bookgirl8@hotmail.com. Happy summer and happy reading!

H.A.I.R.

H.A.I.R will resume in September.

Bible Study

Bible Study will resume in September.

CREATING AND NURTURING COMMUNITY

Liona Boyd – free concert!

Liona Boyd will be back on **Thursday, June 28** to televise an hour concert with the Chancel Choir.

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Where: Sanctuary

Cost: free of charge

Please bring your friends and a winter coat to wear as the concert is a shorter reproduction of the “Winter Fantasy” concert held here in November.

Summer Concert – July 13 @ 7:00 p.m.



The Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge UK Canada Tour! Sponsored by RHUC's Chancel Choir

Christ's College is one of the constituent colleges of the University of Cambridge, and has had a chapel choir since its foundation in 1505. Conducted by Professor David Rowland, director of music at Christ's College, the choir sings a selection of music from English and European choral traditions from the 16th to 20th century.

This tour they are singing a wide range of music: Parry's Songs of Farewell, Howell's Requiem, Finzi's Lo, The Full, Final Sacrifice, to name a few, maintaining a variety of music from both religious and secular traditions, ranging from Tallis to Britten. CDs will be on sale at the concert.

Find out more at www.cambridgechoir.co.uk

Date: Friday, July 13, 2018 Time: 7:00 p.m. Tickets: \$25 Tickets available from the Chancel Choir, church office and <https://richmondhill.snapd.com/events/view/1154576> and at the door!

Skylight Festival

Skylight Festival: **July 27-29** at Five Oaks Retreat and Education Centre in Paris Ontario. Come and listen to a presentation by "Science Mike" McHargue of "The Liturgist Podcast" as he explores the intersection between science and spirituality. Come and explore justice topics like #ChurchToo, racial justice, the intersection of ecology and faith. Come and listen to a variety of musicians, including Matt Epp, Micah Bournes and Diem LaFortune, and spoken word artists like Emily Joy. Come and participate in creative worship experiences like "Courage", worship through the music of The Tragically Hip. Come learn about "Forest Church" (James and Glen will be presenting and co-leading with another Forest Church leader from Kitchener Waterloo). Come and be nurtured in spirit and heart at this amazing retreat centre along the banks of the Grand River. Founded in 2015, Skylight is a celebratory and creative space where diverse communities connect to explore the arts, faith, peace and justice. Register at skylightfestival.ca

The Festival of Faith

When: Saturday and Sunday, July 21–22, 2018

Where: 43rd General Council at UOIT Durham in Oshawa, ON

What: A celebration of our work and witness through the arts

Cost: Free!

The Festival of Faith marks the start of GC43. It's a chance to celebrate the hopeful things that are already happening across the country in many communities of faith. This festival will bring together musicians, authors, dancers, storytellers, and craftspeople. Like an old-time country fair, artists and artisans will roll in early in the morning, scrambling to set up their tents before the crowds arrive. Workshops will inform, inspire and share the vitality of our work and witness. There will also be opportunities to explore your faith, connect with others and offer your own voice and artistry in the coffee house, or on the green. Music, spoken word, ideas, movement, workshops and spiritual exploration—all on offer at this GC43 Festival of Faith. See you there! Follow the Festival of Faith on Facebook for details on performances, events and workshops you'll want to participate in—and let us know if you plan to attend this

inspiring event. What's happening at the Festival? Music: Experience inspiring performers playing a variety of genres at multiple stages. Enjoy a DJ by the games and artisan market area where there will be a silent dance party as well as a lip-sync competition. Interactive art: Explore amazing art displays, including stories and images of over 80 projects supported by Embracing the Spirit, a new United Church learning network and innovation fund that you can get involved in. Join a Messy Fiesta led by Messy Church Canada and paint a pew! Workshops: Be inspired by 25 Festival of Faith workshops featuring amazing facilitators from across Canada. Spirituality: Discover different ways to express your faith through various prayer stations on the festival grounds. Coffee house: Come to the café and join the open mic experience. Enjoy spoken word, poems, songs and a variety of other artistic expressions. Everyone is welcome to contribute to the onstage experience. Artisan market: Explore the market sprinkled with local artisans and social enterprises displaying their products and services. Learn more about the emerging social economy. The Alvin Dixon Memorial Run/Walk : Start your second day of festival fun on the right foot at 8 am with this 5km run / 1km walk event.

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