

This week at a glance

Sunday, June 24

10:30 a.m. Service – Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn – Garden room

Saturday, June 30

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

Sunday, July 1

10:30 a.m. Service – Sanctuary

Monday, July 2 – Canada Day

Building closed

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER

Worship

June 24: Worship will be led by Rev. Jane Sullivan.

Lunch and Learn: Following worship there will be a Lunch and Learn focused on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. Hosted by our Living into Right Relations Team, participants will have a chance to further engage the various articles of the declaration that have been presented over the year. As the name suggests, lunch will be provided. See you there.

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?

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

Truth and Reconciliation Committee

Truth and Reconciliation Committee: The Truth and Reconciliation Committees report included Calls to Action for churches. One of these requested churches to begin to educate their constituencies about the United Nations Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples (affectionately known as DRIPS), with the goal to ensure we are complying with the declaration. Over the course of this year, the Living in Right Relations committee will be sharing the articles in DRIPS. Once a month, the first article from a section will be read during the Worship Service. The remaining articles from the section will be included weekly in RHUC online.

Article 46 (final statement of strength)

1. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, people, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to the Charter of the United Nations or construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States.
2. In the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all shall be respected. The exercise of the rights set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law and in accordance with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and strictly necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society.
3. The provisions set forth in this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance and good faith.

Minute for Mission *Called to be the Church*

Our gifts for Mission & Service, together with emergency funds and Gifts with Vision, enabled us to build a church-run high school in Haiti. The opening of a new secondary school in Duplan, in the hills above Port-au-Prince, was the high point of celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the Église Méthodiste en Haïti (Methodist Church in Haiti) in February 2017. The United Church of Canada financed 80 percent of the cost of building the seven-room structure following the massive earthquake that hit Haiti in 2010, destroying or damaging many schools and churches and killing between 225,000 and 300,000 people. The shiny yellow building housing the new secondary school is bursting with 215 students and 19 staff. Already, Edzaire Paul, who heads up the Methodist school system, is dreaming of adding computer and science labs, as well as a playing field so students don't have to compete with motorbikes as they play soccer on the dusty road near the school. Education was the church's calling card to Haiti. In 1817, the first president of the Republic of Haiti authorized the first Protestant missionaries to come to the island nation on the understanding that their work would include providing schooling in the newly formed country. Today, the Methodist Church runs a system of 105 primary schools, 15 high schools, and a teachers' college, as well as three vocational schools. With children in some areas travelling two hours by foot over rocks and boulders to get to school—sometimes without having had breakfast—the need for a major investment in education is clear. Mission & Service makes these schools accessible to families with limited incomes, an important investment in the future of Haiti.

BUILDING FOR MINISTRY

RHUC MISSION ACTION PLAN (MAP) 2018 and Beyond - Update

Thank you to those who presented an update after worship on May 27th. This was an information session to provide a preliminary update to some early brainstorming discussions that were held related to 3 of our intentions that are of particular priority

- #2 Engage with the community in Our Neighbourhood
- #3 Ensure our Facilities Align with our Values, Identity and Purpose;
- #8 Be Good Stewards of our Finances and our Facilities

The work is just beginning, and teams are starting to form. No decisions have been made. There was feedback at that session that it would be helpful to have an overarching vision to guide our efforts. The following statement was presented to RHUC Council at their retreat on June 2nd with consensus that it could be a working draft as we move forward.

WORKING VISION TO GUIDE OUR INTENTION PROJECTS:

RHUC is called to be a Centre for Community actively engaged in our neighbourhood.

- ∅ We will provide opportunities for deepening relationships and spirituality, and develop partnerships with the community where there is alignment with our intentions and values.
 - ∅ We will cultivate radical hospitality as we share space, welcome new friends, support each other, and be responsive to community needs and longings.
 - ∅ We commit to upholding our agreements of how we will be with one another, and to reflect and learn as we go.
- June 1, 2018 draft

The Coordinating Team will be providing regular updates through email blasts and RHUC Online. If you do not have email - copies of communications will be available through the Church Office.

If you have questions about this important work, or wish to get involved in a project - please reach out to the Coordinating Team members. *Terry Davies, Nancy Hart, James Ravenscroft, Joanne Scofield, Jane Wedlock.*

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.

Happy birthday!!

Jacky Dedlow on her 80th birthday.

Daphne Jackson on her 85th birthday.

Bill Lekx on his 90th birthday.

(Thank you to his daughter, Barb, who baked delicious cupcakes that were served after service on June 17.)

Madeline Johnston on her 95th birthday.

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.snapt.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 Bourne 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.

To unsubscribe, please write to: office@rhuc.org, and put "unsubscribe" in the subject line. Published by Deb Fratin. Please submit notices by noon on Wednesday.