



**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](mailto: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.

## worship and music

### Minister's Message

This Sunday marks the end of the church year. Advent begins on November 28. This Sunday is Reign of Christ Sunday, the day when we reflect on Jesus and his ministry that turned the world upside down. Jesus came and changed the course of human history.

I want you to reflect on that thought as we move into a time of Advent and Christmas, this year will once again feel very different from other years. As we live into the new way of being church in person and virtually, I want you truly listen to the scriptures this Sunday and reflect on them in the light of our world today, a world of diminishing species, rising temperatures, a world where we work to make sure Black and Indigenous Lives truly matter. Jesus came to create the kingdom, the beginning and the end, let us be aware of our place in that calling from Jesus and move beyond the norm to a new way of being.

Blessings,  
Rev. Ruth Noble

**Sunday, November 21, 2021:** 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](#)



**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](mailto: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, November 22nd at 10 a.m. on Zoom for our continuing discussion on the memoir *The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge* by Reverend Alf Dumont. This week we will be reading and discussing **Chapters 6 and 7**.

New members are always welcome. A Zoom invitation will be sent out on Sunday evening. For more information about the group, please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator.

**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](mailto:dlbrown@yorku.ca)



**RHUC Book Club:** Interested in reading and talking about books? Please join us on **Wednesday, November 24th at 4 p.m. on Zoom** to discuss the memoir "Lion" by Saroo Brierley. It was initially published as "A Long Way Home". This is the incredible true story of a young boy in India who gets lost on a train one day and how he eventually finds his way home from the other side of the world. For more information about the book club, please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator. New members are warmly welcome!

## church news



**Cash Cards:** If you would like to place an order this month and do some Christmas shopping, please have your order in by **Thursday, Nov. 25**. Thank you!!

**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*

**RHUC RE-DEVELOPMENT – Congregational Update:** At the Annual meeting of the Congregation in May 2021 we committed to regular updates to take you on our journey and identify if and how the path is intended to shift, as we navigate through sustainable models of development in the future. The purpose of this message is to provide an update to the congregation on our property redevelopment journey.

At the congregational meeting in May 2021, we reported that we were exploring a property development partnership with United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC), the United Church of Canada's subsidiary that was created to help churches develop their real estate for future sustainability – financial, social and environmental. (More information on UPRC is included below.)

Our initial discussions with UPRC focused on the redevelopment of the Village Commons/Christian Education Building (the 1957 addition). However, when UPRC staff and consultants Savira, (Cultural consultants), and KPMB (Architects) visited Richmond Hill United Church they immediately saw the historical sanctuary as being a key part of the project. The development proposal they have put forward is to replace the existing 1957 structure with a two-story event space that would provide a community and cultural centre, joined to the historic sanctuary by a connecting atrium. The renovated sanctuary would be the heart of the redeveloped space, with the adjacent new two-story addition providing space for the congregation and the wider community to gather for events, meetings and performances. No housing is included as part of the proposed development.

When we reported to you at the congregational meeting in May there was an assumption that housing would be a part of the project as this is a major focus for UPRC. However, after site visits and subsequent discussions, UPRC determined that due to a number of factors our site is not suitable for housing. As a result, the development they are proposing no longer includes a housing component, and therefore would no longer include funding from CMHC.

**Next Steps:** RHUC and UPRC are in discussions that would lead to a non-binding letter of intent setting out the parameters that would govern the project should it go forward. At the same time, UPRC is undertaking a more robust analysis in order to develop a business plan for the project, including how the project will be funded. **No final decisions about the proposed development will be made without consultation and approval by the congregation.**

There will be an opportunity for an Open House for questions and answers about the proposed project likely around the time of our Annual Meeting in March 2022. While the final decision about proceeding with the project is likely closer to the middle of 2022.

Up until recently, we have been working with SHS Consulting to help us move our project forward. However, with the understanding that UPRC as a development partner would ensure the property remains with the United Church of Canada and UPRC has access to partnerships and expertise that support the project without cost to the congregation in the immediate term, it made sense to continue with UPRC and express our thanks and gratitude to SHS for their support to this point.



**More about UPRC:** *Founded in 2019 by the United Church of Canada, UPRC brings professional real estate development and management expertise to communities of faith and non-profits to assist them in making astute decisions about their real estate while making lasting contributions to their communities. UPRC was founded to meet the growing need for professional real estate development and management expertise within communities of faith, who are one of the country's largest landowners. Collaborating with both public and private partners, UPRC is a new model that looks at community infrastructure in an inclusive way to unlock value for social purposes, including building lasting affordable housing for all in high-quality, low carbon buildings. (Source: [uprc.ca](http://uprc.ca))*

Jane Wedlock, Board Chair / Jane Ridout, Chair of Finance

## outreach

**2021 Governor General's Literary Award Winner:** The Governor General's Literary Awards are among Canada's oldest and most prestigious prizes for literature. There are seven categories, awarded in both French and English, with \$25,000 going to each winning book.

The seven categories are: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama, translation, young people's literature — text and young people's literature — illustrated books.

Norma Dunning is an Inuk writer, scholar and assistant lecturer in the University of Alberta's faculty of education.

Tainna: The Unseen Ones comprises six stories, each centred on a modern-day Inuk character living in southern Canada. Their circumstances range widely — from homelessness to extravagant wealth, young to old, alive to dead — but their experiences of isolation echo from story to story.

[Source - <https://www.cbc.ca/books/norma-dunning-wins-2021-governor-general-s-literary-award-for-english-language-fiction-1.6250763> ]

**York Food Network:** bipoc cc.png

This year, we have journeyed with our cookbook authors to the Caribbean, the African continent, India and the US. We have heard their stories of history, self identity and discovery. For the final month of our virtual BIPOC Cookbook Club gathering, we will discuss how to honour our past, embrace our present and create our future through culture and food. Join Maxine on Tuesday November 23rd from 1:00-2:30PM to participate in this engaging conversation!

**On The Way Home (Podcast):** "On the Way Home is a weekly Canadian national podcast produced by York Region's Blue Door and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

Formerly known as "Out Of The Blue", "On the Way Home" invites guests and experts in the field of housing and homelessness to educate and create awareness around some of the gaps and challenges individuals and organizations face across Canada.

Hosts, Michael Braithwaite (BD) and Stefania Seccia (CAEH) openly speak with diverse guests each week, to discuss innovative programs, stories of hope and hardship and new perspectives on ending homelessness in Canada.

Melanie Redman is the co-founder, President & CEO of A Way Home Canada, a national coalition reimagining solutions to youth homelessness through transformations in policy, planning and practice. A Way Home Canada has inspired communities and countries around the world to adopt the A Way Home brand as a way to participate in a growing international movement for change. Melanie also leads the National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness in Canada (31 mins).

Click <https://onthewayhome.ca/> to listen, via YouTube, Apple, Spotify or Google, to this podcast or one of the previous ones. "Grassy Narrows in the News again..."

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/grassy-narrows-mining-legal-action-1.6251280>

## net zero

**Textile Drive at RHUC:** Did you know that RHUC hosts Beavers, Cub, Scouts and Venturers 3 nights/week? To support their 'No One Left Behind' initiative, RHUC is doing a drive to collect textiles for Scouts Canada:

The Scouts have 40 youth attending a jamboree in Switzerland this summer:

- from all walks of life, many from underprivileged families.
- to help children to see that there is a great big world out there and to aim for the stars.
- to teach them that they can change their future from their present life, they just need a little help.

**To help: bring items to the outside entrance door (look for signage) to Lower Centennial Hall on Nov. 22, & 23 between 1:30 – 4:30:**

- Electronic waste (cables, cell phones, old TVs, VCRs,...)
- household items, clothing, books, games and
- any textiles (including leather, shoes, handbags)

It's preferable if everything is clean. Items and textiles that are damaged can be labeled and stored separately.

If you have any questions, please forward them to [targetclimatechange@gmail.com](mailto:targetclimatechange@gmail.com). Thank you!



**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.



### **WORLD AIDS DAY 2021 A ZOOM PRESENTATION December 1st , 2021**

**6:30PM – 8:30PM:** PROGRAM TO INCLUDE:

Agenda Land acknowledgement & Introduction /  
Traditional Indigenous Opening / Board welcome message /  
Keynote Panel: Pandemic Inequalities Recalling HIV awareness, advancements, and support Excerpts of stories from Peer Links project 'Hearts Linked by Courage, People Supporting People' /Candlelight vigil with acknowledgement and a moment of silence / Traditional Indigenous Closing. Please join us during this vigil with your own candle. (wax candle, battery powered candle, or virtual/picture candle).

This is a FREE event to attend. **Please RSVP to Mark Koning at [mkoning@cayrcc.org](mailto:mkoning@cayrcc.org) by November 30<sup>th</sup>.** A link will be provided to registered participants. Hosted by CAYR and RHUC.

### **Reducing Stigma for People Living with HIV and AIDS:**

**'GRASSROOTS 9** MUJHU Young Generation Alive HIV Awareness Outreach for Youth Museruka Emmanuel Since 2001, Kiambu People Living with HIV/AIDS (KIPEWA) has addressed the stigma and isolation faced by people affected by HIV and AIDS. The founders, nine people living with HIV themselves, saw a need to create a space where people could share their experiences with others who were facing some of the same hurdles. Their support groups are a lifeline for people in their community. Recently, a KIPEWA client recounted the positive impact his support group has had on his life. At first he was uncertain, even suspicious of their motivation for reaching out to him. Despite his fears, he knew that he needed the support of his community. Over time, as his trust grew, he began to appreciate the significance of the group, and started participating in discussions around health management, support, safety and reducing isolation. He gained the self confidence that comes from sharing challenges, instead of carrying them alone. He has made new friends who he communicates with openly about the realities and commonalities of their experiences, and has emerged as a leader, encouraging other members to promote the benefits of the support group. Your contributions support KIPEWA's vision for a safe space that is supportive and accommodating of people living with HIV and AIDS.'

## 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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