



**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.

## worship and music

### Minister's Message

Happy New Church Year!!! Advent is the beginning and the coming of Jesus as a child. This Advent will yet again be different from previous years, this year we are coming together to celebrate, reflect and give thanks in the light of vaccines and social distancing. Advent will be a phydigital event (physical and digital presence).

Advent is also a time of giving, giving to those we love and giving to our church and to the wider community, there will be many opportunities for you to give from the heart. Giving is an expression of gratitude for our church community. I invite you to reflect on what your expression of gratitude will be, is in financial gifts, or decorating or a combination, and give freely in gratitude and in love for the coming of the Christ child.

Blessings,  
Rev. Ruth Noble

**Sunday, November 28, 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](#)

The longest night service is being recorded on November 29 at St. Mary's Anglican Church.

**December 5:** Advent 2

**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](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 29th at 10 a.m. on Zoom** to continue the discussion of the book *The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge* by Reverend Alf Dumont. For this week, please read [Chapter 8: Following Dreams & Chapter 9: Wrestling with my Call to Ministry](#).

For more information about the group, please speak to anyone in Shalom Seekers or Sandra Loughton, Facilitator. New members are always welcome to join us.

**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)

**The United Church Women** will hold their meeting on **Wednesday December 1st at 10:30 am**. It will be a hybrid meeting. If you would like to attend in person you must be double vaccinated. The zoom link will be sent out later for those who are joining from home. If you need further information, please call June at 905-780-0048.

**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*

**Staff holidays: Church office is closed from Monday, Nov. 29 – Fri., Dec. 3. Emails/phone calls will be picked up the week of Dec. 6.**



**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: Stable Income for Women Farmers - Indigenous women in the small Guatemalan town of Santa Maria Visitation Solola see their children moving to large towns for work, but for cultural reasons, women are unable to do the same and remain isolated in poverty. The United Church partner in Guatemala helps these women raise pigs for profit. Each woman starts with one pig to raise, and together they decide how to keep the project going so it provides an independent and stable income for each woman.

Your Gift of \$85. will purchase one pig, helping to provide a woman in this small town with a stable income.

Go to [www.giftswithvision.ca](http://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](http://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 12:30 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.



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