



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 send in a copy of your vaccination certificate to office@rhuc.org before registering for in person worship. Once you have sent in a copy your vaccination certificate, please register at Eventbrite (by Friday noon) using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/worship-service-tickets-118039281669>

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: This Sunday we continue our series reflecting on the scriptures from the Harry Potter Wizarding World. Many of you told me last Sunday that you had not read the books. What a wonderful prospect for you: to have the discovery of this world ahead of you, I envy you your position!

This week's scripture is the story of Blind Bartimaeus, who is healed by Jesus and chooses to follow Jesus in faith and wonder. The Hebrew word for wonder in God is "nifloat".

This week we will be reflecting on the wonder found in the story of Bartimaeus from the perspective of Jacob Kowalski and the Niffler found in the *Fantastic Beasts and Where to find them* series. *Fantastic Beasts* is a prequel to the Harry Potter series, created by JK Rowling and shares the story Newt Scamander a Magizoologist who writes the textbook "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find them." The story of Newt can be found in movies of the same title.

Blessings,
Rev. Ruth Noble

Sunday, October 24, 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 PAR, please consider making sure you get your weekly envelope money in (mailed in or mail slot on Centre. St. door) and we hope as well that you will consider some extra to compensate for the loss in income. You can use e-transfer to office@rhuc.org, Canada Helps, <http://www.rhuc.org/donate.html>, or post-dated cheques to the Church, 10201 Yonge St., Richmond Hill, L4C 3B2.

programs for all

Shalom Seekers: Please join us on Zoom on **Monday, October 25 at 10 a.m.** This week we will be watching the second half of the interview on reconciliation that we started last week. The interview is with the author, Reverend Alf Dumont. Rev. Dumont's memoir, **The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge** is our next book for study and discussion and copies are on order. Dumont walks between the two worlds of Indigenous and settler; traditional spirituality and Christianity. Alf is a minister in the United Church of Canada.

You are welcome to join us! The Zoom invitation will be sent on Sunday evening. For more information, please speak to someone who attends Shalom Seekers or contact Sandra Loughton, Facilitator.



Monday Meditation: There is a Monday meditation between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. continuing from last winter. Please contact Julia or DJ for more information.

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.**

HAIR intends to be a place of inquiry and questioning, where doubts are expressed, uncertainties about our faith and its relevance to our daily lives are clarified, and the application of the teachings and principles of our Christian faith to major issues of our time are explored, and where we have interesting and stimulating discussions. In the past year we used videos of TED talks to launch discussion, and dealt with such topics as environmentalism, racism, social justice, ethics, science and religion, and healthy ageing.

In the past we have also watched and discussed DVD series, and read and discussed thought-provoking books and articles, and we keep looking for stimulating new material.

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 dbrown@yorku.ca

RHUC Book Club: Please join us on **Wednesday, October 27th at 4 p.m. on Zoom** to discuss **The Vanishing Half** by Brit Bennett. This book was on President Obama's list of favourites reads for 2020.

Then join us on **Wednesday, November 24th at 4 p.m. on Zoom** to discuss **Lion** by Saroo Brierley with Larry Buttrose. This riveting memoir was initially published under the title "A Long Way Home" and it was made into a movie entitled "Lion" in 2016.

"As a five-year-old in India, I got lost on a train. Twenty-five years later, from Australia, I found my way back. This is what happened in between."

For details about the book club, please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator. New members are warmly welcomed.

church news

Update from your Search Committee: We continue to meet weekly, and sometimes more often than that. Now that our profile is "live" on ChurchHub, we are receiving applications for the full-time ministerial position at RHUC.

We have spent time reviewing the skills and gifts of a number of ministry personnel along with our ministry priorities.

Just this past week, we decided to go ahead with the first round of interviews. Please pray that we will be open to the gifts and passions of each one who responds to our profile.

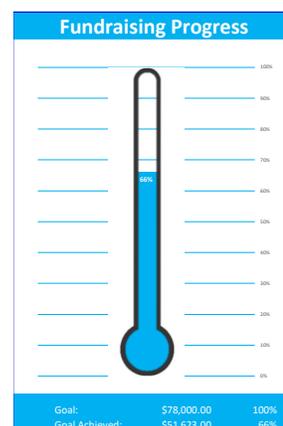
Due to Covid concerns, we have chosen to go with Zoom interviews at this time rather than in-person gatherings. We are working hard to create a safe and welcoming virtual space for the candidates.

Please keep in mind that, for reasons of confidentiality, committee members can't go into detail about candidates at this time, but we will be in touch as soon as there is more information we can share with you.

The next milestone will occur once all the interviews have been completed and references have been checked. At that point in the process, you will be hearing from the RHUC Board who will call a congregational meeting to consider the recommendation of the Search Committee.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the committee or write to us at the committee's e-mail address: rhuc.searchcommittee@gmail.com. Thank you again for the trust and confidence you have placed in each of us. Search Committee: Howe Foo, Nancy Hart (Co-Chair), Anne Leyton-Brown, Sandra Loughton (Co-Chair), Doug Loweth, DJ McCready, Sharon McNutt, Sara Perez, Ruth Perratt

A note from Rev. Joanne Scofield: I want to thank you for your blessings and gift of money on my ordination. It was so thoughtful of you and special for me to be remembered and celebrated. I will use your gift to buy resources from Iona and for a course from Seminary of the Wild. I also really want to express my gratitude for all the support I've had from Council and the congregation throughout my discernment process and at my ordination. What a gift it has been to journey with all of you and how great it was that so many could tune in from Ontario to be with me on such a special day. With much love and gratitude, Joanne.



Boosting Our Signal Campaign: RHUC has embarked on a project to upgrade our AV capabilities. This project, to be implemented in Phases, not only improves the livestream services, but helps us to achieve some of our long-term ministry goals. You can donate via e-transfer to



office@rhuc.org, cheque or CanadaHelps.org.

We have reached **66%** of our goal (**\$51,623.00**)!! Thank you!



outreach

Part of Community Outreach is education; getting to know agencies in our community working to help those in need. Learning in 'How to be an Ally' can be applied to others in our Community. Here's one...

Blue Door: "Since 1982, Blue Door, a not-for-profit registered charitable agency governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, has been an integral part of our community providing emergency housing for the homeless population of York Region. As the region has grown, so too have the services of our organization. Initiated as a shelter for single men, Blue Door has expanded to include emergency housing programs for families and youth."

Programs

Child & Youth: "At our emergency housing, we understand the unique needs of children and youth. Our objective is to run programs that are fun, active, build a strong sense of self esteem, and encourage our young residents to lead whole and healthy lives. From trips to local community centres and playing team sports, offering school lunches and snacks, reading and homework club, art therapy and yoga, to hosting monthly birthday parties for the children, we facilitate programs that build on the strengths of the children and youth."

Counselling: "Counselling and case management are client-centered and client-led processes at Blue Door. It is a collaborative journey that respects where the client is at and supports client rights. From support with filling out applications to services to developing purposeful plans of action, Blue Door offers comprehensive and quality support. Our front line teams have extensive local community expertise to provide seamless outcomes for complex scenarios."

Wellness Programs: "Programs like yoga, art therapy, cooking classes, and music & leadership programs are popular at all three emergency housing locations. People living on low income often have difficulty accessing health information. How to live well, make nutritious meals on a very low budget, exercise and think positive thoughts, and use positive words to express emotions in a healthy way are essential to living a whole life. Making peace with trauma can be a long journey, and the workshops we offer encourage our clients to regain the ability to express themselves, rebuild a sense of self worth and motivate healthy changes."

[Source: <https://bluedoor.ca/>]

Richmond Hill Community Food Bank

Thank you to all who have contributed to our Community Food Bank. A large delivery was made to their location last week from the green bin outside RHUC's office!

Urgently needed food: Boxed cereal, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, canned beans, dried beans in a bag, tinned stew, canned meat and fish, canned vegetables, peanut butter, jam, instant coffee, tea, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, toilet paper.

Note: Please ensure items are within the best before period, have not expired and have not been opened.

You can drop off these items to Richmond Hill United (box outside the office) or locations listed on the following link...

<https://richmondhillcommunityfoodbank.ca/donate-food>

Step #2 - How to Be an Ally - Definitions

Please be aware that these definitions are to give you a general idea. This is especially true when it comes to terminology relating to identity. Identities are complicated, are always evolving, and don't exist in boxes. When in doubt: never assume, ask!

FIRST NATION: First Nations are the descendants of the original inhabitants of Canada. Various nations, beliefs, & languages exist within this group. There are 10 First Nations in Quebec.

INDIGENOUS & ABORIGINAL: These are umbrella terms to include First Nations, Métis, and Inuit in Canada. Both terms are used internationally to define the original habitants of colonized countries, with Indigenous being the most favoured term. However, it is always respectful to be specific about the Nation you are referring to; use the term that they use to self-identify.

TURTLE ISLAND: This is the name given to North America by some Indigenous Peoples, such as the Iroquois, Anishinaabeg, and other Northeastern nations. The term originates from their various creation stories.

INUIT & INUK: Inuit is the term for Indigenous peoples from Arctic North regions of Canada, Greenland and Alaska. Inuit is the plural form, while Inuk is the singular form.

M(m)ÉTIS: The Métis are a post-contact Indigenous People. Métis refers to people with roots in the Red River community or other historic Métis communities. While métis refers to people with mixed Indigenous ancestry.

ANISHINAABEG: This is what the Algonquin people refer to themselves as. Their ancestral territories include regions in Quebec, but subgroups have migrated further West into Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. The word roughly translates to "the authentic people" or "real people".



TWO-SPIRIT: Two-Spirit is an umbrella term that includes gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans/gender non-conforming identities and is what the “2S” stands for in LGBTQ2S. The term was intertribally adopted in Winnipeg during a gathering in the early 1990’s. Traditionally, people who were Two-Spirit were thought as being “born in balance” and held specific roles within their communities. The term is an act of resistance against settler colonial forms of sex/gender, meaning that only Indigenous people can identify as being Two-Spirit.

SETTLER: This term is used to describe people whose ancestors migrated to Canada and who still benefit from ongoing colonialism. This could be also applied to “settlers of colour” but doesn’t apply when referring to people who are descendants of slaves, considering they did not come to this continent willingly. Keep in mind the various intersections of a person’s identity and how this translates into the types of privileges they are either afforded or withheld.

KANIEN’KEHÁ:KA: This is what the Mohawk call themselves and roughly translates to “people of the flint”. They are also one of the original nations that called the island of Montreal their territory (Tiohtià:ke).

NDN: This term started off as online slang and is about First Nations reclaiming the word “Indian”. Only Indigenous Peoples can use this term.

TIOHTIÀ:KE & MOONIIYAANG: The Kanien’kehá:ka call Montreal Tiohtià:ke, which roughly translates to “where the boats/rivers meet”. The Anishinaabeg word is Mooniyaang; roughly translating to “the first stopping place”.

POW WOW: A traditional First Nations’ gathering and celebration of dance, song, socializing and honoring of a rich heritage. Not to be used to describe a meeting or group of people.

Next week - What Not to Say

[Source: Montreal Aboriginal Community Strategy Network]

net zero



The climate crisis will require changes in all of us. It is a global emergency, after all. By holding events where we can gather and share information and expertise, we can activate the hidden

energy in a society - the power of community. Please come with your friends and families to find the up-to-date and evidence-based information you will need to inform the actions necessary to create a sustainable future for the next generations. We can do slow the crisis, but only together. Please attend one of the two Lunch and Learn Sessions:

1. October 24: Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-lunch-and-learn-tickets-172060255857>

2. and/or December 12: Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-lunch-and-learn-2-tickets-172141438677>

At these meetings we will summarize the situation, explain the lifestyle changes you will need to make, discover the resources we already have in our community, and then establish plans for the next few months. These are open for everyone - so feel free to invite friends to the Lunch and Learns. We are informing the City about what we are doing and hope we can be a model for Richmond Hill.

There is also a climate support group if you need one.

We know we will need mental health support through this crisis. We know we will need mental health support through this crisis - and our kids will need support as well. We are hoping to host a bimonthly climate support drop-in. Susan Kagan (mental health educator/advocate) will be supporting us. This will be a time where we will gather to grieve and comfort each other as best we can. This event will be on **November 13th, from 3-4 and this is the zoom link for that event:**

Topic: **Climate Support Group**

Time: Nov 13, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83833323713?pwd=NEQxWWJzdwtrSE5wdXhBREFuR3RMZz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3332 3713 Passcode: 432526



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.