



**We will continue to livestream Sunday service using Zoom.** 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:** The Season of Creation is upon us! The world is buzzing with activity once again. This year there is a scent of hopefulness in the air. Children are returning to in person learning; and like much of creation, we are waiting to see what will unfold.

This Sunday, our scripture reading is from Proverbs: the Call of Wisdom, the call to create a better world. As Wisdom Theologian Leo Perdue says in his book "Wisdom & Creation: The Theology of Wisdom Literature" Wisdom is present in every work of creation, goes in search of those who desire life, reveals the divine will, and points the way to blessing". Schitt's Creek is a show that often shares the same elements of wisdom, as one of the characters Alexis Rose would say "I don't skate through life, David. I walk through life in really nice shoes." You will hear more on Sunday how these two elements come together.

### [Order of service](#)   [Hymns](#)

**Some days to mark on your calendar are:**

**September 30 - Orange Shirt Day**, the day we remember that Every Child Matters. We wear orange to remember Indigenous Children who were sent to Residential School, some of who never came home again. **A BIG thank you to Tracy Wixon who arranged for Orange t-shirts for us. If you would like one, they are for sale in the church office for \$25.** If you have ordered a shirt or would like to purchase a shirt, you can pick it up in the office on Tues., Sept. 14 between 10 – 1:30 or on Sept. 21 & 28 between 10 – 12 and 2 – 5.

**October 3 – Worldwide Communion Sunday –** We are hopeful that those who wish will be able to be in the Sanctuary for in person worship. Council is requiring that those who want to be in person in the Sanctuary will be double vaccinated. Please register with the office that you are double vaccinated. There will be an online registration as well as phone in registration for worship a few days prior to in person worship. Watch for further updates as we get closer October.

Blessings,  
Rev. Ruth Noble



**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](mailto: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

**Women's Spirituality:** We will gather at the Heritage Centre Park on **Saturday September 11 at 10:00 till 12:00.** Being outside and in nature and in a garden, we will turn our thoughts to God's creation. BYOB and a chair. Hope you can come! Newcomers are welcome! Phone Donna Smith at 905-884-6307 for info.

**Shalom Seekers:** Shalom Seekers will resume on **Monday, September 20th at 10 a.m. on Zoom.** The invitation will be e-mailed on Sunday, September 19th. For more information, please speak to Sandra Loughton.

**H.A.I.R.:** Our Monday evening study group, HAIR (Heretics, Agnostics, Infidels and Other Riffraff), meets every Monday from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Because of the federal election on Monday, September 20, the first meeting of the fall will be on **Monday September 27. 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](mailto:dbrown@yorku.ca)

**RHUC Book Club:** We will resume our meetings on **Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss *THE BOOK OF LONGINGS*** by Sue Monk Kidd. This book of historical fiction starts with the premise: What if Jesus had been married? His bride is the narrator of this fascinating novel. You will be transported back in time! We will decide before that time if we'll be meeting on Zoom at 4 p.m. or in person at the church and whether we'll return to the 7 p.m. meeting time.

On Wednesday, October 27 to discuss ***THE VANISHING HALF*** by Brit Bennett. Time: To be determined.

For more details about the book club, please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator. New members warmly welcome in the fall!

## church news

### News from the Board and Transition Team:

The Transition Team and Board have developed a plan to re-start in-person worship in the sanctuary, while we continue to have on-line worship. Our primary consideration in this plan is the health and well-being of the congregation, particularly in light of the Delta variant. While we believe this is the best plan we can make for now, we know it is a compromise in terms of some of our core values. The situation simply does not allow us to be as inclusive and hospitable as we would like. We ask for your patience and understanding, and we remain committed to restoring our usual practices as quickly as possible.

**Our plan for re-opening:** Our first Sunday for in-person worship will be **October 3rd - World Wide Communion Sunday.** There will be a limit of up to 50 people on the main floor and 25 people in the balcony. Entrance to the Sanctuary will be ONLY through the front doors on Yonge St. Masks and social distancing will be mandatory.

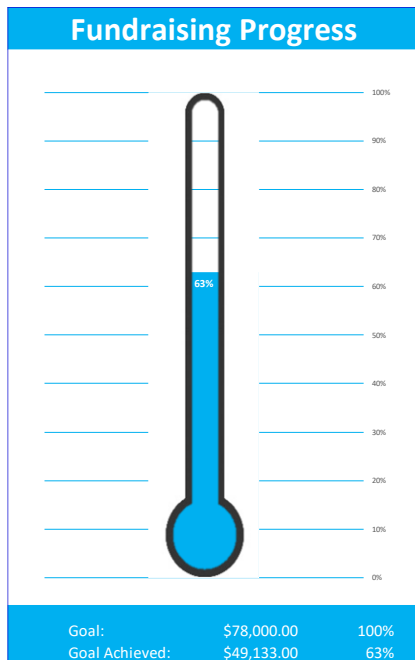
### Pre-Registration – Proof of Double-Vaccination:

We need to know that everyone over 12 years who wants to attend in person has been double-vaccinated. No exceptions will be made at this time for those who are unable to receive the Covid vaccination. Those who are not double vaccinated will be invited to join worship on line. The church office will compile a list of all members/friends of the congregation who are double-vaccinated. It will include your name, your telephone and e-mail (for contact tracing if necessary,) and the date of your second vaccination. The purpose of making this list is to reduce the time it takes on Sundays to welcome you when you come to worship. We know it is a bit of a process, but we will walk you through it, and it only needs to be done once.

**Registering for Sunday attendance:** You will need to register online through Eventbrite every week you wish to attend worship in person. You may register at any time up to Friday at 5:00 p.m. for the upcoming Sunday only. This will be an easy process. More information will follow as we get closer to opening.

**Attending on Sunday:** You will be greeted by members of our friendly welcome team and your name will be checked against the list of registrants for that week. If you are not registered, you are not able to attend. No walk-ins are allowed. You will be asked to review some screening questions. If the answer to all questions is "No", you will be welcomed into the sanctuary and shown to a seat. We will be filling the sanctuary from front to back. Seats are physically distanced.

Thank you everyone, for your continued support.



### 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

63% of our goal (\$49,133.00)!! Thank you!

It's also a chance for the youth to interact with the musicians and even collaborate, like they did two years ago when July Talk took the Marina Park stage. For us, coming from the school background, it's making those kids from the North feel like rock stars and it gives them an opportunity to interact with not only a big artist ... but they also get to meet the people from Thunder Bay and I think that's the biggest part of this festival."

In the community building portion, local businesses and organizations are asked to proudly display a Wake the Giant decal at their location which will identify their site as an 'inclusive space' for Indigenous youth in Thunder Bay. Those that share the logo are provided with a Wake the Giant Cultural Awareness Package that has education and resources to share with your staff, customers and the community.

Despite the restrictions created by COVID, it looks like the second year of this festival is a go. With this year's line-up of musicians, it's no surprise this event is SOLD OUT!

"Headlined by rising Canada singer Jessie Reyez, fresh off a video collaboration with Beyonce, and '90s rockers Third Eye Blind, a local favourite that's never played Thunder Bay. The lineup is strong from top to bottom, continuing with Loud Luxury, a three-time 2020 Juno nominee, including artist of the year, William Prince, a country star who has opened for Neil Young, electro-pop artist Iskwe, the Godfather of PowWowStep, D.J. Shub, renowned powwow group Northern Cree and Sioux Lookout's own Nick Sherman."

Kudos to Sean & AJ for all their work!

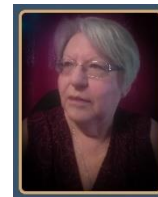
## outreach

### Wake the Giant Music Festival and Community Building (news from Thunder Bay)

Most of us know Sean Spennrath, a name synonymous with our connection to Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School. After reading this, perhaps you'll think of him as not just a teacher, ally and all round positive supporter of Dennis Franklin Cromarty's Indigenous students, but a community builder and music festival co-creator as well!

Sean and AJ Haapa are organizers of the Wake the Giant Music Festival <https://wakethegiant.ca/music-festival/> and community building initiative.

"Wake The Giant is a cultural awareness project in Thunder Bay aimed at building understanding and showing Indigenous people that they are valued members of the Thunder Bay community. The music festival is a celebration of all cultures with a specific focus on Indigenous people and promoting Indigenous musicians. The festival is another chance to spread the Wake the Giant message to the broader community, encouraging them to show students from Indigenous communities in Ontario's Far North they're welcome in Thunder Bay.



In recognition of the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on **September 30, 2021**, the City of Richmond Hill and the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts are honoured to be hosting this virtual event featuring guest speaker and residential school survivor Dawn Hill. Dawn spent her early

childhood living on the Six Nations of the Grand River, the largest First Nations Reserve in Canada. Dawn was one of the 15,000 students who attended the Mohawk Institute, known as "The Mush Hole" due to the bland porridge served daily as breakfast to the students. She attended the institute from 1957 to 1961 and was known as Number 54. She will share her experiences at the institute including her first night in a dorm and her life in an atmosphere of violence. Today, Ms. Hill is a retired teacher of 28 years and serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the [Mohawk Village Memorial Park](#). This on-line event will follow the format of the other speaker series - an approximately one-hour Zoom webinar presentation, followed by a Q&A session. This is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the personal impact of the residential school system and hence, to walk the path of gathering truth and seeking reconciliation. Creating this national holiday was one of the [Calls of Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Report](#)



**Tickets:** \$10 (taxes and handling fees included). Click [HERE](#) to order. All proceeds will go to the Mohawk Village Memorial Park.

We would appreciate you spreading the word! For both this talk and the entire series. Here is the [LINK](#) to the series of 6 other talks, starting Thursday September 23, (10 am to noon.) Note: the early bird pricing ends Monday, September 6th.

If you have any questions please contact Marj at [marj@marjandre.com](mailto:marj@marjandre.com) or Mary at [kotmmk@gmail.com](mailto:kotmmk@gmail.com)

## Community news

### 2021 Richmond Hill Art Walk on Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 11a.m. to 6 p.m.

Locations:

- Elgin Barrow Arena, park space by Church Street,
- Heritage Center, Amos Wright Park and,
- Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, outdoor plaza

For the past 16 years, the City of Richmond Hill has offered the Studio Tour as part of its commitment to the arts, culture and support of local artists. In 2021, the Studio Tour will be replaced with a 1-day outdoor art show. This Art Walk show is an excellent opportunity for local artists and artisans to showcase and sell their work at one of three locations in downtown Richmond Hill.

Don't want to vote in person? Here's how to mail in your ballot - <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/voting-by-mail-2021-federal-election-1.6143746>

After Your Vaccine - **How do I get a copy of my vaccination receipt?** If you have a green OHIP card visit <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/> to download your vaccination receipts.

If you don't have OHIP, contact your [Public Health Unit \(PHU\)](#).

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