



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). 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 will be reflecting on peace. Peace One Day is a movement that began in 1999, that declared September 21 as one day of peace from violence. This year it has expanded to be peace for all life, peace for the climate and the planet. I encourage you to check out www.peaceoneday.org for ideas of how to offer peace in the world. On Tuesday September 21, how are you going to #Do Your Peace?

[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. They came from an Indigenous artist and distributor. **If you would like one, they are for sale in the church office for \$25 on Tues., Sept. 21 & 28 between 10 – 12 and 2 – 5.**

October 3 is World Wide 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, Canada Helps, <http://www.rhuc.org/donate.html>, or post-dated cheques to the Church, 10201 Yonge St., Richmond Hill, L4C 3B2.

Hello Forest Churchers! We will gather this coming **Sunday September 19 at 2:00**. The Fall equinox, Mabon, happens that week and we will reflect on creation with that theme. **Place:** Phyllis Rawlinson Park on Leslie Street, north of Elgin Mills. Drive to the second parking lot area, passing the first which is at the interpretive bldg. It's September, the air is different and there are signs of the changing season. Come join us and be part of this reflective time. Have a good day!

programs for all

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 – 8:15 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 dlbrown@yorku.ca

RHUC Book Club: We will resume our meetings on **Wednesday, September 29th** 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.

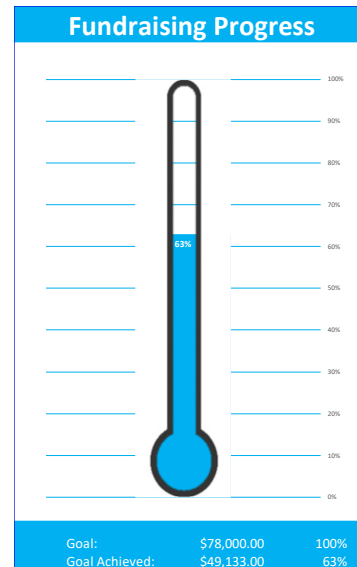
For more details about the book club, please speak to Sandra Loughton, Facilitator. New members warmly welcome in the fall!

church news

Cash Cards: The cash card fundraising program for RHUC is back up and running! Through our Cash Card program, you can buy cash cards from dozens of merchants: all major grocery stores, gas stations, hardware stores, such as Indigo, Tim Hortons, Star Bucks, Home Hardware, Rona, The Bay, Winners, Jack Astor's, Moxie's Classic Grill, Pizza Pizza, Petro Canada, Shell, Shoppers Drug Mart, Staples, Pier 1 Imports and more!

By purchasing cash cards you are giving back 1 – 10 % of your total purchase to RHUC! Please have your order emailed to office@rhuc.org by **Mon., Sept. 20**. You can etransfer payment to office@rhuc.org, drop off your payment to the office or slip it through the mail slot on Centre St. [order form](#)

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 etransfer to office@rhuc.org, cheque or CanadaHelps.org. We have reached 63%



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

outreach

Wake the Giant Music Festival and Community Building (news from Thunder Bay) Most of us know Sean Spenrath, 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. 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 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!

Author Visit with David A. Robertson (Indigenous Writer) at the Richmond Hill Public Library:

Zoom programs

Mon. Sep 27, 2021 - 6:59pm - Mon. Sep 27, 2021 - 8:00pm

Ages: Family (ideal for ages 9 and up)

Meet award-winning author David A. Robertson, who will be visiting us over Zoom in honour of the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Learn about David's many publications for young readers and adults, and hear about his journey as an Indigenous writer in Canada. Presentation will be followed by a Q&A. [REGISTER](#)

This program will be done through Zoom, a free video conferencing software for tablets, smartphones and computers. Access instructions will be sent to those who register.



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.)

If you have any questions please contact Marj at marj@marjandre.com or Mary at kotmmk@gmail.com

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.

net zero

In late August, the IPCC put out the [6th Assessment Report](#) on the climate crisis. We had been told in the [October 2018 report](#) that 1.5°C increase in warming would bring changes with risks humans could accept, but 2°C or higher warming would bring risks that we would deeply regret and that would be long-term climate changes. The new report indicates that we are currently on a trajectory to reach 3°C above normal by 2100.

The Summary for Policy Makers gives the main points in somewhat simpler language. I also find the [IPCC Press Release](#) is easier to understand. In it we find this statement: The report provides new estimates of the chances of crossing the global warming level of 1.5°C in the next decades, and finds that unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to close to 1.5°C or even 2°C will be beyond reach.

Richmond Hill United Church is acting on the information in this report by communicating its content to the congregation and by instituting changes in the physical church. We also want to help our congregation make the lifestyle changes necessary. Please contact me (targetclimatechange@gmail.com) if you want to talk about this (I can set up a zoom call if you want to talk).

DO NOT DOUBT THAT THERE IS STILL A WAY TO FOR THE PLANET TO **NOT** PASS THE 1.5°C THRESHOLD. If we can do this, the evidence suggests that some cooling would occur by the end of the century (many changes, such as the loss of our ice sheets, will not be brought back for centuries to millennia unfortunately).



These changes will require organization and willingness on our part. This week we remember the incredible response in a short time by the people of Gander. We can do this as well - but we need that spirit of generosity in all of us.

**Please attend one of the two Lunch and Learn Sessions:
October 24**

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

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.

We know we will need mental health support through this crisis - and our kids will need support as well. Along with the Lunch and Learns, we are hoping to host a biweekly climate support drop-in. This will be a time where we will gather to grieve and comfort each other as best we can.

The first Climate support group will be on September 25th at 3:00 pm and this is the zoom link for that event:

RHUC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Climate support group**

Time: Sep 25, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81989456204?pwd=Y2FNR0pnbHpuVm4zcjNUUUZuY0NVdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 8945 6204

Passcode: 425084

One tap mobile

+15873281099,,81989456204#,,,,*425084# Canada

+16473744685,,81989456204#,,,,*425084# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 819 8945 6204

Passcode: 425084

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81989456204?pwd=Y2FNR0pnbHpuVm4zcjNUUUZuY0NVdz09>

The truth isn't easy to hear, but it is much better than pretending that all is well when it is not.

Community news

Richmond Hill Village

ART WALK

Experience the joy of original artwork at this outdoor show

Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 11 a.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 above location.

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