



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

December 7, 2025



WELCOME TO ALL!

Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 3.
We broadcast our services on our YouTube Channel, live-streamed beginning at 10:30 a.m.
and recorded and posted for later viewing.

The recordings of the services can be found on our YouTube page:
<https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791>

Our office hours: Tuesday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Spirit of Hope is an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada
striving to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

GOD BLESS YOU. WE ARE NOT ALONE!

ADVENT 1 - HOPE
Nov 30

ADVENT 2 - PEACE
Dec 7
Giving Tree -
Toy donations for Bissell

ADVENT 3 - JOY
Dec 14
Chancel Ringers

ADVENT 4 - LOVE
Dec 21
Lessons & Carols Service
Christmas Lunch
Donations to SEEDS

Advent Services

Sundays at 10:30 am







**STAY UP TO DATE AND
SHARE THE NEWS!**



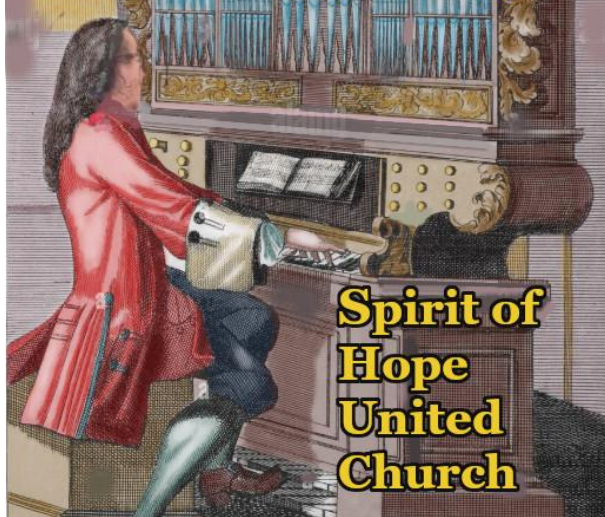
Find us at www.spiritofhope.ca or like us on Facebook and
Instagram – share our posts with your family and friends.
If you have an announcement to place in The Spark, please call
Catherine in the office at **780-468-1418** or email to
officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca

A Christmas Recital:

In Dulci Jubilo

Warren Mack, organ

December 7, 12:45



**Spirit of
Hope
United
Church**



Christmas Giving Tree

HELP BRING JOY TO FAMILIES IN NEED!



We are collecting new, unwrapped
gifts for the Bissell Holiday Toy Drive

INFANTS (0-2): musical toys, rattles, shape stackers, board books

CHILDREN (3-11): picture books, graphic novels, sporting goods,
craft & science sets, puzzles, art supplies, dolls, building toys,
vehicle toys, animal toys

YOUTH (12+): gift cards, sporting goods, sealed cosmetics, board
games, puzzles, art supplies

*Please, no used items, food or candy.

Drop off donations at Spirit of Hope United Church
7909 82 Ave NW

Sunday, Nov 30 or Dec 7 OR
Tues, Wed, Thurs between 10 am - 2 pm

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE

The 2026 Spirit of Hope United Church weekly offering
envelopes are now available for pickup in the Lobby.

If you don't see your envelopes, please contact the
office at officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca or call
780-468-1418, and we will be happy to prepare a set
for you.

Thank you!

ETHEL JAMIESON

We share with sadness that Ethel Jamieson, a long-
time member of Avonmore United Church, who was
born in 1921 and passed away on December 1st, 2025.
at the age of 104.

Her obituary will be available on the Serenity Funeral
Service website.

**KEEP A LOOKOUT! –
DECEMBER ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN**

This December, Edmonton will be the focus of a new United Church of Canada advertising campaign which aims to spark curiosity and spiritual reflection during the Christmas season through digital billboards in high-traffic areas near United Church communities. The advertisements will use the *A Place at the Table* image, a reimagining of Da Vinci’s *Last Supper* as a representation of our faith community: one committed to welcoming people of all backgrounds, identities, and experiences.



The billboards will include the United Church crest and name, as well as a URL with information about the image and a map with a listing of local congregations. Keep an eye out for the ads and an ear to the ground to listen to what people are saying about the campaign!

Let’s be prepared to welcome new people who may come through our doors this season looking for a place to belong.



Sunday Movie Afternoon



Frozen Sing-Along

**DECEMBER 14
12:30 PM**

Spirit of Hope United Church
7909 Whyte (82) Ave NW



SPIRITOFHOPE.CA 780 468 1418 OFFICEADMIN.SPIRITOFHOPE@SHAW.CA

SPREADING WARMTH AND KINDNESS

A huge thank you for donation of **13 pairs of slippers, 14 pairs of mittens, 20 toques, 2 scarves** and a bag of “frilly” dress scarves this week.

They will be a welcome gift for those in need.
Thank you again.



Tuesday, December 16 at 7 pm

Celebrate this special season with friends, family and neighbours.
Sing your favourite Christmas carols.
Then enjoy visiting while you enjoy hot cider and seasonal treats.
No charge. Donations appreciated to cover costs.
All are welcome!!

Spirit of Hope United Church 7909 82 Ave. NW

**CHRISTMAS SALE AND ARTISAN MARKET
BROUGHT MANY SMILES AND GOOD CHEER**

A big thank you to all who participated in making the November 22, 2025, Christmas Bake Sale and Artisan Market such a big success!

More than 120 people from the community came by during the day to purchase puzzles, scrumptious baked goods and the delicious beef-on-a-bun lunch prepared by Chris and Jagger — and to meet and buy from the 19 vendors who set up in the Lower Hall.

More than 50 members of our community of faith attended and helped with the many tasks involved, including Heather Baker who coordinated the volunteers and Roslyn Thomson who was the vendor liaison.

A big thanks to the Ladies Group and others who did all the baking and, under the leadership of Fay Longson, worked in the kitchen and hall with Chris and Jagger.

An estimated \$2,600 was raised by the Ladies Group and another \$300 by members of the Chancel Ringers whose puzzle sale proceeds will be used for bell repair, music and other supplies



Photo courtesy of Lisa Bahnsen



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Check out the great volunteer opportunities during coffee time today.

Your assistance helps your Spirit of Hope family in working towards its vision.

If you, or anyone you know needs volunteer hours for school or your resume we can provide documentation.



CITY CHURCH CURLING CLUB:
SPRING SEASON STARTS SOON

City Church Curling Club is looking forward to another great spring season of curling at the Shamrock Curling Club, 9330 - 80 Avenue NW.

The season will begin January 5 to March 16 at 9:30 a.m., Monday morning.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact president, Larry at 780 462 6167 or Carol at 780 435 6832.

COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND
UPCOMING EVENTS

The Northern Spirit Regional Council is dedicated to fostering community and faith through various events and activities. To learn more about the upcoming events open to the public, please visit the Community of Faith Events Calendar.

Stay connected and get involved by exploring the diverse offerings across the region. You can find the calendar here:

<https://northernspiritrc.ca/community-of-faith-events-calendar/>

We hope to see you at one of these events soon!

BEING KIND AND CARING
FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS!

Since Covid-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Influenza and other infectious conditions will always be with us, those who are feeling ill, have recently been exposed to an infection or have significant health issues are encouraged to attend online services and meetings. When food is served in the church, groups are encouraged to use servers or set out food in individual portions.

Masks are available at the Welcome Desk and hand sanitizer is in the Lobby and the Lower Hall. Portable HEPA filters are in the Sanctuary, Church School Room and Youth Room. They can be moved to other spaces as needed.

The current practice on Sunday is:

- Bread and juice for communion will be served in individual portions.

The Leadership Team will continue to review church practices in response to changing circumstances.

Save These Dates!

DECEMBER 2025

Sun. December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.

Sun. December 7 - A Christmas Organ Recital "I Dulci Jublio" - 12:45 p.m.

Mon. December 8 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Sun. December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.

Sun. December 14 - Afternoon Movie "Frozen - Sing-Along" - 12:30 p.m.

Mon. December 15 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Tue. December 16 - Carols and Treats - 7:00 p.m.

Sun. December 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.

Sun. December 21 - Christmas Lunch- Donations to SEEDS - 12:00 p.m.

Sun. December 21 - Shortest Day Service To Remember Our Loved Ones - 2:30 p.m.

Wed. December 24 - All Ages Christmas Eve Service - 4:30 p.m.

Wed. December 24 - Communion Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 7:30 p.m.

Thu. December 25 - Christmas Day

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
DECEMBER 7TH TO DECEMBER 14TH, 2025

Sun. December 7	10:30 a.m. 12:45 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 A Christmas Organ Recital “I Dulci Jublio” (Sanctuary) Private Booking (Gym)
Mon. December 8	4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Monday Hang Outs (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. December 9	9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) The Edmonton Needlecraft Guild (Lower Hall)
Wed. December 10	1:30 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby)
Thu. December 11	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	pflag (Lower Hall) Private Booking (Gym) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. December 12	7:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) 321 Fun! (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sat. December 13	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) Private Booking (Gym) pflag – Home for the Holidays (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. December 14	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Third Sunday of Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie – Frozen Sing-Along (Lower Hall and Kitchen)

NOTES

- Anne's Kinder Kastle Daycare has use of the kitchen as needed during the day on Mondays to Fridays (for breakfast and lunch preparation and cleanup). They also have access to the gym for a one-hour period on some days. The gym is not available for active or noisy games from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please contact our administrator, Catherine, so arrangements for use of these spaces can be coordinated with the Daycare.
- With others interested in renting space in our newly renovated building, it is important to ensure that the room or space needed for Spirit of Hope group activities and special events has been booked through our office. These are posted on our Google calendar posted on our website and in THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE. **Please contact our office administrator Catherine to find out what space is available and to book the space you need.**
- There is a simple form on our "Contact Us" page at: <https://www.spiritofhope.ca/contact> you are welcome to use.

SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH
7909-82 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T6C 0Y1
Telephone: 780-468-1418
Email: officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca
Rev. Blaine Gregg: minister.spiritofhope@shaw.ca
Catherine Evoy, Office Administrator
Leo, Custodian

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Our office hours are Tuesday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Spirit of Hope is an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada
striving to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

WIFI ACCESS WHILE AT CHURCH
Network: Spirit of Hope Guest
Password: SOHGuest