



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

FEBRUARY 15, 2026



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!

SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH – 2025 CHARITABLE TAX RECEIPTS

The 2025 charitable tax receipts are now available for pick-up in the church Lobby for the next two Sundays. Any remaining receipts will be mailed out on Monday, February 23.

Thank you very much for your generous contributions and continued support!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tues, Feb 17
5:30 - 6:30 pm

Tickets: \$5 - adults
\$3 - under 16 yrs.
\$15 - family

7 pm - Ash Wednesday Service
Spirit of Hope United Church
(7909 82 Ave NW)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 17!

Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and Ash Wednesday service

On **Tuesday, February 17** we will be having a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner followed by an Ash Wednesday service.

The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and is followed at 7:00 p.m. by an Ash Wednesday service, all in the Lower Hall.

The pancake dinner will include pancakes, sausages, and fruit. Gluten free options will be available.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 16 years old, and a maximum of \$15 for a family of 2 adults and children.

Tickets will be on sale after the service this morning.

Helpers for setup and cleanup are appreciated. There will be a signup sheet at the ticket sales table.



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



No charge
Everyone welcome

COMMUNITY OPEN MIC
HOSTED BY MARIE FONTAINE
Come early to sign up.

Poetry, humour, stories, dance, snacks & more

Sat, Feb 21
6:30 - 8:30 pm
(Doors - 6:00)

Spirit of Hope United Church
7909 Whyte (82) Ave



SUNDAY MOVIE AFTERNOON ZOOTOPIA FEBRUARY 22, 2026 12:30 P.M.

Join us for a Sunday movie afternoon featuring **Zootopia** on February 22, 2026. The movie will begin at **12:30 p.m. in the Lower Hall.**



Zootopia is an animated adventure that follows a determined rabbit police officer and a sly fox as they work together to solve a mysterious case in a city where predators and prey live side by side.

After enjoying the film, you are invited to join a Zoom discussion later that evening at 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91937034300?pwd=rZ18hVJhjaqbzyMBtkAHgZlW4kaMmB.1>

Meeting ID: 919 3703 4300

Passcode: 623451

Everyone is welcome to come, watch, and share their thoughts.

Youth Empowered Together

Mondays | 4-6pm | 7909 82 Ave NW

Edmonton, AB

Hangouts for Queer and Allied Youth

Free Youth-led Events and Activities

Games, Crafts, Friends, and Food!

Young adults welcome

@yetedmonton yetedmonton@gmail.com

PRAYER SERVICES IN LENT

United Churches are coming together for special prayer services on **Sunday**

afternoons at 4:00 p.m. during the season of Lent to pray for the renewal of the church, discernment of congregations for future witness and ministry, the work of the regional council, the plans of the National Church for Vision 2035, strength and equipping of leadership for the present time, current concerns for the community, nation, and world.

- February 22: Pilgrim United (9008 135 Ave NW, Edmonton)
- March 1: Spirit of Hope United (7909 82 Ave NW, Edmonton)
- March 8: First United (5115 51 Ave, Wetaskiwin)
- March 15: Highlands United (11305 64 St NW, Edmonton)
- March 22: St. David's United (4614 48 St, Leduc)
- March 29: Grace United (6215 104 Ave NW, Edmonton)

People can also join in by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86475167860?pwd=HKXBqMbin1oADzFCfbapYgKa9bLz0c.1>

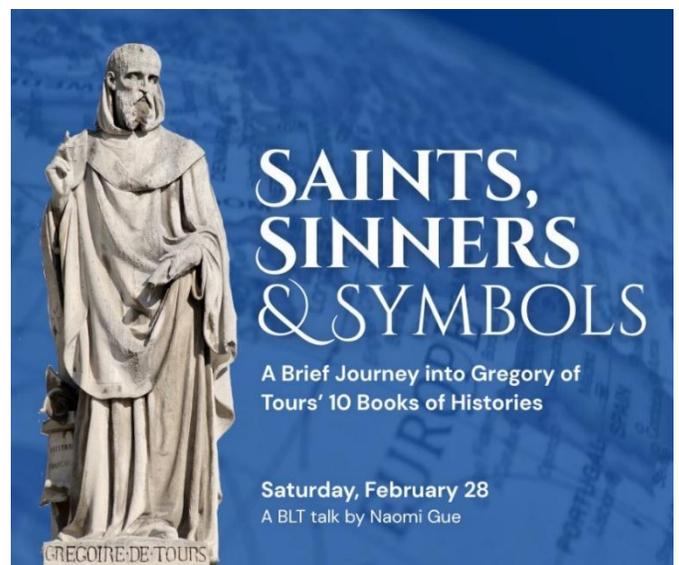
Meeting ID: 864 7516 7860; Passcode: 803578

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Check out the great volunteer opportunities during coffeetime 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



IT'S BREAKFAST TIME AGAIN!

The next BLT! Breakfast will be held at **8:45 a.m.** on **Saturday, February 28.**

Our guest speaker will be Naomi Gue who will talk about "*Saints, Sinners, and Symbols: A Brief Journey into Gregory of Tours' 10 Books of Histories*".

Tickets will be on sale in the Lower Hall after the service.



IMAGINE CHILDREN'S RETREAT 2026

Imagine Children's Retreat (ages 8-12) by First Third Ministry offer a fun, welcoming United Church of Canada experience for children and leaders of all backgrounds and family types.

Children explore faith through stories, worship, music, drama, play, and community in a safe, inclusive setting.

Learn more & register:

<https://www.firstthirdministry.ca/imaginechildrensretreat.html>

NARRATIVE BUDGET DISCUSSION



In preparation for the Annual Meeting, after church on **Sunday, March 8th** (about 11:30 a.m.), there will be an opportunity to understand and discuss the 2025 financial statements and the proposed 2026 budget. You can also join by Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86294123712?pwd=HynLlIeruA4gaiBVBbE8RGIORk8IKgH.1>.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Everyone interested in the life of Spirit of Hope United Church is invited to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting after church on **Sunday, March 15th** (about 12:00 p.m.(noon)). You can also join by Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86294123712?pwd=HynLlIeruA4gaiBVBbE8RGIORk8IKgH.1>.

The 2025 Annual Reports should be available to read and explore by March 1st.



SPIRIT OF HOPE LEADERSHIP TEAM

OFFICERS

- Chair (two year term, non-renewable)
- Vice Chair (one year term, non-renewable) or
- Past Chair (one year term, non-renewable)
- Secretary (one year term, renewable)
- Treasurer (one year, renewable)
- Minister (ex officio)

FAITH IN ACTION TEAM LEADS (alternating two year terms, renewable)

- Just & Caring Community (2 positions)
- Learning & Growth (2 positions)
- Worship (2 positions)

CHAIRS & REPRESENTATIVES (appointed by committee annually)

- Board of Trustees
- Communications Committee
- Ministry & Personnel Committee
- Property, Finance & Stewardship Committee
- Northern Spirit Regional Rep

Six positions will need to be filled on the Leadership Team (church board) at the **Annual Congregational Meeting on March 15th, 2026**.

- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- One Just and Caring Community FIAT Co-lead
- One Learning and Growth FIAT Co-lead
- One Worship FIAT Co-lead

Except for the Vice Chair, current position holders are eligible to be re-nominated.

The Nominations Committee has found people willing to take on each of these positions, but additional nominations are welcome. To express interest or for more information, please contact the church office.

2ND ANNUAL South East Edmonton Community Fair

MARCH 14 1 - 4 PM
Spirit of Hope United Church (7909 82 Ave.)

CONNECT WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LEARN HOW THEY ARE WORKING IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS TO HELP CREATE A THRIVING, INCLUSIVE, AND VIBRANT SOUTH EAST EDMONTON FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!

LIGHT SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!
COFFEE SUPPLIED BY CANDID COFFEE ROASTERS!

REGISTER FOR FREE!

4B Harm Reduction Society • BGC Bigs • Boyle St. Community Services • City of Edmonton • Coun. Ashley Salvador • CHEW Project • Dreams Gymnastics • Edmonton Women's Support Group • Edmonton Public Library • Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues • Edmonton Police Service • NET • Edmonton Transit Service • George Spady Society • Girl Guides • Kenilworth Youth Group • HERE • Homeward Trust • Impact Martial Arts • The Men's Shed • M.L.A. Marlin Schmidt • Mustard Seed • Nickela Anderson, Ward D trustee • REACH • SAGE • Sahelian YEG (SA Women) • Saadiq Sumar, Ward G trustee • SEESA • SEECC • SECLA • Spirit of Hope United Church • St. David's Welsh Male Voice Choir • Youth Empowered Support Services • Youth Empowered Together • YouCan Youth Services

TAKING CARE OF OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Infectious conditions such as the common cold, influenza, Covid-19, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) are affecting some of us. If you are feeling ill, have recently been exposed to an infection or have significant health issues, you are encouraged to stay home and attend online services and meetings. When food is served in the church, groups are encouraged to take precautions to prevent or slow down the spread of germs by, for example, having servers or setting out food in individual portions.

Spirit of Hope has masks available at the Welcome Desk and hand sanitizer as you enter the Lobby, Sanctuary and 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 communion practice on bi-monthly first Sundays is to have individual portions of bread and juice available.

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

YET'S QUEER TALENT SHOWCASE
And Resource Fair!

Apply To Perform!



March 21
2-5pm
7909 82 Ave NW



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!



JAZZ & REFLECTIONS

A Sunday afternoon of jazz and spiritual reflection

MAR 29 - PJ PERRY QUARTET
 APR 12 - ALLEN JACOBSON TRIO
 APR 19 - SHELLEY JONES TRIO
 APR 26 - DOUG BERNER TRIO
 MAY 3 - JACOB DO TRIO

Sundays from 3:30 to 5 pm

Admission by donation at the door.
Refreshments will be served.

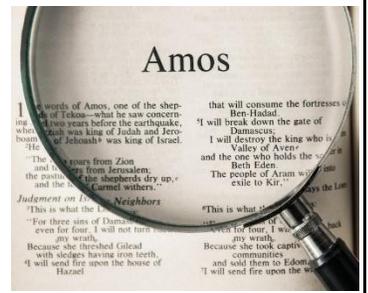
Spirit of Hope United Church 7909 82 Ave NW

**ONLINE BIBLE STUDY
 AMOS – A PROPHET
 OF RESISTANCE**

Gather to discuss the Book of Amos over four Wednesday evenings:
April 8, 15, 22, 29
 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86048937851?pwd=dppoit3Y0xobhLke1FM4pxpMJzclbpb.1>

Meeting ID: 860 4893 7851 Passcode: 976154



SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH

GARAGE SALE

OFFERS YOU CAN'T RESIST, RIGHT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



jewelry • housewares • gardening • puzzles
• sports equipment • tools • toys
• small furniture • home decor, etc.

SAT APRIL 18
 10:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
 7909 82 AVE NW

Save These Dates!

FEBRUARY TO MARCH 2026

- Sun. February 15 - Ecumenical Prayer Services in Style of Taizé - 7:00 p.m.
 - Mon. February 16 - Family Day
 - Tue. February 17 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Services of Ashes - 5:30 p.m.
 - Sat. February 21 - Family Open Mic - 6:30 p.m.
 - Sun. February 22 - Movie Afternoon *Zootopia* - 12:30 p.m.
 - Mon. February 23 - YET Hangout For Youth and Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sat. February 28 - BLT! Breakfast - 8:45 a.m.
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- Sun. March 1 - Lenten Prayer Service - 4:00 p.m.
 - Mon. March 2 - YET Hangout For Youth and Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sun. March 8 - Spirit of Hope United Church Narrative Budget - 11:30 a.m.
 - Mon. March 9 - YET Hangout For Youth and Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sat. March 14 - SE Edmonton Community Resource Fair - 1:00 p.m.
 - Sun. March 15 - Spirit of Hope Annual Congregational Meeting and PIE Day - 12:30 p.m.
 - Mon. March 16 - YET Hangout For Youth and Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sat. March 21 - YET Queer Talent Showcase and Resource Fair- 2:00 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: FEBRUARY 15TH TO FEBRUARY 22ND, 2026

Sun. February 15	10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Ecumenical Prayer Services in the style of Taizé (Sanctuary and Lobby)
Mon. February 16		FAMILY DAY (SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH CLOSED)
Tue. February 17	9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) Spirit of Hope United Church Ladies Group (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Communications Committee Meeting (Zoom) Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Services of Ashes (Lower Hall and Kitchen) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Wed. February 18	9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Ministry and Personnel Meeting (Zoom) Creative Connections (Lobby) Pursuers Toastmasters (Multipurpose Room 2) Stewardship Team Meeting (Zoom)
Thu. February 19	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. February 20	9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) pflag (Lower Hall)
Sat. February 21	8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) Family Open Mic (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. February 22	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie <i>Zootopia</i> (Lower Hall) Movie Discussion <i>Zootopia</i> (Zoom)

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