



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

JULY 13, 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.

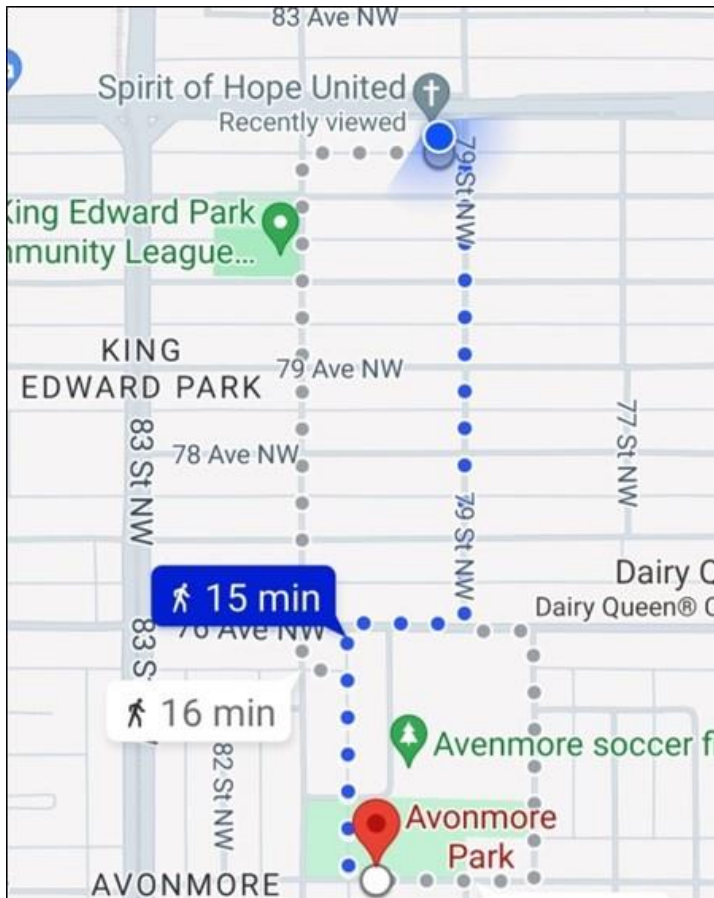
Spirit of Hope is an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada striving to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

GOD BLESS YOU. WE ARE NOT ALON

OUTDOOR CHURCH SERVICES

July 13 and 20, 2025

Today's 10:30 a.m. worship service will be held in Avonmore Park (nine blocks south of the church). Bring a lawn chair if you can.



BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Breakfast Fellowship is held at a restaurant on the third Saturday of every second month.

The next one will be on **Saturday, July 19, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at Albert's Restaurant at 5107 - 99 Street.**

If you are interested in joining us, RSVP by email to bev8582@telus.net or by calling Bev Moore at 780-439-8582.



ICPM LUNCH

It's summer, and that means Spirit of Hope's turn for providing lunch after a downtown church service led by the Inner-City Pastoral Ministry is just around the corner (Sunday, August 3). We are asked to provide 200 lunches. Last year, we did... and we still had people in line. The cost of a lunch is about \$6. If you would like to make a donation to pay for a lunch, thank you! Please place your donation in an envelope marked "ICPM lunch".

Volunteers will be needed in the afternoon, Saturday, August 2 to put the lunches together (the more the merrier), and then on Sunday, August 3 to take the lunches downtown and then serve them after the service (3-4 people).

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.



HEY SPIRIT OF HOPE KIDS, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS!

Got something cool to say or show?

A poem? A photo? A short story? A doodle? A deep thought or funny moment?

We want to share your awesome creations with the whole congregation!

✨ We're saving a special spot just for **YOU** on the front page of The Spark! ✨

So go ahead—get creative and send your masterpiece to officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca, drop it off at the **church office**, or pop it into the **OFFICE mail slot**.

We can't wait to see what you've got!



STAY UP TO DATE AND SHARE THE NEWS!

Find us at www.spiritofhope.ca or like us on Facebook – 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

OH, SEE OUR GARDENS GROW!

Since the beginning of this year’s growing season, we have had a continuous parade of colour and beauty in the gardens at Spirit of Hope. A big thank you to those who have given of their time, skills and financial resources. This includes Katharine Moore, Christine Gue, Heather and Pat Buckie, Cathy Martin and Kristy Miller – and to Leo who keeps the gardens watered during the week. Here are a few photos for your enjoyment.



Early on, several bleeding-heart plants were in bloom in the front of the church. Then the peonies came along the west side of the building.



Roses, irises and yellow coreopsis plants have followed, with geraniums planted.



Pansies and petunias were added to give colour and variety.



In addition to perennial and annual ornamental plants and flowers, the Church School children and teachers have planted a variety of vegetables, including chard, lettuce and potatoes (shown above).



Our perennial strawberry patch is bursting with berries now!

You are invited to stop and enjoy the gardens in person whenever you are at the church!

Photos by Susan Bramm and Catherine Evoy (strawberries)

THE LIBRARY ROLLS INTO MAUDE BELL PARK THIS SUMMER!

The Edmonton Public Library brings the library to the nearby Maude Bell Park (73 Street and 78 Avenue NW) on **Wednesdays between July 9 – August 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

EPL2Go brings the library to you, creating pop-up library spaces where you can get a library card, return a book, play with a robot and take part in programming right in the neighbourhood.



LOVE, FAITH AND BOLD ACTION LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN

You can continue to make an impact for PRIDE 2025 by joining this important United Church campaign, urging the Canadian government to uphold and advance the rights of gender-diverse and 2S and LGBTQIA+ people around the globe—your voice truly makes a difference.

Visit The United Church of Canada website to learn more about this campaign and discover how you can get involved.

Apology to 2S and LGBTQIA+ Communities



FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, AT 9:00 A.M. FORMAL APOLOGY TO 2S AND LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITIES

Join in person at Knox United Church in Calgary, register for the Zoom event or join with others viewing the live stream at Spirit of Hope United Church as the United Church of Canada offers a somber and historic apology to 2S and LGBTQIA+ communities.

This formal apology reaffirms our commitment to radical hospitality and full inclusion of 2S and LGBTQIA+ people in all aspects of church life. It acknowledges past harm and shortcomings, while continuing to build towards a world of radical love and affirmation for all identities.

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://northernspiritr.ca/community-of-faith-events-calendar/>

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

HYMN SELECTIONS

The last Sunday of every month is Celebration Sunday at Spirit of Hope. What would you like to sing during the hymn sing that day, or during an upcoming worship service?



Please put your suggestions in the Favourite Hymn box on the Welcome Desk.

PROMOTING EVENTS

There are many simple ways that you can support Spirit of Hope by promoting the many community events and fundraisers.

Even if you aren't able to attend an event you can:



- Share upcoming events with friends and family.
- Take posters or handbills to neighbourhood businesses. Many stores and coffee shops have bulletin boards.
- Follow the Spirit of Hope Facebook page. 'Like' and share upcoming events on your page.
- Request electronic versions of posters from Catherine to share by email.

Posters and handbills for most events are available on the Welcome Desk.

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.

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

Save These Dates!

Sun. July 13 - Outdoor Sunday Worship (Avonmore Park)

Sat. July 19 - Breakfast Fellowship - 9:30 a.m.

Sun. July 20 - Outdoor Sunday Worship (Avonmore Park)

Sun. August 3 - Inner City Pastoral Ministry Lunch - 12:00 p.m.

Mon. August 4 - Heritage Day

Mon. September 1 - Labour Day

Sun. September 14 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.

Sat. September 20 - BLT! Breakfast - 8:45 a.m.

Sun. September 21 - Community BBQ and Showcase

Sun. September 28 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
JULY 13TH TO JULY 20TH, 2025

Sun. July 13	10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Worship Service (Avonmore Park - 7920 73 Avenue NW)
Mon. July 14	7:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Tue. July 15	7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall) Stretch and Flex (Sanctuary) Tuesday Hymn Sing (Zoom) https://zoom.us/j/95014510572?pwd=cWw1QTZiMXhDbWFwYmhoa0drTIBDQT09
Wed. July 16	7:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall) Creative Connections (Lobby)
Thu. July 17	7:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall) Private Booking (Gym)
Fri. July 18	7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall) Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym and Kitchen)
Sat. July 19	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) Breakfast Fellowship (Albert's Restaurant at 5107 - 99 Street NW)
Sun. July 20	10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Worship Service (Avonmore Park - 7920 73 Avenue NW)

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.

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WIFI ACCESS WHILE AT CHURCH

Network: Spirit of Hope Guest

Password: SOHGuest