



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

JUNE 14, 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!

Come as you are!
You're welcome here.

crafts free! food
WiFi fun friends
games sym sensory friendly

**Monday Hangouts
for Queer & Allied Youth
and Young Adults**

Mondays 4-6 pm
7909 Whyte (82) Ave

**youth
empowered
together**

@yetcdmonton yetcdmonton@gmail.com

This is a non-religious community program planned by
queer youth and hosted by Spirit of Hope United Church

NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

If you are moving or changing your phone number or
e-mail address, please let Catherine in the office know.

Some greeting cards have been returned "moved – no
forwarding address" and we would like to stay
connected!



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



Find us at www.spiritofhope.ca or follow 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

Spirit of Hope
UNITED CHURCH

Community Pride

Saturday, June 20

3:30 - Crafts & Games
5:00 - Potluck Supper
6:30 - Open Mic with
Marie Fontaine

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

SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHUCH LADIES GROUP END OF YEAR POTLUCK

The Spirit of Hope Ladies Group invites the
congregation to participate in our year-end potluck
lunch on **June 23, 2026**.

We plan to gather at 11:30 a.m. after our short
business meeting, and eat at 11:45 a.m.

If you would like to join us, please bring a hot or cold
dish, salad, dessert or appetizer to share. We look
forward to gathering for a meal!

If you have questions, please get in touch with Helen
or Bev by leaving a message at the Church Office.

Spirit of Hope
UNITED CHURCH

Sunday Movie Afternoon
Paddington In Peru

June 28 at 12:30

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

All are welcome. No charge.
Popcorn provided.



CELEBRATING AFFIRMIVERSARY IN STYLE!

On Sunday, June 7, we celebrated our fifth anniversary of choosing to become an Affirming Ministry. The service was planned and delivered by members of our Affirm Team. Roslyn Thomson decorated our sanctuary, and our YET group, along with Roslyn, decorated the Lower Hall for the lunch celebration that followed the service. Thank you to all who participated in this great event! Thank you, as well, to all who brought finger food to our potluck lunch and all those who dressed in Pride colours for the celebration. A big thank you to Roslyn for the beautiful rainbow cake!



YOUTH COUNCIL OF NORTHERN SPIRIT

Do you know a high school student who’s interested in faith, community, and justice? Applications for the Youth Council of Northern Spirit are now open to youth age 14-17 (or, entering grades 10-12 in September 2026). The Youth Council of Northern Spirit partners with youth from other regions to build community and grow in leadership. Members meet online during the year and in person at Uncharted – the annual senior youth retreat. Youth Council Members will also attend the Northern Spirit Regional Gathering (November 10 and 12, 2026). For more information, contact KGuentherTrautwein@united-church.ca or visit firstthirdministry.ca/youth-council
APPLY HERE:
<https://form.jotform.com/242146880537057>



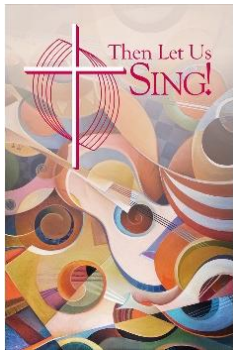
HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!

Thanks to YET for refreshing the paint on the front stairs! The weather finally cooperated so they could brighten everyone's day.

HELP NEEDED:
CHURCH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS



We are looking for volunteers to help cover the church office while Catherine, Spirit of Hope United Church Office Administrator, is away from **Tuesday, July 14 to Tuesday, July 21 ,2026.** Office hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Duties include responding to urgent emails and phone calls, along with a few light administrative tasks. If you are available, even for just one day, please contact the church office. Thank you for your support!



THEN LET US SING (TLUS)

Thanks so much to those who donated twenty-seven copies of TLUS to Spirit of Hope. These books will soon be available for people to use during the service. Please let Catherine know if you would like a memorial bookplate place in a book donated by you.

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.

Your generosity makes a difference.

Scan this QR code to donate to Spirit of Hope United Church through CanadaHelps.org.



SUMMER LEARNING AND FUN

St. Albert United Church Vacation Bible School,
July 27 – 31, 2026 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Changing the Game: Learning to Live in God’s Love, will be a board-game-themed week of FUN with singing, worship, prayer and connection for children from Kindergarten to Grade 5. Older students are also invited to join us as volunteers. Registration is now open - cost is \$30 per participant. Check out full details at: www.stalbertunited.com/vbs

Family Trip Program, Narrow Lake, AB

Emberwood is partnering with Edmonton Forest School to offer a family trip program with accommodation for one night (one cabin per family) from August 22-23, 2026. The program is offered on a sliding scale - \$375-\$550, including all meals, programming for children and adults and pre-session playdates (April 19, May 31, June 14, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Transportation to and from Narrow Lake is also available. For full information, email howdy@emberwood.ca

CAMPUS UNITED AT UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Campus United is seeking individuals to fill the role of Community Connector for a one-year contract on a full/part-time basis (30 hours/week July-August, 6-8 hours/week September-May). This position pays \$21 per hour. Successful candidates need to be willing to lead in an affirming (meaning LGBTQIA2S+ inclusive) religious community whose values include bold discipleship, daring social justice, and deep spirituality. For more information and to apply, visit <https://ca.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=3c8c05f64b55cacc>

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!

PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCES (PAR)

One option for financial givings to the church is to sign up for PAR. This is an automatic monthly payment system, and your offering can be set up to be split between local givings, Mission and Service, and givings to others.

Choosing this option provides valuable stability to the church and helps us all to plan for the future.

It's also very easy! 34 households currently use PAR, and our goal is to spread the word and increase this number every year.

If you'd like to sign up for PAR, please ask for the simple application form at the Welcome Desk in the foyer, or contact Catherine in the Church Office.

For consideration when signing up - the church budgets for 10% of all offerings on average to be designated to Mission and Service, with the remainder covering our local expenses.

Thank you for considering PAR and its benefits!

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.

Musicians for
CANADA
A Benefit Concert for Canadian Unity

Tickets: \$50

WEDNESDAY JULY 22, 2026
HERITAGE AMPHITHEATRE, HAWRELAK PARK
GATES AT 2:00 MUSIC AT 3:00

SECONDHAND DREAMCAR MBIRA RENAISSANCE BAND
THE MCDADES THE GIFT: THE WORDS & MUSIC OF IAN TYSON
THE PORCH DOGS W/ GUESTS JIMMY GUIBOCHE AND TONY D
P. J. PERRY QUINTET W/ MALLORY CHIPMAN

All proceeds from this concert will be directed to the
EDMONTON FOOD BANK, THE BISSELL CENTRE, AND SANCTUARY OF PEACE.

Tickets Available at Eventbrite.com

Made possible with help from our friends at Dept. 9,
Edmonton's Premier Film & Television Studio



MAY 2026

Tracking of Givings				
Categories	Budget	5/12 Budget	Year to Date	Variance from Budget
Local Envelope Offering	\$ 179,500	\$ 74,792	\$ 67,566	\$ (7,226)
Other Receipts for Local	\$ 22,900	\$ 9,542	\$ 12,787	\$ 3,245
Givings to M&S	\$ 20,240	\$ 8,433	\$ 9,637	\$ 1,203

Save These Dates!

Sat. June 20

- 3:30 p.m. - Community Pride Fun Fest
- 5:00 p.m. - Community Pride Potluck Supper
- 6:30 p.m. - Community Pride Open Mic

Sun. June 28 - Afternoon Movie - *Paddington in Peru* - 12:30 p.m.

Wed. July 1 - Canada Day

JUNE TO JULY 2026

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
JUNE 14TH TO JUNE 21ST, 2026

Sun. June 14	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
	1:00 p.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary and Lower Hall)
Mon. June 15	9:00 a.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary)
	4:00 p.m.	YET (Youth Empowered Together) (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym)
	6:00 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Tue. June 16	9:30 a.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall)
	1:00 p.m.	Jean Fitzsimmons Memorial Service and Reception (Sanctuary, Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	2:00 p.m.	Communications Committee Meeting (Zoom)
	6:30 p.m.	Private Event (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday Hymn Sing (Zoom) https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87850083785?pwd=4EwQxk4TP3nGaKh3MSrB7brp288WWt.1
Wed. June 17	1:30 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby)
	6:00 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
	6:30 p.m.	Private Event (Sanctuary)
	6:30 p.m.	Pursuers Toastmasters (Multipurpose Room 2)
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Team Meeting (Zoom)
Thu. June 18	1:00 p.m.	Anne's Kinder Kastle Daycare Father's Day Picnic (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Fri. June 19	8:00 a.m.	South East Edmonton Summer Kickoff Celebration (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	9:00 a.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary)
	9:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen)
	3:30 p.m.	Private Booking (Kitchen)
Sat. June 20	8:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Lower Hall, Kitchen)
	3:30 p.m.	Community Pride Community Pride Fun Fest Crafts and Games (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	5:00 p.m.	Community Pride Potluck Supper (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	6:30 p.m.	Community Pride Open Mic with Marie Fontaine (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. June 21	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
	1:00 p.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary and Lower Hall)

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
780-468-1418
officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca

CHURCH STAFF
Minister: Rev. Blaine Gregg minister.spiritofhope@shaw.ca
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Lloyd Lovatt
Music Director: Warren Mack
Office Administrator: Catherine Evoy
Custodian: Leo Otayde

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