



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

JUNE 21, 2026



WELCOME TO ALL!

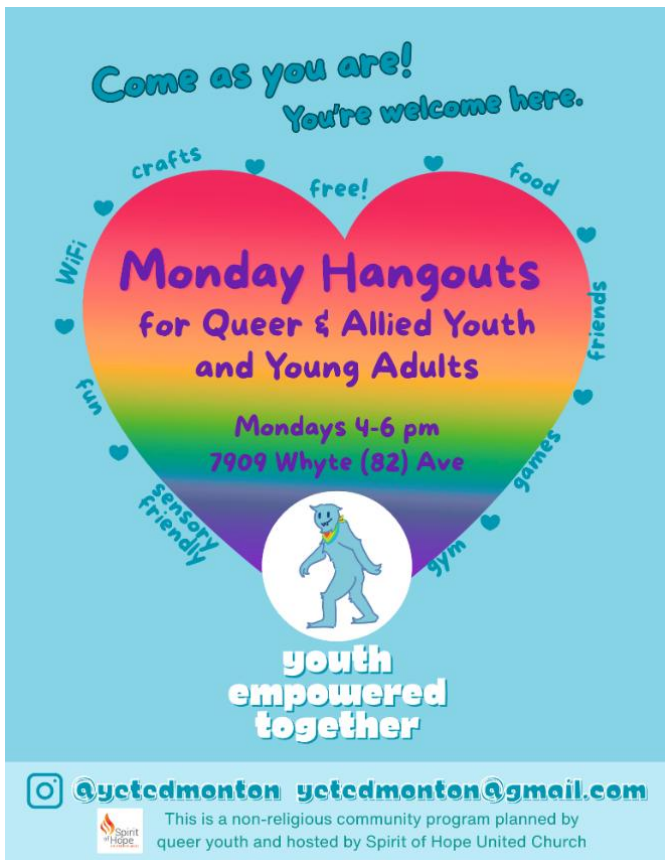
Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 3.
We broadcast our services on our YouTube Channel, live-streamed beginning at 10:30 a.m.
and recorded and posted for later viewing.

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 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 invite anyone who is interested to join us for a short meeting that will start at 10:45 a.m. After the meeting we plan to gather at 11:30 a.m. for a potluck lunch.

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.



Join the movie discussion that evening at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91937034300?pwd=rZ18hVJhjaqbzyMBtkAHgZlW4kaMbB.1>

Meeting ID: 919 3703 4300 Passcode: 623451

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>



STAY UP TO DATE AND SHARE THE NEWS!

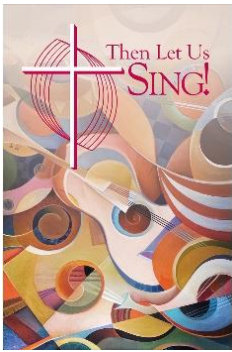


Find us at www.spiritofhope.ca or follow us on Facebook and Instagram –

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



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.

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>

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!

CURRENT ISSUES CONVERSATIONS



Is there something in the news that you would love to discuss with others? Would you be willing to explore that news through a lens of faith?

Rev. Gregg invites you to join him in conversation around a table after church some Sundays this fall for about 30-45 minutes on **September 13, October 18, November 1 and 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. (noon).**

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://northernspiritle.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!

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.

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.

SUMEMR 2026

Save These Dates!

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

Wed. July 1 - Canada Day

Sun. July 5 - Worship in Avonmore Park

Sun. July 12 - Worship in Avonmore Park, including Communion

Mon. August 3 - Heritage Day

Mon. September 7 - Labour Day

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

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
JUNE 21ST TO JUNE 28TH, 2026

Sun. June 21	10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Private Booking (Sanctuary and Lower Hall)
Mon. June 22	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary) YET (Youth Empowered Together) (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Property and Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Tue. June 23	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) Spirit of Hope United Church Ladies End of Year Potluck (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Wed. June 24	9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary) Creative Connections (Lobby)
Thu. June 25		
Fri. June 26	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Private Booking (Sanctuary) Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) pflag (Lower Hall)
Sat. June 27	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Lower Hall, Kitchen) Private Booking (Kitchen) Jane Austen Society (Lower Hall)
Sun. June 28	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie <i>Paddington in Peru</i> (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Private Booking (Sanctuary) Movie Discussion <i>Paddington in Peru</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
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