



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

JUNE 22, 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!



MOVIE THIS AFTERNOON!

At 12:30 p.m. today we will be watching the movie *The Help* in the Lower Hall after coffee time.

This movie is a dramatization of the lives of African American women who worked as housekeepers for white women in Mississippi in the 1960s.

The movie received many awards including an Oscar for Octavia Spencer.

The movie is not appropriate for younger children.

We will have a discussion of the movie by Zoom at 7:00 p.m. tonight.

Plan to join us!

Zoom link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91937034300?pwd=OU5rODVFN0F3eIVFZjNPUUdyV1FtUT09&fbclid=IwZXh0bG9hZWOCMTAAAR3-2p61i_E4HfddoWq7M7hF5hrb9fc8nXeU-7fS6oaFA83VPCuFywd-fKk_aem_rhH9e6t60Zeaqar7-bGI6A

Meeting ID: 919 3703 4300 Passcode: 623451

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

We are seeking volunteers to assist in the church office while Catherine, our Office Administrator, is away on holiday the **week of June 30, 2025**.

Volunteers will be responsible for answering the phone and responding to urgent emails during office hours from **Wednesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Your help will be greatly appreciated during this time to ensure the smooth operation of our office. If you are available and willing to lend a hand, please contact the office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your support!

BUILD YOUR OWN PIZZA

Monday, June 23, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

All youth are invited to build their own pizza - and to hang out and enjoy crafts, open gym, games and free Wi-Fi.



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!

FOURTH AFFIRMIVERSARY SERVICE CELEBRATED AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

Last Sunday, June 15, members of the Spirit of Hope Affirm team led the fourth Affirmiversary service celebrating this community of faith's learning, changing, growing together that led to the decision to be designated as an affirming congregation. Reverend Dale Johnson from Mill Woods United Church presented the reflection, "The Parable of the Good Samaritan Revisited." Reverend Dale and our Reverend Blaine completed a pulpit swap, with Blaine preaching at Mill Woods United.

The Affirm team led the congregation in a really fun rendition of the children's song "Bunnies Don't Run" by Steve Bell. A big thank you to the team for planning the service and social time following the service.



After the service we enjoyed a bounty of tasty refreshments and visiting in the Lower Hall. Thank you to Roslyn for bringing and cutting the special cake.



Reverend Dale Johnson with most of the members of the Spirit of Hope Affirm team. From left, Rev Johnson, Irene Chua, Rhys Toone, Evelyn Porter, Lisa Bahnsen, Roslyn Thomson (with Kim in foreground), Katharine Moore and Chris Meintzer. Absent from the photo: Keith Kasha, Joanie Parker and Briggs.

SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Spirit of Hope United Church office will be closed on **Friday, June 27th to July 4th, 2025**



Office hours resume on **Tuesday, July 8th, 2025.**

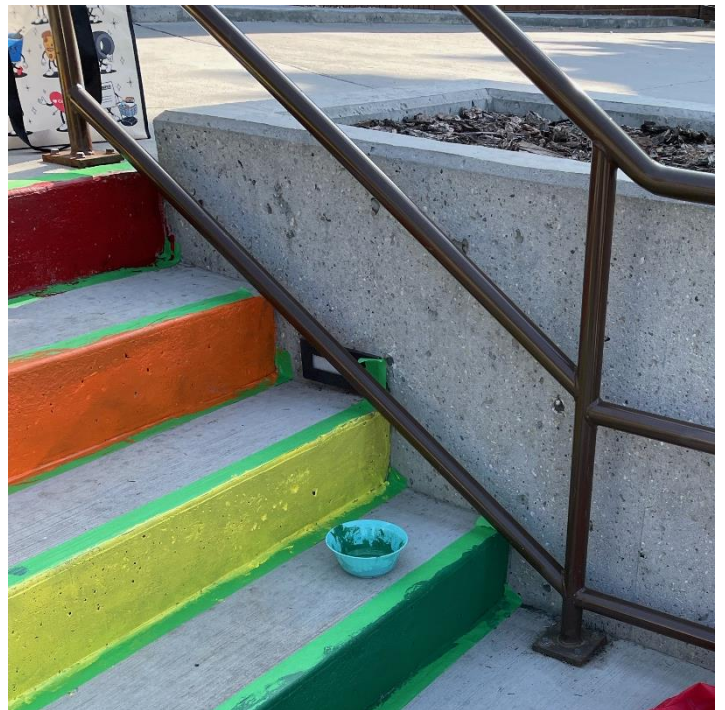
For pastoral emergencies, please call Rev. Blaine Gregg at **(780) 468-1418 (2).**

RAINBOW STEPS!

Last Monday, several of the youth attending one of the weekly YET (Youth Empowered Together) Pride Month events came outside to paint the front of the steps leading up to the entrance to Spirit of Hope in rainbow colours.



As you can see the colours and their order match the Pride flag that we have in our window.



A big thank you to everyone who was involved!

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.

**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!

HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

Anne’s Kinder Kastle Daycare, located in the Lower level of Spirit of Hope United Church, is now accepting new children. They’ve asked us to help share the news with our community!

Anne’s Kinder Kastle offers a caring and safe environment where children can learn, play, and grow. If you or someone you know is looking for quality childcare, please reach out to the daycare to arrange a tour or learn more.

☎ 780-488-3336

✉ anneskinderkastle@hotmail.com

Let’s help connect families with a great daycare option right here in our building!

**SEWING MACHINE
FOR SALE**



A member of our congregation is selling a Singer 257 Fashion Mate sewing machine.

If you are interested or would like more details, please contact the church office.

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.

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.



**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

Tracking of Givings

Categories	Budget	5/12 Budget	Year to Date	Variance from Budget
Local Envelope Offering	\$ 170,000	\$ 70,833	\$ 63,323	\$ (7,511)
Other Receipts for Local	\$ 24,476	\$ 10,198	\$ 13,322	\$ 3,124
Givings to M&S	\$ 19,448	\$ 8,103	\$ 10,177	\$ 2,074

JUNE - AUGUST 2025

Save These Dates!

Sun. June 22 - Afternoon Movie - 12:30 p.m.

Mon. June 23 - Youth Empowered Together - Hangout and Build Your Own Pizza

Tue. July 1 - Canada Day

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

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

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

Mon. August 4 - Heritage Day

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: JUNE 22ND TO JUNE 29TH, 2025

Sun. June 22	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
	12:30 p.m.	Afternoon Movie <i>The Help</i> (Lower Hall)
	3:00 p.m.	Private Event (Sanctuary)
	7:00 p.m.	Movie Discussion <i>The Help</i> (Zoom)
Mon. June 23	4:30 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Hangout and Build Your Own Pizza (Lower Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	pflag (Multipurpose Room 1)
	6:30 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
	7:00 p.m.	Property, Finance and Stewardship Committee (Zoom)
Tue. June 24	9:30 a.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall)
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Empowerment and Social Services (YESS) Summer Social (Lower Hall, Multipurpose Room 2 and Kitchen)
Wed. June 25	1:30 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby)
Thu. June 26	7:00 a.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	pflag (Multipurpose Room 1)
	6:00 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Fri. June 27	7:00 a.m.	SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
	9:00 a.m.	Adaptabilities Summer Camp (Lower Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym and Kitchen) pflag (Lower Hall)
Sat. June 28	8:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen)
Sun. June 29	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791

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
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WIFI ACCESS WHILE AT CHURCH

Network: Spirit of Hope Guest

Password: SOHGuest