



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

MAY 10, 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!

MOTHER'S DAY MOVIE AFTERNOON – TODAY AT 12:30 P.M.

Nonna's (2025, PG) has been described as a 'love letter to family, food, and community.

This heartwarming family comedy drama is based on the true story of Joe Scaravella, who opened a restaurant as a tribute to his mother and grandmother's cooking.

The special Mother's Day movie stars Vince Vaughn, Lorraine Bracco and Talia Shire.



BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Breakfast Fellowship is held at a restaurant on the third Saturday of every second month. The next one will be on **Saturday, May 16, 2026, 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. We look forward to seeing you.

Your generosity makes a difference.

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



**COMMUNITY
OPEN MIC**
HOSTED BY MARIE FONTAINE

**Sat, May 16
6:30 - 8:30 pm
(Doors - 6:00)**

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

Share your talents, support fellow artists, and
enjoy light refreshments at no cost.



COMMUNITY OPEN MIC NIGHT – SATURDAY, MAY 16 AT 6:30 P.M.

Foster a sense of community - unleash your inner artist - embrace the creative talents of others - enjoy light refreshments. This is a great opportunity to share your poetry, music, stories, or dance with a warm and appreciative audience.

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!

Come as you are!
You're welcome here.

crafts
free!
food
friends
games
syn
sensory friendly
fun
WiFi

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

Mondays 4-6 pm
7909 Whyte (82) Ave

youth
empowered
together

@yctcdmonton yctcdmonton@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!

A Night with the Knygts!

May 30th
Adults \$30
Youth \$20

Take a
step back
in time

Doors at 4pm with interactive displays
Dinner at 5:30pm with entertainment to follow

7909 Whyte Ave NW

Spirit of Hope

Join us on May 30th for an entertaining night with the Knygts!

Step back in time to England in the 14th century. See what daily life was like from how cloth was made, to the arms and armour. Before eating like royalty with a dinner from the Master Cooks of King Richard II. Then see how a knight should be armed, listen to the Canterbury tales and watch two knights dual for glory.

Tickets on sale now! Get them in person on Sunday after the service or contact officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca



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



JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS

Last Sunday saw the last concert in this series of Jazz and Reflections. The Jacob Do Quartet showcased standards, original compositions, and lesser-known songs. The always enthusiastic audience showed their appreciation for the talents of Jacob on saxophone, Chris Andrew on piano, Dave Laing on drums, and Aretha Tillotson playing bass. In return, the band was very complimentary on the acoustics in the sanctuary and the hospitality shown by Spirit of Hope. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who put on the concerts every week- it's because of you that the series is a great success!

ALL ABOUT THE SPIRIT OF HOPE COMMUNITY

The Promotions Team needs your assistance. They have developed a short survey to collect information about your perspectives and experiences as part of the Spirit of Hope community.

Thanks to those of you who completed the survey last Sunday. Your responses will help the team in developing messaging to share who we are on the church website and in other promotions.

Copies of the survey are available at the Welcome Desk, or you can complete it at this link: <https://forms.gle/MVRcRjvujP5haqBYA>

THE TRUSTEES – DID YOU KNOW?

The Trustees of Spirit of Hope United Church are responsible for the care and stewardship of the church’s physical and financial assets. We safeguard, maintain, and oversee the church building, land, and contents, and hold legal title to the property in trust for the congregation.

Our work includes ensuring adequate insurance, overseeing endowments and invested funds, and making sure all property-related decisions comply with the United Church’s Model Deed, Northern Spirit Regional Council’s requirements, and provincial law.

We report regularly to the Leadership Team and the congregation to ensure transparency, accountability, and faithful stewardship of the resources entrusted to Spirit of Hope.

We are Sandra Hawes (Chair), Reverend Blaine Gregg, Katharine Moore, (Secretary), Ted Aistrope, Lucia Dhliwayo, Kevin Gue, Carol-Ann Lewis, Murray Lindberg, Stewart O’Brien, and Phyllis Verhaar.

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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.

APRIL 2026

Tracking of Givings				
Categories	Budget	4/12 Budget	Year to Date	Variance from Budget
Local Envelope Offering	\$ 179,500	\$ 59,833	\$ 55,550	\$ (4,284)
Other Receipts for Local	\$ 22,900	\$ 7,633	\$ 4,751	\$ (2,883)
Givings to M&S	\$ 20,240	\$ 6,747	\$ 8,027	\$ 1,280

Save These Dates!

MAY TO JUNE 2026

- Sun. May 10 - Mother's Day
- Sun. May 10 - Special Mother's Day Movie - *Nonna's* - 12:30 p.m.
- Sat. May 16 - Family Open Mic -6:30 p.m.
- Mon. May 18 - Victoria Day
- Sun. May 24 - Afternoon Movie - *Godspell* - 12:30 p.m.
- Sat. May 30 - Night with the Knygts - Medieval Feast - 4:00 p.m.
- Wed. June 3 - Leadership Team Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- Sun. June 7 - Affirmaversary Service - 10:30 a.m.
- Sat. June 20 - Family Open Mic - 6:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
MAY 10TH TO MAY 17TH, 2026

Sun. May 10	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie <i>Nonna's</i> (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Mon. May 11	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	YET (Youth Empowered Together) Monday Hangouts (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Tue. May 12	9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) The Edmonton Needlecraft Guild (Lower Hall)
Wed. May 13	1:30 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby) Private Booking (Kitchen) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Thu. May 14	7:30 p.m.	Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. May 15	9:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen)
Sat. May 16	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) Breakfast Fellowship (Offsite) Private Booking (Kitchen) Family Open Mic (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. May 17	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
Music Director: Warren Mack
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