



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

MAY 24, 2026



WELCOME TO ALL!

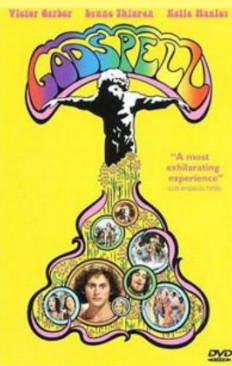
Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 3. We broadcast our services on our YouTube Channel, live-streamed beginning at 10:30 a.m. and recorded and posted for later viewing.

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!



Sunday Movie Afternoon
May 24 at 12:30

Godspell (1973 - G)

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

All are welcome. No charge.
Popcorn provided.



GODSPELL (1973 - G) – TODAY AT 12:30 P.M.

Join us for a special screening of *Godspell*, a joyful and uplifting retelling of the Gospel of Matthew. Through music, parables, and vibrant storytelling, this classic film celebrates community, kindness, and faith in a creative and engaging way. All are welcome!

Everyone is welcome to join an online discussion of the movie at 7:00 p.m. this evening at
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91937034300?pwd=rZ18hVJhjaqbzyMBtkAHgZlW4kaMbB.1>

Meeting ID: 919 3703 4300 Passcode: 623451

Come as you are!
You're welcome here.

crafts free! food

WiFi fun friends

Monday Hangouts
for Queer & Allied Youth
and Young Adults

Mondays 4-6 pm
7909 Whyte (82) Ave

sensory friendly gym games

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

IT'S OUR AFFIRMIVERSARY!

SUNDAY, JUNE 7
10:30 AM SPECIAL SERVICE
11:30 AM POTLUCK TEA PARTY

AFFIRMIVERSARY

On **June 7th**, we will celebrate our 5th Affirmiversary. The Affirm team will lead the service, followed by a potluck tea party.



Join us!

If you are able, please bring a cold finger food item to share, such as sandwiches, cheese and crackers, fruit, or vegetables. The Affirm team will provide a cake to mark the occasion.

Show your Pride, wear rainbow colors, and join the celebration!

Your generosity makes a difference.

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





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

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.

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.



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

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>

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

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!

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!

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.

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!

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 - Affirmiversary Service - 10:30 a.m.

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

MAY TO JULY 2026

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
MAY 24TH TO MAY 31ST, 2026

Sun. May 24	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie <i>Godspell</i> (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Movie Discussion <i>Godspell</i> (Zoom)
Mon. May 25	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	YET (Youth Empowered Together) (Lower Hall, Kitchen and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) pflag (Multipurpose Room 2) Property and Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Tue. May 26	9:30 a.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall)
Wed. May 27	1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Thu. May 28	7:30 p.m.	Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. May 29	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) Night with the Knygts Set Up (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sat. May 30	8:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Lower Hall, Kitchen) A Night with the Knygts (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. May 31	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

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