



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

MAY 3, 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!



JAZZ & REFLECTIONS

A Sunday afternoon of jazz and spiritual reflection

MAR 29 - PJ PERRY QUARTET
APR 12 - ALLEN JACOBSON TRIO
APR 19 - SHELLEY JONES TRIO
APR 26 - DOUG BERNER TRIO
MAY 3 - JACOB DO TRIO

Sundays from 3:30 to 5 pm

Admission by donation at the door.
Refreshments will be served.

Spirit of Hope United Church 7909 82 Ave NW

Your generosity makes a difference.

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



Come as you are!
You're welcome here.

crafts free! food friends games gym 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

YOUTH EVENTS AT ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH

All youth are invited to participate in the following events at Robertson-Wesley United Church:

Friday, May 8

6:00pm - Make your own pizza

6:30pm - Spill the T

Spill the T. Readings from the 2SLGBTQIA+ Human Library is a partnership between Robertson-Wesley United Church and Kirk Centre, bringing lived experience to the forefront of education on diverse and important topics within the local queer scene.

On Friday May 8, we open the book on Asexuality and related themes. Bring your curiosity and questions to ask our guest presenters and stick around after the formal presentations to enjoy conversation and community connection over refreshments at tables.

Saturday, May 23 - Church games night

Friday, May 29 - To be determined

MOTHER'S DAY MOVIE AFTERNOON – SUNDAY, MAY 10 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.



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

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.

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

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

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.



A SUCCESSFUL GARAGE SALE!

Thank you to all our volunteers, donors, bakers, workers, and shoppers for supporting our Garage Sale (indoors) on Saturday, April 18, organized by the Spirit of Hope Ladies’ Group.

The sale was well attended by the community, with 120 to 150 people showing up. We had home baking, housewares, jewelry and accessories, toys, craft supplies, books, puzzles (offered by the Spirit of Hope Chancel Ringers Handbell Choir) and even some Christmas and Halloween décor. We also had a café which kept a number of people lingering and chatting in the church lobby.

This was a great event to bring together community and church, bringing people into our building to learn about the many activities taking place at Spirit of Hope.

The event raised over \$2,000 for the church, as well as an additional \$230 for the handbells from the sale of donated jigsaw puzzles!



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!

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!



The final BLT! Breakfast before the fall was held on Saturday, April 25 with about 45 persons in attendance. Our guest speaker, Reverend Blaine Gregg, talked to us about his lifelong love of musical theatre.

His father was a fan, and now he has passed this love on to his children.

The BLT! Breakfast Learning Together planning group will be meeting in June to select a slate of four new speakers for this fall, and the breakfasts will start up again in September.

See you then!



JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS

Spirit of Hope hosted yet another fantastic concert last Sunday when the Doug Berner Trio played in the Sanctuary. Chris Andrew on piano and Rubim de Toledo accompanied Doug (on trumpet and flugelhorn) as they showcased a variety of songs.

About 90 people braved the weather to enjoy the music.

The last concert in the series is today and will feature the Jacob Do Trio.

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.

Save These Dates!

MAY TO JUNE 2026

- Sun. May 3 - Jazz and Reflections - Jacob Do Trio - 3:30 p.m.
- Mon. May 4 - YET Hangout For Youth and Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
- 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 3RD TO MAY 10TH, 2026

Sun. May 3	10:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Jazz and Reflections – Jacob Do Trio (Sanctuary) Private Booking (Sanctuary, Lower Hall, and Kitchen)
Mon. May 4	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	YET (Youth Empowered Together) Monday Hangouts (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. May 5	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) Private Event (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Tuesday Hymn Sing (Zoom) https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89719672129?pwd=2cbuy2Rjc9r7rFPC0NID8bd5uKKN0V.1
Wed. May 6	1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Pursuers Toastmasters (Lower Hall) Leadership Team Meeting (Multipurpose Room 2)
Thu. May 7	6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	pflag (Lower Hall) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. May 8	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen) 3-2-1 Fun! (Lower Hall)
Sat. May 9	8:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen)
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)

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
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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