



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

November 2, 2025



WELCOME TO ALL!

Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 4.
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!



November Schedule

YET for youth and young adults
Mondays 4pm to 6pm

3 rd	Paint Night	
10 th	Closed for Remembrance Day	
17 th	Open Craft or Bring Your Own Craft	
24 th	Board Game Night	

**7909 Whyte (82) Ave NW
Edmonton AB**
Snacks & Drinks Provided

SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Spirit of Hope United Church
office will be closed on
Friday, November 7th, 2025.

Office hours resume on
Wednesday, November 12th, 2025.

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



WHAT SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT?

On **Sunday, November 9** during coffee time the Affirm
Team will be hosting an open mic session.

No particular topic, but a chance to check in or ask
about something you would like to know about our
commitment to being an Affirming Ministry.

Hope to see you there!

BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Breakfast Fellowship is held
at a restaurant on the third
Saturday of every second month.



The next one will be on Saturday, **November 15, 2025,**
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.



**SAT, NOV 15
7-9 PM
(DOORS-6:30)**

COMMUNITY OPEN MIC

WITH MARIE FONTAINE

EVERYONE
WELCOME
FREE

Poetry, humour,
stories, dance,
and more

**SPIRIT OF HOPE
UNITED CHURCH
7909 WHYTE (82) AVE**

COME EARLY TO SIGN UP.





**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



JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS

Last Sunday saw the last concert of the Fall series of Jazz and Reflections go out with a swing.

The Joel Gray Trio (Joel on trumpet, Mike Lent on bass, and Tom Bennett on piano) entertained a very appreciative audience with stories and song. Playing songs from the American Songbook and original compositions, they held us spellbound.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, their talent, and their treasure- you made the series the success it is. Many people shared how much they enjoyed themselves during the series, mainly because they found Spirit of Hope such a welcoming place.

Thank you so much!



HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

"The Halloween Party was lots of fun. Lots of people decorated cupcakes and cookies. Ate lots of snacks and visited with friends. Thank you to all the people who volunteered and joined in on the fun" - Kim Thomson





Christmas

BAKE SALE & ARTISAN MARKET

Sat, Nov. 22 10AM-3PM

Local vendors Crafts

Beef on a bun Baking

Pie & ice cream Gift Wrapping



Spirit of Hope

7909 Whyte (82nd) Ave NW

officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca or 780-468-1418



JOIN IN THE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS AT SPIRIT OF HOPE!

Having enjoyed the fun and success of our Community Halloween Party last weekend, we are now turning our attention to our annual **Christmas Bake Sale and Artisan Market on Saturday, November 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Hosted by the Ladies Group, Handbell Choir Santa, and his helpers, and more than 15 vendors selling their creations, it is not an event to be missed! Not only does it immerse us in the sights and smells of Christmas, but it is also one of our major fund-raising events of the year.



This year's vendors include at least four of our members, several community artisans who are returning from last year and some who will be here for the first time. There will be jams, preserves, relishes, pickles, chutneys, salsas and more. In addition, you will find photo cards, placemats, decorated baskets, crochet art, wood bowls and other woodworking wonders, earrings, bookmarks and decorated rocks, Christmas ornaments, botanicals, and handmade journals will be featured! This is a photo of some of the beautiful items that Eva Cooper will be selling. Your support and encouragement will be much appreciated!

An amazing array of baked goods will be on sale in the upstairs lobby as well as puzzles in the gym (hosted by members of the Chancel Ringers Handbell Choir). There will be a gift-wrapping table, and Santa will be on hand for you to visit and have your photo taken with him. And last, but certainly not least, the legendary beef on a bun with refreshments and homemade pie will be served in the Lower Hall.

We are still looking for **HELPERS** for this year’s event, particularly in taking down tables and putting chairs away after the doors close at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 22. Also, we need a few folks who are happy to pitch in and help during the day wherever they might be needed. That could be YOU!

If you are interested and able to participate, please talk with Heather Baker, one of the Ladies Group coordinators. Heather has the master volunteer list and will be downstairs at one of the tables during coffee time on November 2 and 9 — to answer your questions and sign you up!

**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!



Community FUN FEST

Experience the joy of the season with a delightful array of games, treats, and crafts for all ages!

SAT, DEC 6

3 TO 7 PM

3 pm - Games, gym activities, snacks, crafts
5 pm - Potluck supper

Spirit of Hope United Church
7909 82 Ave NW

780-468-1418
www.spiritofhope.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.



An Evening of Carols & Treats

Tuesday, December 16 at 7 pm

Celebrate this special season with friends, family and neighbours.
Sing your favourite Christmas carols.
Then enjoy visiting while you enjoy hot cider and seasonal treats.
No charge. Donations appreciated to cover costs.
All are welcome!!

Spirit of Hope United Church 7909 82 Ave. NW

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 are not 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.

**SHORT REMINDERS
OF OUR HISTORY**

For nearly 125 years, The United Church of Canada and its predecessor denominations have offered health care in remote areas of Canada’s west coast. Hospitals in Bella Bella and Bella Coola B.C. have operated with support from the Mission and Service fund.

Health care professionals have often been recruited through the United Church. Services have included emergency care and obstetrical services as well as physiotherapy, pharmacy, and public and mental health education. The most serious cases could be transferred by air to Vancouver or Victoria, accompanied by a medical professional.

These hospitals most recently have worked in conjunction with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA) and United Church involvement in these hospitals is currently coming to an end.

Short Stories by Gayle Simonson of Edmonton



**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.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025

Save These Dates!

Mon. November 3- Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Sun. November 9 - Affirming Team Open Mic - 11:30 a.m.

Mon. November 10 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Tue. November 11 - Remembrance Day

Sat. November 15 - Breakfast Fellowship - 9:30 a.m.

Sat. November 15 - Family Open Mic - 7:00 p.m.

Mon. November 17 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Sat. November 22 - Christmas Bake Sale and Artisan Market - 10:00 a.m.

Mon. November 24 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Mon. December 1 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Sat. December 6 - Community Fun Fest - 3:00 p.m.

Mon. December 8 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
NOVEMBER 2ND TO NOVEMBER 9TH, 2025

Sun. November 2	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
Mon. November 3	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Monday Hang Outs (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) pflag (Lower Hall) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. November 4	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Tuesday Hymn Sing (Zoom) https://zoom.us/j/95014510572?pwd=cWw1QTZiMXhDbWFwYmhoa0drTIBDQT09
Wed. November 5	1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Pursuers Toastmasters (Multipurpose Room 2) Leadership Team Meeting (Zoom)
Thu. November 6	6:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. November 7	7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) 3-2-1 Fun! (Lower Hall)
Sat. November 8	8:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen)
Sun. November 9	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Affirming Team Open Mic (Lower Hall) Private Booking (Gym)

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