



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

November 23, 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!

YOUTH EMPOWERED TOGETHER

A hangout space for queer and queer-allied youth and young adults.



November Schedule

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

3rd

Paint Night



10th

Closed for Remembrance Day

17th

Open Craft or Bring Your Own Craft



24th

Board Game Night



7909 Whyte (82) Ave NW
Edmonton AB

Snacks & Drinks Provided

DO YOU WANT TO GET INTO THE FESTIVE MOOD?

Come and help decorate the Sanctuary at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 23, 2025!



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!



Christmas Giving Tree

HELP BRING JOY TO FAMILIES IN NEED!



We are collecting new, unwrapped gifts for the Bissell Holiday Toy Drive

INFANTS (0-2): musical toys, rattles, shape stackers, board books

CHILDREN (3-11): picture books, graphic novels, sporting goods, craft & science sets, puzzles, art supplies, dolls, building toys, vehicle toys, animal toys

YOUTH (12+): gift cards, sporting goods, sealed cosmetics, board games, puzzles, art supplies

*Please, no used items, food or candy.

Drop off donations at Spirit of Hope United Church
7909 82 Ave NW

Sunday, Nov 30 or Dec 7 OR
Tues, Wed, Thurs between 10 am - 2 pm

SHORT REMINDERS OF OUR HISTORY

Nurse Mina Pool worked in rural northern Alberta for three years before studying for diaconal ministry, the most common route to ministry for women in the early 1960s.

After six years in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, unable to serve communion or perform baptisms and marriages for those she had come to know well, she felt diaconal ministry was incomplete. She returned to study for a Bachelor of Divinity and was ordained in 1972.

Apparently, men interviewed for ordination were questioned about pouring tea. She was asked if she could replace a flat tire. Her response? In her work in northern health, "I had 47 flat tires and carried four spares all the time. I even learned to change a tire with nothing but a white dress on and get nothing but my hands dirty! ... They decided I could handle it."

Short Stories by Gayle Simonson of Edmonton



**KEEP A LOOKOUT! –
DECEMBER ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN**

This December, Edmonton will be the focus of a new United Church of Canada advertising campaign which aims to spark curiosity and spiritual reflection during the Christmas season through digital billboards in high-traffic areas near United Church communities. The advertisements will use the A Place at the Table image, a reimagining of Da Vinci’s *Last Supper* as a representation of our faith community: one committed to welcoming people of all backgrounds, identities, and experiences.



The billboards will include the United Church crest and name, as well as a URL with information about the image and a map with a listing of local congregations. Keep an eye out for the ads and an ear to the ground to listen to what people are saying about the campaign! And let’s be prepared to welcome new people who may come through our doors this season looking for a place to belong.



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.



A Christmas Recital: In Dulci Jubilo

Warren Mack, organ

December 7, 12:45



Spirit of Hope United Church

ENJOYING PADDINGTON 2

About 16 people enjoyed the viewing of *Paddington 2* after the morning service this past Sunday afternoon. The movie continued some of the themes that were in the original film *Paddington*.

Paddington, the Andean bear took us on another adventure through the streets (and prison) of London, and we learned more about his family ‘The Browns.’ A good time was had by all.

The next movie will be a sing-along version of *Frozen* on **Sunday, December 14, 2025.**

See you there!



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

**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 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

Save These Dates!

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025

- Mon. November 24 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
- Sun. November 30 - First Sunday of Advent - Christmas Giving Tree - 10:30 a.m.
- Mon. December 1 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
- Sat. December 6 - Community Fun Fest - 3:00 p.m.
- Sun. December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.
- Sun. December 7 - A Christmas Organ Recital “*I Dulci Jublio*” - 12:45 p.m.
- Mon. December 8 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
- Sun. December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.
- Sun. December 14 - Afternoon Movie “*Frozen - Sing-Along*” - 12:30 p.m.
- Mon. December 15 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
- Tue. December 16 - Carols and Treats - 7:00 p.m.
- Sun. December 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - 10:30 a.m.
- Wed. December 24 - All Ages Christmas Eve Service - 4:30 p.m.
- Wed. December 24 - Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service - 7:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
NOVEMBER 23RD TO NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025

Sun. November 23	10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Private Booking (Gym) Private Booking (Gym)
Mon. November 24	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Monday Hang Outs (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) pflag (Multipurpose Room 2) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary) Private Event (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Property and Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Tue. November 25	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Wed. November 26	1:30 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby)
Thu. November 27	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	pflag (Lower Hall and Multipurpose Room 1) Private Booking (Gym) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. November 28	7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) Wedding Rehearsal (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Sanctuary)
Sat. November 29	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) Wedding Ceremony and Reception (Lower Hall, Kitchen, Gym, and Sanctuary)
Sun. November 30	10:30 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent Worship Service – Giving Tree (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.

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WIFI ACCESS WHILE AT CHURCH

Network: Spirit of Hope Guest
Password: SOHGuest