



# Spirit of Hope United Church

# THE SPARK

## OCTOBER 5, 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!**



**SPirit of Hope UNITED CHURCH PRESENTS**

## JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS

**SUNDAYS  
3:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.**

SEPTEMBER 14	ALLEN JACOBSON TRIO
SEPTEMBER 28	DON BERNER TRIO
OCTOBER 5	JERROLD DUBYK TRIO
OCTOBER 19	KELLY ALANNA TRIO
OCTOBER 26	JOEL GRAY TRIO

**ADMISSION BY DONATION**

SPirit of Hope UNITED CHURCH  
7909 82 AVENUE NW  
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6C 0Y1  
780-468-1418 OFFICEADMIN.SPIRITOFHOPE@SHAW.CA  
WWW.SPIRITOFHOPE.CA

**YET (Youth Empowered Together)**  
Invites All Queer & Allied Youth to  
*Monday Hangouts for Youth*

Join the fun on Mondays from 4-6 pm  
Spirit of Hope - 7909 Whyte (82<sup>nd</sup>) Avenue NW  
Connect with us @ yetedmonton@gmail.com



Led by youth 4 youth - this is not a religious event

### TODAY - PLANNED GIVING & ESTATE PLANNING SESSION

The Stewardship Team is delighted to offer a session on Planned Giving and Estate Planning after the church service in the Lower Hall presented by Jacklynn Pivovar, from Miller Thomson LLP.

Many thanks to Sandra Hawes for connecting with Jacklynn to provide this valuable information on October 5, 2025.

A light lunch will be provided.



**STAY UP TO DATE AND SHARE THE NEWS!**

Find us at [www.spiritofhope.ca](http://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](mailto:officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca)

### ONLINE BIBLE STUDY AMOS – A PROPHET OF RESISTANCE

Gather to discuss the Book of Amos over Zoom every Monday beginning

<https://www.zoom.us/j/86048937851?pwd=dppoi3Y0xobhLke1FM4pxpMJzclLbp.1>

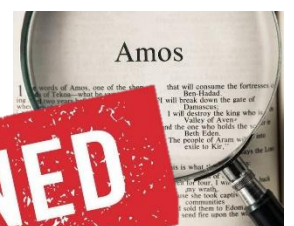
Meeting ID: 860 4893 7851  
Passcode: 976154

### SPirit of Hope UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Spirit of Hope United Church office will be closed on **Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

Office hours resume on **Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

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



## **NO CREATIVE CONNECTIONS THIS WEEK**

Creative Connections on **Wednesday, October 8** is cancelled.

Join us next week!

## **BEING KIND TO OUR LGBTQIAS2+ FRIENDS AND FAMILIES**

On Saturday, September 27 about 38 people gathered to share in a BLT! Breakfast here at Spirit of Hope.

Our guest speaker was Kelly Erickson, a Master's student in Counseling Psychology and a practicum student with Square Peg Psychology.

Kelly gave us a thorough class in how to be true and caring allies to friends and families as we walk with them together in this life.

The next BLT! Breakfast will be on Saturday, November 29 and our guest speaker will be Reverend Blaine Gregg.

Mark your calendars now!

## **LEARNING ABOUT RECONCILIATION**

Tuesday, September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

This coming **October 23, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (MDT)** the United Church of Canada will be airing a webinar titled,

"Voices of the Land: Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Justice".

The link below will take you to information on the webinar and how to join on October 23, 2025.

The Learning and Growth FIAT is bringing this to your attention as we are committed to Learning, Changing and Growing Together.

[https://united-church.ca/events/voices-land-indigenous-perspectives-climate-justice?utm\\_source=E-Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=7c950cd6b0-ES\\_250311\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_-3c3b6f8241-190243836&goal=0\\_53a49c9e28-7c950cd6b0-190243836&mc\\_cid=7c950cd6b0&mc\\_eid=04ed6a61d](https://united-church.ca/events/voices-land-indigenous-perspectives-climate-justice?utm_source=E-Newsletters&utm_campaign=7c950cd6b0-ES_250311_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-3c3b6f8241-190243836&goal=0_53a49c9e28-7c950cd6b0-190243836&mc_cid=7c950cd6b0&mc_eid=04ed6a61d)

## **IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR 2026 UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR**

This year, the calendar features our Spirit of Hope with Rick Bramm's great photograph of our Sanctuary. We are the only Albertan church chosen this year. **The cost of the calendar is \$10** (which includes the shipping), with any profit going to Spirit of Hope. You can view the calendar here:

[https://ucrdstore.ca/products/2026-canadian-church-calendar?srltid=AfmBOoq\\_epul9s4jMaT7QNfqJRRUp-MXA4uGnWAsCv4WN2TakzBQ8OQR](https://ucrdstore.ca/products/2026-canadian-church-calendar?srltid=AfmBOoq_epul9s4jMaT7QNfqJRRUp-MXA4uGnWAsCv4WN2TakzBQ8OQR)

Please see Vici Wynn if you wish to order a calendar (or more). Christmas is coming! Thank you.

**Voices of the Land:  
Indigenous perspectives  
on Climate Justice**



## **JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS**

Don Berner's Trio entertained an appreciative audience on Sunday, playing standards, Disney tunes, and some original pieces. Don Berner on sax, Rob Thompson on piano, and Mike Lent on bass were entertained in return by Chris Meintzer's Reflection about the hurdy-gurdy, complete with performance.

Thank you, Chris, and the other volunteers who all make our guests welcome.

## **QUILT RAFFLE**

Thank you to all who bought a ticket (or more) for the Autumn quilt. The winner was Don Y., who bought his ticket at the Community Showcase. All the money is going to help repair a handbell in November.

## **SHORT REMINDERS OF OUR HISTORY**

The church has a long and varied history, providing both education and medical care across the country as communities developed. While the early workers are gone, many kept records and some of those records have survived to tell us of people and of the work they did under difficult conditions. In the early 1950s, the United Church established a central archive in Toronto at Victoria University though it has recently moved. Others were established across the country and today an archives network includes eight regional archives to protect our stories. As stated in 1924 by Canada's Dominion Archivist Arthur G. Doughty, "Of all national assets, archives are the most precious. They are the gift of one generation to another."

Short Stories by Gayle Simonson of Edmonton



## THANKFUL FOR FOOD!

Over the summer, about 90 families per week benefited from the Garneau Strathcona Food Security program because of your generous donations of eggs, tuna and a great variety of other items; surplus items from the Food Bank; and bread from Safeway, Sobeys, and once a month, from Cobs.

The Garneau Strathcona Food Security program would like to offer the guests of the program a little something extra in their bags on October 11, just in time for Thanksgiving.

We are seeking your help to collect boxes of stove top stuffing, mashed potatoes, cans of cranberry sauce, and packets of gravy mix.

**So, from now until October 5**, if you (and your family and friends) can contribute any of these Thanksgiving items, please bring them to the church and put them in the Food Donation box in the Foyer.

The items will be gathered for distribution on **October 11, 2025**.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Food Security program.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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!

## 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.

## Save These Dates!

OCTOBER 2025

Sun. October 5 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.

Mon. October 6 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Wed. October 8 - Online Bible Study (Week 1 of 4) - 6:30 p.m.

Sun. October 12 - Thanksgiving Sunday

Wed. October 15 - Online Bible Study (Week 2 of 4) - 6:30 p.m.

Sun. October 19 - 9<sup>th</sup> Street Players Annual Meeting - 12:00 p.m.

Mon. October 20 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Wed. October 22 - Online Bible Study (Week 3 of 4) - 6:30 p.m.

Sat. October 25 - Haunted Halloween Costume Party - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sun. October 26 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.

Mon. October 27 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.

Wed. October 29 - Online Bible Study (Week 4 of 4) - 6:30 p.m.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:**  
**OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> TO OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

Sun. October 5	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m.	<b>Worship Service</b> (Sanctuary and YouTube) <a href="https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791">https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791</a> <b>Planned Giving &amp; Estate Planning Session</b> (Lower Hall) <b>Jazz and Reflections – Jerrold Dubyk Trio</b> (Sanctuary)
Mon. October 6	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangout</b> (Lower Hall and Kitchen) <b>ESSC (Dodgeball)</b> (Gym) <b>pflag</b> (Lower Hall) <b>Chancel Ringers</b> (Sanctuary)
Tue. October 7	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>Stretch and Flex</b> (Lower Hall) <b>ESSC (Dodgeball)</b> (Gym) <b>Tuesday Hymn Sing</b> (Zoom) <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89719672129?pwd=2cbuy2Rjc9r7rFPC0NID8bd5uKKN0V.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89719672129?pwd=2cbuy2Rjc9r7rFPC0NID8bd5uKKN0V.1</a>
Wed. October 8	1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>Memorial Service and Reception</b> (Sanctuary, Lower Hall, and Kitchen) <b>ESSC (Dodgeball)</b> (Gym) <b>Online Bible Study</b> (Zoom)
Thu. October 9	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	<b>pflag</b> (Lower Hall) <b>ESSC (Dodgeball)</b> (Gym) <b>Trustees Meeting</b> (Multipurpose Room 2) <b>Choir</b> (Sanctuary)
Fri. October 10	7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up</b> (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) <b>321 Fun!</b> (Lower Hall)
Sat. October 11	8:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	<b>Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program</b> (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) <b>Mysterious Sounds Practice</b> (Sanctuary)
Sun. October 12	10:30 a.m.	<b>THANKSGIVING SUNDAY</b> <b>Worship Service</b> (Sanctuary and YouTube) <a href="https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791">https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791</a>

**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](mailto:officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca)

Rev. Blaine Gregg: [minister.spiritofhope@shaw.ca](mailto: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  
striving to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

**WIFI ACCESS WHILE AT CHURCH**

Network: Spirit of Hope Guest

Password: SOHGuest