



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025



WELCOME TO ALL!

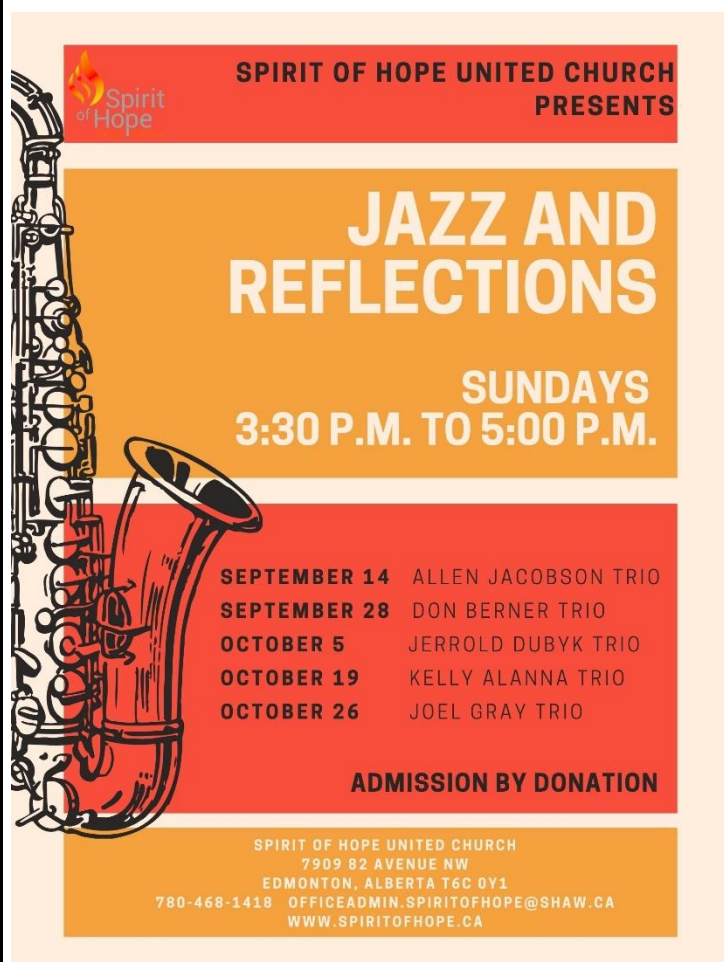
Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 3.
We broadcast our services on our YouTube Channel, live-streamed beginning at 10:30 a.m.
and recorded and posted for later viewing.

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!



SPRIT 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

SPRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH
7909 82 AVENUE NW
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6C 0Y1
780-468-1418 OFFICEADMIN.SPRITOFHOPE@SHAW.CA
WWW.SPRITOFHOPE.CA

SAD NEWS...

Clarence Vandervaart passed away peacefully in his sleep at home early Thursday morning.

He was a longtime member of Spirit of Hope and was active with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

Please keep Annie and their family in your prayers.

A celebration of life for Clarence Vandervaart will be held at **Spirit of Hope United Church on Saturday, September 20, at 11:30 a.m.**

SUMMER WORSHIP THANK YOU!

To all who gave of their time and talent to help make sure that Spirit of Hope had services every Sunday in the Summer, a huge thank you!

If you hosted, read scripture, offered up prayers, gave a musical or artistic offering, or wrote and delivered a reflection, please know that all of us in your church family are thankful and proud of you!

COME ONE, COME ALL TO COMMUNITY BBQ AND SHOWCASE NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday, September 21, Spirit of Hope is hosting its annual Community BBQ and Showcase - from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (see poster, below). Members of our church and neighbouring community are invited to learn about the variety of services and support provided by community-based agencies and Spirit of Hope to people who live in Southeast Edmonton.

Thank you to those who have offered to help with this special event. There are still few spots left. Please talk with Susan Bramm after worship today to sign up!

IN PARTICULAR, we are looking for energetic folks who would like to deliver flyers in our immediate vicinity. If you'd like to take a brisk walk this coming week, please pick up a map and flyers at the Welcome Desk.

We look forward to rolling out the welcome carpet at Spirit of Hope with warmth and smiles.



Spirit of Hope UNITED CHURCH

Everyone is invited!

COMMUNITY BBQ & SHOWCASE

Food and Drinks!

Discover community programs, resources and services!

Free!

**Sunday, September 21
11:45 am to 1 pm**

Spirit of Hope
7909 82 Ave NW Edmonton

www.spiritofhope.ca

BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

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

The next one will be on **Saturday, September 20, 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.

BLT! BREAKFAST IS BACK

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 27, 2025.**

Our first speaker of the year will be Kelly Erickson at 8:45 a.m. that morning in the Lower Hall.

Kelly is a Master of Counselling practicum student with Square Peg Psychology.

The title of Kelly’s talk is “**Being a Good Ally to our LGBTQIA2S+ Friends and Family**”.

This breakfast is co-sponsored by the Affirm Team.

Tickets will be on sale at coffee time on Sundays.

See you then!

SHORT REMINDERS OF OUR HISTORY

As western Canada was settled, communities sprang up but populations remained sparse. It was difficult to sustain a church congregation, so many churches of different denominations came together to form union churches. As the idea spread, denominations were encouraged to look at amalgamation.

By 1925, Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists had agreed and the United Church of Canada was formed by an act of parliament. Not all Presbyterian congregations agreed to join. Over the next year, we hope to present some highlights of our church history. We must not be bound by the past, but we do well to remember our history and to celebrate those who have brought us to this place.



The Basis of Union to form the United Church of Canada was signed in 1925. Methodist Louise McKinney, an activist who was the first woman to sit in the Alberta legislature, was one of only four women to sign and the only one from western Canada. Along with Henrietta Muir Edwards, Nellie McClung, Irene Parlby and Emily Murphy, she was one of the “Famous Five” who, in 1929, had women in Canada declared as “Persons”.

Short Stories by Gayle Simonson of Edmonton

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.



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 perhaps your family and friends) are able to 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 together 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 aren’t 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.

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!

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY
AMOS – A PROPHET OF
RESISTANCE

Gather to discuss the Book of Amos over four Wednesday evenings: **October 8, 15, 22, 29 beginning at 6:30 p.m.**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86048937851?pwd=dppoi t3Y0xobhLke1FM4pxpMJzclLbp.1>

Meeting ID: 860 4893 7851

Passcode: 976154

"COME BEFORE GOD WITH JOYFUL SONGS"

With September here, it's time for the choir to come together again, lifting our voices in worship and sharing the joy of music throughout the year.

We warmly welcome new members to join us in singing hymns and anthems each Sunday, as well as in special music-filled services during seasons like Christmas and Easter.

Rehearsals are held every Thursday from 7:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and will continue weekly until the end of May 2026.

We're also excited to share that a special concert is planned for November 1!

We understand that choir is a meaningful commitment, so whether you'd like to sing regularly, seasonally, or only for special services, there's a place for you.

If you're interested, please contact the church office at 780-468-1418 or email officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca

HYMN SELECTIONS

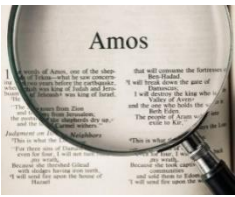
The last Sunday of every month is Celebration Sunday at Spirit of Hope. What would you like to sing during the hymn sing that day, or during an upcoming worship service?

Please put your suggestions in the Favourite Hymn box on the Welcome Desk.



**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



**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.

SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2025

Save These Dates!

- Sun. September 14 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.
 - Mon. September 15 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sat. September 20 - Breakfast Fellowship - 9:30 a.m.
 - Sun. September 21 - Community BBQ and Showcase - 11:45 a.m.
 - Mon. September 22- Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sat. September 27 - BLT! Breakfast - 8:45 a.m.
 - Sun. September 28 - Movie Afternoon - *Conclave* - 12:30 p.m.
 - Sun. September 28 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.
 - Mon. September 29 - Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangouts - 4:00 p.m.
 - Tue. September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
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- 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. Ocotber 15 - Online bible Study (Week 2 of 4) - 6:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: SEPTEMBER 14TH TO SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2025

Sun. September 14	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
	3:30 p.m.	Jazz and Reflections – Allen Jacobson Trio (Sanctuary)
Mon. September 15	4:00 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangout (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	6:30 p.m.	Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. September 16	9:30 a.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall)
	10:30 a.m.	Spirit of Hope United Church Ladies' Group (Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday Hymn Sing (Zoom) https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87850083785?pwd=4EwQxk4TP3nGaKh3MSrB7brp288WWt.1
Wed. September 17	1:30 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby)
	6:30 p.m.	Pursuers Toastmasters (Lower Hall)
Thu. September 18	7:15 p.m.	Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. September 19	7:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym and Kitchen)
	6:00 p.m.	321 Fun! (Lower Hall)
Sat. September 20	8:00 a.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen)
	9:30 a.m.	Breakfast Fellowship (Albert's Restaurant at 5107 - 99 Street)
	11:30 a.m.	Celebration of Life – Clarence Vandervaat (Sanctuary, Lower Hall and Kitchen)
	3:00 p.m.	Community BBQ and Showcase Set Up (Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen and Lobby)
Sun. September 21	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791
	11:45 a.m.	Community BBQ and Showcase (Lower Hall, Kitchen and Lobby)
	7:00 p.m.	Ecumenical Prayer Services in the style of Taizé (Sanctuary)

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
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