



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



WELCOME TO ALL!

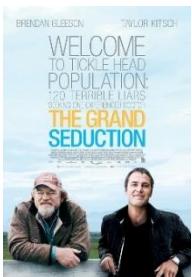
Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 3.
We broadcast our services on our YouTube Channel, live-streamed beginning at 10:30 a.m.
and recorded and posted for later viewing.

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. YOU ARE NOT ALONE



MOVIE AFTERNOON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026. 12:30 P.M.

The Grand Seduction (2013, PG-13)

Plan to stay after church to watch this
comedy about a dying Newfoundland
fishing village that is trying to

convince a young doctor to take up residence there.
Starring Brendan Gleeson and Taylor Kitch.

EXTENDING THE INVITATION

For this week, you are encouraged to think about why
you are so keen about being part of the Spirit of Hope
community of faith. What would you say to a family
member or friend if you wanted to invite them to find
out?

We have designed a special invitation you can use to
take the next step and actually reach out and invite
someone new. The occasion: our annual Community
BBQ and Showcase on **Sunday, September 27, 2026**.
Invite them to worship with us beginning at 10:30 a.m.
and/or to join us for the BBQ and Showcase starting at
11:45 a.m.

Printed copies of the invitation are available at the
back of the Sanctuary and the Welcome Desk. There is
room for you to write your own comments if you wish!
Take as many as you like!

This is part of our stewardship of the health and
vitality of our dear community of faith. Have fun with
it! Let's open our doors and hearts wider to spread the
good news of Spirit of Hope.



**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

Everyone is welcome!

COMMUNITY BBQ & SHOWCASE

Food and Drinks!
**Discover community programs,
resources and services!**
Meet your neighbours!
Free!

Sunday, September 27
11:45 am to 1 pm

Spirit of Hope
7909 82 Ave NW

HAVE FUN BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY BBQ & SHOWCASE!!

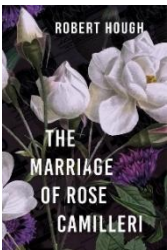
We will be looking for people to participate
in promoting and hosting our annual event on
Sunday, September 27, 2026.

From delivering flyers, giving out personal invitations
to setting up tables and chairs, greeting, and directing
attendees, helping with food prep, and serving to
taking down tables and tidying up, there's a place for
you!

A volunteer sign up sheet will be available at the
Welcome Desk and downstairs after worship for the
next two weeks. For more information, please contact
Susan Bramm or Helen Newsham.

THIS WEEK
AUTUMN BOOK STUDY

We are learning how Dolly Parton’s "Imagination Library" has provided good reading for children in their first five years. Dolly’s goal was to engender quality of life for all our days by strengthening and sustaining imagination as a way of knowing (Be curious!)



Reading and discussing novels is an excellent imagination seed for adults.

The Marriage of Rose Camilleri by Robert Hough. You are welcome to attend both or either of these (in person):

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 29, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Minister Emeritus, Rev. Lloyd Lovatt

BLT! BREAKFAST SEASON BEGINS!

Our next BLT! Breakfast will be on
Saturday, September 26, 2026, at 8:45 a.m.
in the Lower Hall.

Our guest speaker is PJ Perry.

Tickets and season’s tickets will be on sale at coffee time Sunday mornings.

Hope you can join us!

ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, September 27th, 2026, you are invited to wear orange in honour of National Truth and Reconciliation Day.



Sunday afternoons 3:30 to 5 pm

SEPT 13 -ARETHA TILLOTSON QUARTET

SEPT 20 - DON BERNER QUARTET

OCT 4 -PJ PERRY QUINTET

OCT 18 - ALEX MOXON QUARTET

OCT 25- SHELLEY JONES QUARTET

Admission by donation at the door.
Refreshments served.

Spirit of Hope United Church 7909 82 Ave NW

JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS

On September 13, 2026, Spirit of Hope hosted the Alex Ketchum Quartet for the first concert of this Fall's Jazz and Reflections series.

Three of the musicians (Eric Zeller on drums, Jack MacDonald on bass, and Alex on guitar) were new to us, and they, with Jacob Do on tenor saxophone, delivered. The quartet's music and skill were warmly appreciated by the audience. It was a great opening to the series! Thank you to all the volunteers who make the series such a warm and welcoming event.



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Spirit of Hope is updating its records in a new system and wants to make sure that all of the information entered for you is accurate. Please complete the teal ‘Keeping in Touch’ card and place it in the box on the Welcome Desk or in the office. Thanks very much.

Form titled "We're glad you're here!" with fields for Name, Address, Phone, Email, and checkboxes for various services like "I would like to be involved in..." and "I would like to be contacted by..."

Your generosity makes a difference.

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



SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH
OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed during the Office Administrator's absence from this **Friday, September 23 to Tuesday, September 29.**

It will also be closed on **Wednesday, September 30**, in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Regular office hours will resume on **Thursday, October 1, 2026.**

Pilgrimage for Reconciliation & Renewal

Save the Date! Sept 27th Sunday Start Time: 12:00 noon

Walking from: St. Paul's United Church (11526-76 Avenue)

To: kihcihkaw aski Sacred Land Ceremonial Site (14141 Fox Drive NW, Whitemud Ravine)

The pilgrimage walk will start from St. Paul's United Church at 12:00 PM. Lewis Cardinal will guide the pilgrimage walk along the North Saskatchewan river, visiting natural springs and an ochre site, and kihcihkaw aski-Sacred Land Ceremonial Site.

Parking available at kihcihkaw aski site (14141 Fox Drive) or at the Alfred Savage Cultural Center off Fox Drive).

The walk will take three-four hours; dress in weather appropriate clothes and walking shoes. BYO drinks and snacks. Come and join us!

Map of approximate route

**CURRENT ISSUES
CONVERSATIONS**

Is there something in the news that you would love to discuss with others? Would you be willing to explore that news through a lens of faith?



Rev. Gregg invites you to join him in conversation around a table after church some Sundays this fall for about 30-45 minutes on **October 18, November 1 and 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. (noon).**

**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!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Check out the great volunteer opportunities on the yellow bulletin board in the Lobby.



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.



**KLONDIKE DINNER
&
NOT SO SILENT
AUCTION**

**BRUSH OFF YOUR GOLD RUSH BEST
FOR A NIGHT OF FOOD AND FUN**

Saturday Oct 17	Adults	\$30
Doors at 4:00pm	Youth(6-15)	\$10
Dinner at 5:30pm	Under 6	Free
Auction to follow		

Tickets available
Sept 13
After service Sundays
Or from Church Office
officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca



7909 82 Ave. (780) 468-1418

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! 36 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!

Foldable square card tables needed

Some of our card tables are getting wobbly and torn.

If you have a sturdy one that you don't use any more, please consider donating it to Spirit of Hope for our community events.



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.

AUGUST 2026

Tracking of Givings				
Categories	Budget	8/12 Budget	Year to Date	Variance from Budget
Local Envelope Offering	\$ 179,500	\$ 119,667	\$ 110,683	\$ (8,984)
Other Receipts for Local	\$ 22,900	\$ 15,267	\$ 13,063	\$ (2,204)
Givings to M&S	\$ 20,240	\$ 13,493	\$ 15,389	\$ 1,896

Save These Dates!

SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2026

- Sun. September 27 - Orange Shirt Sunday
- Sun. September 27 - Community BBQ and Showcase - 11:45 a.m.
- Tues. September 29 - Autumn Book Study (2nd of 2 sessions) 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Wed. September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Sun. October 4 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sun. October 11 - Thanksgiving Sunday
- Mon. October 12 - Thanksgiving Monday
- Sat. October 17 - Klondike and Not So Silent Auction - 4:00 p.m.
- Sun. October 18 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sat. October 24 - Spirit of Hope United Church Halloween Party - 2:00 p.m.
- Sat. October 24 - Family Open Mic - 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. October 25 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
SEPTEMBER 20TH TO SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026

Sun. Sep. 20	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie “The Grand Seduction” (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Jazz and Reflections - Don Berner Quartet (Sanctuary)
Mon. Sep. 21	6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. Sep. 22	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Autumn Book Study with Rev Lloyd Lovatt (Multipurpose Room 2)
Wed. Sep. 23	10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Ukelele Sing-Along (Lobby) Creative Connections (Lobby) Private Booking (Kitchen) Les Chantamis Choir (Sanctuary) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Thu. Sep.24	4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	YET (Youth Empowered Together) Young Adults (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym) pflag (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Spirit of Hope United Church Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. Sep.25	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. Sep.26	8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Lower Hall, Kitchen) BLT! Breakfast (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Community BBQ and Showcase Set Up (Lower Hall, Kitchen and Gym) Jane Austen Society (Sanctuary)
Sun. Sep. 27	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Community BBQ and Showcase (Lower Hall, Kitchen and 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
780-468-1418
officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca

CHURCH STAFF
Minister: Rev. Blaine Gregg minister.spiritofhope@shaw.ca
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Lloyd Lovatt
Music Director: Warren Mack
Office Administrator: Catherine Evoy
Custodian: Leo Otayde

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