



Spirit of Hope United Church

THE SPARK

SEPTEMBER 28, 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 (82nd) Avenue NW
Connect with us @ yetedmonton@gmail.com

games food open gym
new skills friends
crafts Grades 7 to 12 fun
WiFi it's free! sensory friendly safe

YET

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

SUNDAY MOVIE GROUP VIEWING

Today we will be playing *Conclave* after coffee on **Sunday, September 28** in the Lower Hall.



This movie released in 2024 and based on the 2016 book by Robert Harris dramatizes the process the cardinals follow to select a new Pope for the Roman Catholic Church.

The movie is rated PG, but the content will not likely be interesting to young children.

We will meet that evening at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom to have a discussion and consider future movie options.

Zoom link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91937034300?pwd=OU5rODVFNOf3elVFZjNPUUdyV1FtUT09&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMtAAAR3-2p61i_E4HfddoWq7M7hF5hrb9fc8nXeU-7fS6oaFA83VPCuFywd-fKk_aem_rbH9e6t60Zeaqar7-bGI6A

Meeting ID: 919 3703 4300 Passcode: 623451

SEPTEMBER 30 IS ORANGE SHIRT DAY AND THE NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



Sunday, September 28 (today) is Orange Shirt Sunday.

Tuesday is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The United Church of Canada E-ssentials newsletter has information about how to acknowledge and observe Orange Shirt Sunday, as well as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Tuesday.

The link below will take you to the newsletter.
<https://mailchi.mp/united-church/e-ssentials-4754656?e=04ed6a61d9>



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



WHAT A WONDERFUL EVENT!

Wow! The Community BBQ and Showcase last Sunday was a fabulous success thanks to the amazing team of volunteers!

The steady stream of over 100 community people were warmly greeted, offered yummy food and accessed information and resources from 14 community service groups and 20 Spirit of Hope programs and teams.

Many of the people in the diverse crowd expressed appreciation for sharing our space, warm welcome, resources and food with them. Some even stayed to help with the clean-up!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the people who shared their time and talents to make this such a success. This and the many other events we have throughout the year only happen because of this fabulous community, and everyone who generously shares their gifts to fulfill the Spirit of Hope Vision.

PLANNED GIVING & ESTATE PLANNING SESSION – OCTOBER 5, 2025

The Stewardship Team is delighted to offer a session on Planned Giving and Estate Planning after the church service in the Lower Hall on **Sunday, October 5**, 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.

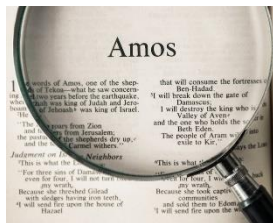
ONLINE BIBLE STUDY AMOS – A PROPHET OF RESISTANCE

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



IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR 2026 UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR

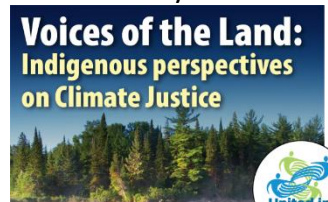
This year, the calendar features our Spirit of Hope with Rick Bramm's great photograph of our sanctuary. We are the only Albertan church chosen this year. **The cost of the calendar is \$10** (which includes the shipping), with any profit going to Spirit of Hope. You can view the calendar here:

https://ucrdstore.ca/products/2026-canadian-church-calendar?srsltid=AfmB0oq_epul9s4jMaT7QNfqJRRUp-MXA4uGnWAsCv4WN2TakzBQ8OQR

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

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, "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



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.



SHORT REMINDERS OF OUR HISTORY

The first ministers in the United Church in 1925 included Robert and Egerton, the sons of Ojibway missionary Henry Bird Steinhauer, who had established the Methodist mission at Whitefish Lake, Alberta in the 1850s. Robert served in a number of Indigenous congregations in Alberta and, like his father, spoke out about the treatment of native people.

In 1936, he became the first Indigenous person to receive a Doctor of Divinity degree from their alma mater Victoria College. Egerton served first in the west and from 1918 to retirement in 1926 worked with the Ojibwa on Lake Huron. Together they published a hymn book in Cree in 1920.

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 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.

CITY CHURCH CURLING CLUB

City Church Curling Club is looking forward to another great season of curling, at the Shamrock Curling Club, 9330 - 80 Avenue NW.

Curling from October 20 to December 15, Monday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon).

For more information, contact Larry, president, 780 462-6167 or Carol, 780 435-6832.

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!

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.

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.

Tracking of Givings				
Categories	Budget	8/12 Budget	Year to Date	Variance from Budget
Local Envelope Offering	\$ 170,000	\$ 113,333	\$ 97,738	\$ (15,596)
Other Receipts for Local	\$ 24,476	\$ 16,317	\$ 14,784	\$ (1,533)
Givings to M&S	\$ 19,448	\$ 12,965	\$ 14,634	\$ 1,669

Save These Dates!

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

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 - 9th 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.

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

SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2025

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:
SEPTEMBER 28TH TO OCTOBER 5TH, 2025

Sun. September 28	10:30 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Afternoon Movie Conclave (Lower Hall and Kitchen) Jazz and Reflections – Don Berner Trio (Sanctuary) Movie Discussion Conclave (Zoom)
Mon. September 29	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Youth Empowered Together Monday Hangout (Lower Hall and Kitchen) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Chancel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Tue. September 30	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Stretch and Flex (Lower Hall) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym)
Wed. October 1	1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Creative Connections (Lobby) ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Pursuers Toastmasters (Lower Hall) Leadership Team Meeting (Multipurpose Room 2)
Thu. October 2	6:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	ESSC (Dodgeball) (Gym) Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. October 3	7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set Up (Lobby, Gym and Kitchen) Wedding Rehearsal and Set Up (Sanctuary, Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sat. October 4	8:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program (Lobby, Gym, and Kitchen) Wedding Ceremony and Reception (Sanctuary, Lower Hall and Kitchen)
Sun. October 5	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary and YouTube) https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791 Planned Giving & Estate Planning Session (Lower Hall) Jazz and Reflections – Jerrold Dubyk Trio (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