



# Spirit of Hope United Church

## THE SPARK

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026



### WELCOME TO ALL!

Our Sunday morning worship services are conducted in person, following the protocols listed on page 4.  
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!**

### EXTENDING THE INVITATION

For the next three weeks, 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.



### JOIN THE SPIRIT OF HOPE CHOIR FAMILY!

Do you enjoy singing?

Choir practices begin on **Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.**, and we'd love to see you there!

Never sung in a choir before?

Don't know how to read music?

Warren and choir members are there to mentor new members and we have two on-line resources that help with practice. We also like to have dinner parties!

The choir practices on Thursday evenings from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. during the months of September through May.

Still not sure?

Feel free to talk to Warren or any choir members for more information.

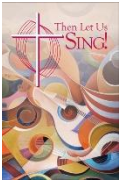


THEN LET US SING HYMN BOOKS

Spirit of Hope has several copies of the new United Church music resource.

There are not enough yet to have by each chair, so they are by the door.

Please feel free to take one to your seat and return it after the service.





# LEARN TO COOK



SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 | 2-7PM

LEARN ABOUT FOOD SAFETY,  
NUTRITION, AND BUDGETING WHILE  
COOKING & EATING  
(AND TAKE HOME YOUR LEFTOVERS!)



REGISTER  
FOR FREE



LIMITED  
SPOTS!

SAVE THE DATE!

All queer and allied youth and young adults are invited to learn, cook, and eat together at these two fun sessions led by Chris Thomson. Registration is limited, so please register soon using the QR code above. Contact [community.spiritofhope@shaw.ca](mailto:community.spiritofhope@shaw.ca) if you have any questions.



# JAZZ & REFLECTIONS



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

NEW ADDRESS OR  
PHONE NUMBER?  
WOULD LIKE TO 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.

We're glad you're here!

Please complete this card so we can contact you to provide information, offer support, and be aware of any changes to your contact information. Your information will not be shared with any third party.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact method: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you want to hear from us?

Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually ☐ Other ☐

How often do you want to be contacted by us?

Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually ☐ Other ☐

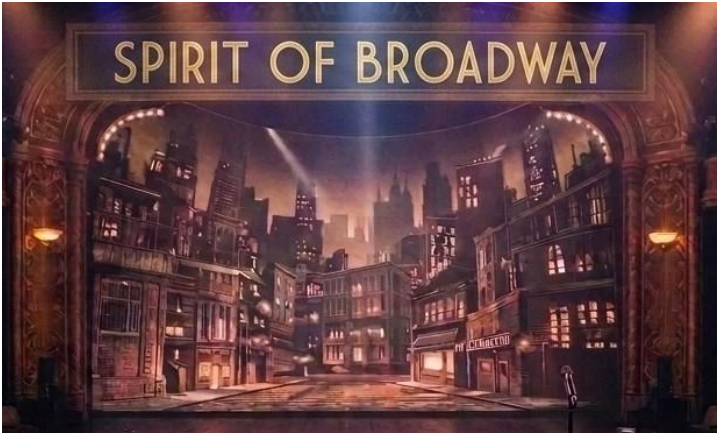
How often do you want to be contacted by us?

Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually ☐ Other ☐

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 **September 13, October 18, November 1 and 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. (noon).**



A CABARET: SPIRIT OF BROADWAY

September 18, 2026 - 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

In late May, the cast of the 2026 Fringe production of Ghost Quartet lost their rehearsal space. On a request from Matthew Gregg, the Spirit of Hope Leadership Team stepped up and allowed GQ to practice rent free in the vacant sanctuary three times per week from June until early August. In appreciation for this generosity, the Ghost Quartet cast (and friends) invite the people of Spirit of Hope to a free evening of song and music in a Cabaret-style setting. Church people do not need to purchase tickets, just come and enjoy

SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNITY  
OPEN MIC  
NIGHT



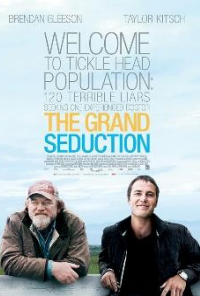
Hosted by Commonwealthgirrl aka Marie Fontaine

Sat. Sept 19 at 6:30pm  
Spirit of Hope United Church

**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 19, 2026, 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.



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

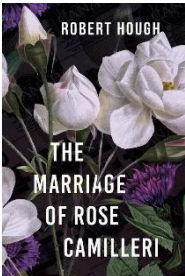
**The Grand Seduction (2013, PG-13)**

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.

**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!

**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!



**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 three weeks. For more information, please contact Susan Bramm or Helen Newsham.

**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.

**Your generosity makes a difference.**

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





# 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](mailto: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!

## 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.



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



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

# Save These Dates!

SEPTEMBER 2026

- Mon. September 7 - Labour Day
- Thu. September 10 - YET (Youth Empowered Together) Kickoff - 4:00 p.m.
- Sat. September 12 - YET (Youth Empowered Together ) - Cooking Crash Course - 2:00 p.m.
- Sun. September 13 - Current Issues Conversations - 12:00 p.m.
- Sun. September 13 - Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.
- Thu. September 17 - Youth Empowered Together (YET) for Youth - 4:00 p.m.
- Fri. September 18 - A Cabaret: Spirit of Broadway - 7:00 p.m.
- Sat. September 19 - Community Open Mic - 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. September 20 -Jazz and Reflections - 3:30 p.m.
- Tues. September 22 - Autumn Book Study (1st of 2 sessions) 7 - 9 p.m
- Thu. September 24 - Youth Empowered Together (YET) for Young Adults - 4:00 p.m.
- Sat. September 26 - BLT! Breakfast - 8:45 a.m.
- 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

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: SETEPMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> TO SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

|              |                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun. Sep. 6  | 10:30 a.m.                                       | <b>Worship Service</b> (Sanctuary and YouTube)<br><a href="https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791">https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791</a>                                                                                                                                                 |
| Mon. Sep. 7  |                                                  | <b>LABOUR DAY (SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH CLOSED)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Tue. Sep. 8  | 9:30 a.m.<br>6:00 p.m.                           | <b>Stretch and Flex</b> (Sanctuary)<br><b>The Edmonton Needlecraft Guild</b> (Lower Hall)                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Wed. Sep. 9  | 10:30 a.m.<br>1:30 p.m.<br>7:00 p.m.             | <b>Ukelele Sing-Along</b> (Lobby)<br><b>Creative Connections</b> (Lobby)<br><b>Les Chantamis Choir</b> (Sanctuary)                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Thu. Sep.10  | 4:00 p.m.<br>6:30 p.m.<br>7:00 p.m.<br>7:30 p.m. | <b>YET (Youth Empowered Together) Kick Off</b> (Lower Hall, Kitchen, and Gym)<br><b>pflag</b> (Lower Hall)<br><b>Private Booking</b> (Gym)<br><b>Spirit of Hope United Church Choir</b> (Sanctuary)                                                                                                               |
| Fri. Sep.11  | 9:00 a.m.<br>6:00 p.m.                           | <b>Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program Set up</b> (Lobby, Gym, Lower Hall, Kitchen)<br><b>3-2-1 Fun!</b> (Lower Hall)                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Sat. Sep.12  | 8:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>2:00 p.m.             | <b>Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program</b> (Lobby, Lower Hall, Kitchen)<br><b>Memorial Service - Dodie Walters and Valerie Williams</b> (Sanctuary, Lower Hall, and Kitchen)<br><b>YET (Youth Empowered Together) Cooking Crash Course</b> (Lower Hall and Kitchen)                                          |
| Sun. Sep. 13 | 10:30 a.m.<br>12:00 p.m.<br>3:30 p.m.            | <b>Worship Service</b> (Sanctuary and YouTube)<br><a href="https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791">https://youtube.com/@spiritofhopeunitedchurch791</a><br><b>Current Issues Conversations with Rev. Blaine Gregg</b> (Lower Hall)<br><b>Jazz and Reflections -Aretha Tillotson Quartet</b> (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  
780-468-1418  
[officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca](mailto:officeadmin.spiritofhope@shaw.ca)

**CHURCH STAFF**  
Minister: Rev. Blaine Gregg [minister.spiritofhope@shaw.ca](mailto: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