



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
February 2026

☎ (780) 434-4012
✉ church@holyspiritlutheran.ca
📍 11223 - 51 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB T5H 0L5
f Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Thurs 9 am - 3 pm
Fridays 9 am - 1 pm
Church Office Closed:
Family Day, February 16th

STAFF
Pastor: **Liz Bell**
Office Admin: **Lori Zeiner**
Admin Assistant: **Darian Neufeld**

WORSHIP TIME
Sunday Mornings at 10:00 am
In-person & live-streamed
on YouTube

ALL ARE WELCOME!
HSLC is an affirming and inclusive community, sharing together the joy and work of God's Love




Upcoming Meetings


Feb 3, 6:30 pm - Worship Committee
Feb 4, 6:30 pm - Church Council
Feb 10, 7:00 pm - Admin Committee
Feb 11, 11:00 am - Ministry Committee
Feb 12, 3:00 pm - Communications Com.
Feb 22, 11:30 am - Annual General Meeting
Feb 25, 6:30 pm - Lifelong Learning Com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 17, 5:30 pm - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Come and join the annual pancake feast! Drop in between 5:30 - 7:30 pm. No charge for supper, just a freewill offering. Gluten free options available. 


February 18, 7:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Service

Come together at HSLC for Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes as we begin the season of Lent. 

February 22, After the Service - Annual General Meeting

A light lunch will be provided with a freewill offering. Please plan to attend this important meeting as we reflect on 2025 and plan for 2026 with budget discussions. The annual report and budget discussion documents will be available on Friday, February 6th, in paper at Holy Spirit and digitally through the weekly update email.

Starting March 9th - Malmo Spring Community Choir

Our local community choir is putting together a spring session and everyone is welcome to join! For more details see page 4. 



AGM

2026 HSLC Annual General Meeting

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22

following worship at 11:30 am
light lunch provided (free will offering)

2025 Annual Report
2026 Budget Discussion Document
Will be available February 6th

PASTOR'S REPORT

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

– Ephesians 4:32

Sometimes it is not until things are good and we feel safe that we are able to relax enough to cry, experience grief, and start to heal.

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church (HSLC) has come through hard times, and you've done that together bravely, creatively, and with a strong faith and trust in God. You had to make heart-breaking decisions and now you are on solid ground. It feels like we are taking a collective deep breath and are ready for whatever God has in mind for us.

If, in this moment, you find yourself feeling something like grief (which can sometimes feel like all the emotions at once crashing in on you like a wave), that is, believe it or not, normal. HSLC is in a stable and healthy place, and some people will only now be able to process stress. As we enter into the fullness of 2026, please be gentle and patient with yourself and others – be ready to give each other an extra dose of grace!

Today, the ministry of HSLC is a vibrant and lively community hub. If you were to poke your head into one of the seven active committees, you would hear laughter, camaraderie, imagination, planning, and a buzz of activity. Ministry here is growing!

The Sunday School is filled with energetic and curious children and youth, the choir continues to attract new members, and we begin 2026 financially in the black – a sign of fiscal stability and health. On January 25th we welcomed several new members into the ministry we share. Things are good!

2026 looks bright for HSLC. When I consider you, the members and friends of HSLC, I give thanks to God for you, because God has called you to be part of this dream team of talent, kindness, passion, gifts, and resources. Just think of all the good God can do through HSLC!



One of the things I am pausing to pray about for 2026 is how to lead and be your pastor as we continue to live into the shift from being staff-led to being congregation-led. More and more responsibility and authority is being entrusted to committees who take the lead. Committees listen to the Holy Spirit and decide with prayer what to focus on and do, communicate with council and the congregation, and invite others to participate. Staff serves as resource, support, and encouragement. This culture shift has been emerging for years and is still in the process of becoming. Moving more fully into a congregation-led ministry model frees us for a whole new world of possibilities. It also means growing pains as we learn new ways to communicate, make decisions, and get things done in a faithful, wise, and God-pleasing way.

What an adventure! I am glad to be on it with you. I am so grateful for Lori and Darian – our office staff is highly collaborative and has an incredible ability to “get things done!”

I am so thankful that God called Jerome and me here to serve with you, the wonderful people of HSLC!

With gratitude,
— **Pastor Liz Bell**

MINISTRY COMMITTEE CARING MINISTRY

The Ministry Committee is in the process of developing a caring ministry called "Looking Out for Each Other."

The purpose is to offer support to those members and friends in our congregation who are going through a difficult time, whether that be an illness, grief, or some other stressful concern.

Support could include:

- Adding people to the prayer list (with permission)
- Sending a card
- Arranging for a pastoral call or visit
- Arranging a meal(s) if needed as per availability in the future

If you feel a personal need for support, please call the office and speak to the pastor or staff. They will contact the ministry committee members to assist in providing support if needed.

We will also be leaving out a box marked "Looking Out for Each Other" where you will find a card to complete with your contact information and specific needs. The ministry committee will be checking this regularly. Confidentiality will be maintained.

We want everyone to feel they are cared for when times are difficult and we as a community are there for support.

TRAVELLING LENT

HSLC is once again joining up with several area churches for midweek Travelling Lent services. All are welcome to get together in worship on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent, followed by refreshments provided by the host congregation.

This schedule isn't quite finalized, so keep an eye on the weekly email update or the event calendar on the HSLC website (holyspiritlutheran.ca) for the most up-to-date info.

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Thank you Sunday School for leading the Christmas fundraising campaign to support the Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) and their work in the Lake Chad region. Thank you to all donors big and small: **We raised \$9868.98!**

Thank you for the gift of prayer. Prayer buddies, keep praying for your Sunday School or confirmation person until the end of May!

Sunday School welcomes Pastor Liz on Feb. 8, who will teach the children about baptism.

Do you have any feedback about the Bite-Sized Bible Study on Zoom? Please let Carola or Kathryn know (kathrynelford@hotmail.com).



Travelling Lent Schedule

Feb. 25, 6:30 pm - Trinity Lutheran (10014 81 Ave)
Mar. 4, 6:30 pm - Holy Spirit Lutheran (11223 51 St)
Mar. 11, 7:00 pm - Lord of Life Lutheran (2710 79 St)
Mar. 19, TBA - Holy Trinity Anglican (10037 84 St)
Mar. 25, TBA - Ansgar Danish Lutheran (9554 108A Ave)

TREASURER UPDATE

Holy Spirit finished 2025 with a surplus of \$8,699, bringing our total accumulated deficit from ~~-\$5,981~~ to a surplus of \$2,718. Thank you for your financial support this year. Every offering, no matter the amount, helped to disappear our deficit.

Through 2025, apart from a couple of months, our income and expenses were close to equal. [At the beginning of 2024, we were in financial crisis, this was just 2 years ago!] Holy Spirit has come a long way from March of 2024.

On March 1, 2026, our mortgage will be renewed. The amount left owing on the mortgage is \$153,999 and, at time of printing/publication, there is \$28,592 from the Mortgage To Ministry campaign to pay down that amount.

If you would like to sign up for the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program, set up a credit card donation, or change your monthly remittance, you can do so by contacting Lori in the office or check out our donation options on our website: holyspiritlutheran.ca/donate.

Thank you for your continued stewardship for Holy Spirit.

— Belynda Kelleher, Treasurer

Thank You!

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025	
Budget Surplus (Deficit) as of Dec 31 2024	-(\$5,981)
Current Year Surplus as of Dec 31 2025	\$8,699
Total Surplus (Deficit)	\$2,718
Float (Daycare deposit)	<u>\$3,000</u>
Available Cash (from budget)	\$5,718
Note: All external designated funds have been paid.	

SNOW ANGELS

A very big thank you to all of the volunteers at Holy Spirit who keep our sidewalk clean throughout the winter months. Members of the congregation and visitors to our church greatly appreciate the time and effort it takes to keep our sidewalks clear of snow.

Editor's note: The amount of snow we had over the end of December into January was a new record for Edmonton! Extra-special thanks for your hard work! Data from edmonton.weatherstats.ca.

Date	Metric	Value
2026-01-12	Maximum Temperature	10.3 °C
2026-01-07	Maximum Snow on the Ground	44 cm
2026-01-06	Maximum Snow on the Ground	45 cm
2026-01-05	Maximum Snow on the Ground	46 cm
2026-01-04	Maximum Snow on the Ground	47 cm
2026-01-03	Maximum Snow on the Ground	46 cm
2026-01-02	Maximum Snow on the Ground	45 cm
2025-12-30	Maximum Snow on the Ground	46 cm

MALMO SPRING CHOIR










Conductor Rebecca Shellenberg is once again heading up the Malmo Community Choir for a spring session! This year, they will be exploring a broad variety of popular choral music, with a selection of pieces you are likely to recognize...

Everyone is welcome to join the choir! Whether you are an experienced singer or have never participated in a choir before, if you are interested in learning music in a fun environment, you are invited to take part. And of course, everyone is invited to the culmination of the choir's hard work at the spring concert on May 4th!

Rehearsals will take place on Mondays from 7:30-8:30 PM at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, starting on March 9th. Tuition is \$108.08 for those with an active Malmo Community League membership, and \$150.75 otherwise. For more information and to register for the choir, please visit MalmoSpringChoir.eventbrite.ca.

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Epiphany 4 10 am Service of the Word 6 pm Bite-Sized Bible Study 7 pm Pickleball	2 ABT Synod Study Conference 9 am ESL Class 9 am Tai Chi (Adv) 10:30 am Tai Chi (Beginner)	3 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 6:30 pm Worship Committee Mtg 6:45 pm Kickboxing	4  9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 12 pm Yesterday's Youth Lunch 6:30 pm Council Meeting	5 9 am ICANSA 7:30 pm Al-Anon	6 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi 10 am ICANSA Calligraphy Class 3 pm ICANSA	7 10 am Myeloma Alberta Support Society
8 Epiphany 5 10 am Service of Holy Communion 6 pm Bite-Sized Bible Study 7 pm Pickleball	9 9 am ESL Class 9 am Tai Chi (Adv) 10:30 am Tai Chi (Beginner)	10 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 6:45 pm Kickboxing 7 pm Admin Committee Mtg	11  9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 11 am Ministry Committee Mtg 7 pm Ponder That!	12  9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 3 pm Comm. Committee Mtg 7:30 pm Al-Anon	13 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi 10 am ICANSA Calligraphy Class 3 pm ICANSA	14 Valentine's Day 
15 Transfiguration of our Lord 10 am Service of the Word 	16 Family Day - Office Closed  9 am ESL Class 9 am Tai Chi (Adv) 10:30 am Tai Chi (Beginner)	17 Shrove Tuesday 5:30 pm Pancake Supper  9 am ICANSA	18 Ash Wednesday 7 pm Service  9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class	19 9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm Al-Anon	20 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi 3 pm ICANSA	21 10 am Ostomy Support Group 12 pm Gym rental
22 Lent 1 AGM Sunday 10 am Service of Holy Communion 11 am AGM 	23 9 am ESL Class 9 am Tai Chi (Adv) 10:30 am Tai Chi (Beginner)	24 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 6:45 pm Kickboxing	25 Travelling Lent at Trinity Lutheran 6:30 pm Service 9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 6:30 pm Lifelong Learning Meeting 7 pm Ponder That!	26  9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm Al-Anon	27 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi 3 pm ICANSA	28 10 am Gym rental



General Office Hours
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 9 am - 1 pm Fridays

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