



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

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

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

OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Thurs 9 am - 3 pm
Fridays 9 am - 1 pm
Church Office Closed:
Victoria Day, May 18

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

May 5, 6:30 pm – Admin Committee
May 6, 3:00 pm – Community Engagement
May 9, 10:00 am - Council Retreat
May 11, 6:30 pm – Church Council
May 12, 6:30 pm – Communications
May 13, 11:00 am – Ministry Committee
May 14, 7:00 pm – Stewardship Committee
May 19, 6:30 pm – Worship Committee
May 21, 7:30 pm – Lifelong Learning

UPCOMING EVENTS

Throughout May - Annual Hygiene Kit Drive

HSLC is collecting personal hygiene items for Edmonton's most vulnerable. See page 4 for a list of requested items.

May 2, 7:00 pm - A Taste of May

Come to Holy Spirit for an evening of music, fellowship, and indulgent morsels! A Taste of May will be a wine, chocolate, and cheese tasting event with an accompanying silent auction. Tickets \$20, all proceeds go to HSLC's Building Fund.

May 4, 7:00 pm - Malmo Community Choir concert

Come listen to some familiar choral classics to celebrate the spring! Stay after the concert to enjoy some treats and meet your neighbours. Free and open to the whole community!

May 6, 12:00 pm - Yesterday's Youth bag lunch

Our young-at-heart senior's group gathers monthly for food, fellowship and fun! Bring your own bag lunch, coffee/tea and dessert are provided. This month, Serenity Funeral Services will share a presentation on pre-planning funerals.

May 9 - Synod Area Gathering in Wetaskiwin: "Leadership in a Shrinking Church"

The next ABT Synod gathering will take place at Grace Lutheran Church in Wetaskiwin, with Rev. Dr. Bill Harrison leading discussions focused on declining attendance. HSLC usually has a large presence at these gatherings, but with the Church council at a learning retreat on that day, we're calling on the congregation to make our presence known! For more info and to register, visit AlbertaSynod.ca.

May 31, after the service - ELCIC Day of Action

Following worship, stick around for an afternoon of action! Learn from advocacy groups, help assemble hygiene kits, help clean up the property – and have a BBQ together!

June 14 - HSLC Summer Picnic

Save the date! This Sunday, HSLC is holding our summer picnic in place of a regular service - more details to come.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



May is a month full of both religious and secular holidays and activities – may you find ways to celebrate, engage, and keep centred.

At Holy Spirit Lutheran Church (HSLC), May begins with A Taste of May on Saturday, May 2nd. This is an opportunity to enjoy good music, good company, and celebrate all the ways HSLC uses its building for ministry that reflects God's love for all. Along with an excuse for a party, funds will be raised for repairs to the building, particularly the roof.

Not to be outdone, May 3rd is a worship celebration and blessing of seeds and soil, formerly known as Rogation Sunday. Alberta is ready for the growing season to begin and we are here to bless our gardeners, farmers, and the earth itself. May you be blessed in all the ways you nurture people, plants, and animals!

Just for fun, we have a few non-religious days: May 4 is an informal Star Wars holiday (May the fourth be with you – ha, ha), May fifth is Cinco de Mayo, a Mexican holiday, and May 17 Syttende Mai, a Norwegian holiday. Plenty of excuses to celebrate.

Before you know it, we arrive at Saturday, May 9th: HSLC Council orientation. Please pray for our council as we listen deeply for God's will as we agree on how we make decisions together, review tools, policies, and reports, and engage in big discussions that we might not have time for in our regular monthly meetings.

And then comes, Sunday, May 10th. Mother's Day. I am thankful for my mom who got me 7-UP when I was sick, comforted me when my world was crashing because my best friend and I had a fight, worried over me on my first big trip abroad, and is still one of the first people I want to call when I have big news to share.

This Mother's Day at HSLC, you will have the opportunity to light a candle to honour, to remember, to forgive, to pray for, and/or to give thanks. Mother's Day can carry a lot of different emotions, memories, and grief for what was, what wasn't, what could/should/might have been, and all the hard and joyful parts along the way. I hope that you will find space within worship at HSLC to simply be on this Mother's Day.

Phew, there is a lot going on, but don't worry; We do have the holiday weekend on May 16-18!

After the long weekend, we celebrate Pentecost. A festival day to honour the Holy Spirit. Please wear RED, Sunday, May 24. Why red, you may ask? Apart from the fact that it looks cool, the tradition of wearing red is tied to the Holy Spirit descending on the early disciples as, what looked like, tongues of fire. This enabled everyone in the global port town to hear the good news in their own language – a miracle and gift of the Holy Spirit. This event is considered the official birthday of the Church.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we join with Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada congregations all over Canada in a special Day of Action, on Sunday, May 31st. Please bring in hygiene items throughout May so we can assemble them into kits. In addition to putting kits together, you will have the opportunity to learn about homelessness in Edmonton, participate in advocacy work, and/or get outside and join in the spring cleanup. When the work is done, we will eat. A great day of worship, mission work, food, and community.

Isn't it great to be part of such an active and alive congregation!! Thanks be to God!

— **Pastor Liz Bell**

UPDATE FROM THE HSLC ADMIN COMMITTEE

The Importance of Pre-Work

The work of the HSLC Admin Committee includes looking after our building and property – and that, in turn, means looking after people. We want to ensure our spaces are safe, welcoming, and well maintained for all people for many years ahead.

In two recent examples, Council and Admin focused on doing our homework, ensuring that we have the information needed to make good decisions about how to spend our money on our physical and human infrastructure:

- The Property Committee is working with an engineering consulting firm to do a thorough assessment of our leaky roof. The report they provide will ensure that when we contract for repairs, we are fully informed about what is needed.
- The Accessibility Team is working with an expert organization to complete an “accessibility audit” of our spaces and practices. Their report will help us understand where and how to focus our efforts to ensure inclusion for people of all kinds of abilities, including people who are neurodivergent and people who face mobility challenges.

Council has approved these two forms of spending, and we look forward to figuring out our next steps based on what we learn from this pre-work.



Josh, Zachary, and Rachel as we wind up a site tour for the Accessibility Audit. We have contracted with Zachary Weeks for this important work (www.ZacharyWeeks.ca).

Looking Out For Each Other

Reach out to the Ministry Committee for extra support in tough times

Place filled-out cards in the box by the office

TREASURER'S REPORT 2026

	Income	Expense	+/-
January	26,528	31,764	-5,236
February	29,118	32,661	-3,543
March	<u>33,359</u>	<u>35,507</u>	<u>-2,148</u>
Total	89,005	99,932	-10,927

Monthly Budget \$38,341

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION AS AT MARCH 31, 2026

Budget Surplus as of Dec 31, 2025	\$2,718
Current Year Surplus (Deficit) as of Feb 28, 2026	(\$10,927)
Total Surplus (Deficit)	(\$8,209)



COMMUNITY GARDEN REGISTRATION

As the weather warms and we are safe – well, safer, at least – from the frost, we’re looking for interested gardeners who would like to tend to a plot! There are twelve large garden boxes (120" by 48", 22" or 30" tall), many of which are still seeking someone to tend to them for the season. For more information or to reserve a plot, scan the QR code below or visit HolySpiritLutheran.ca/Ministries/Community-Garden!



It’s time for the annual Hygiene Kit Drive! This year, HSLC is using this initiative to participate in the Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada (ELCIC) Day of Action on May 31st, where we’ll assemble donated items into kits in addition to other advocacy and maintenance work. Please bring any of these items to the donation bin in the Narthex!

- Bar Soap
- Toothbrush
- Comb
- Lip Balm
- Washcloth
- Sunscreen
- Menstrual Products (Pads & Tampons)
- Razor
- Deodorant
- Nail Clippers
- Nail Files
- Travel Shampoo
- Travel Conditioner
- Travel Toothpaste

HSLC IS HIRING

Holy Spirit is now seeking applicants for an 8-week Summer Student Administrative Assistant position, funded through the Canada Summer Jobs Program (#5410983). The position pays \$15/hr, 35hr/week, with a potential start date of June 29th.

Applicants must be age 15-30 with a valid SIN number, and be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person with refugee status. If you are interested, please send your resume to church@holyspiritlutheran.ca by **May 25th** to apply!

Scan the QR code on the right for the job listing, or visit jobbank.gc.ca/jobsearch/jobposting/49333673



Yesterday's Youth

This Month's Presentation:

**Serenity Funeral Services
on Pre-Planning Funerals**

Wednesday May 6th at 12:00

Bring a bag lunch


Coffee/Tea/Dessert provided


Come for fellowship & laughter

All are welcome!



May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Holy Spirit Lutheran Church ELCIC A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community</p> <p>General Office Hours 9 am - 3 pm Monday - Thursday 9 am - 1 pm Fridays</p> <p>Call: 780-434-4012 email: church@holyspiritlutheran.ca</p>					1	2
					9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi	<p>A Taste of May Building fundraiser 7 pm</p>  <p>10 am Myeloma Support Society</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>Easter 5 Seeds & Soil Sunday 10 am Service of Holy communion</p> <p>2 pm Malmo Community Choir Dress Rehearsal</p>	<p>Malmo Community Choir Concert 7 pm</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 2 pm FD Drop off 4 pm Food Depot 6:30 pm Admin Committee Mtg</p>	 <p>9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 12 pm Yesterday's Youth Lunch 3 pm Community Engagement Mtg</p>	9 am ICANSA 7:30 pm AI-Anon	<p>RCM Exams</p>  <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>Council Retreat 10 am</p> <p>ABT Synod Area Gathering Grace Lutheran in Wetaskiwin</p> <p>RCM Exams</p> 
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Easter 6 Mother's Day 10 am Service of Holy Communion</p> 	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 2 pm FD Drop off 4 pm Food Depot 6:30 pm Comm. Committee Mtg</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 11 am Ministry Committee Mtg</p>	 <p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7 pm Stewardship Committee Mtg 7:30 pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi</p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>Ascension of our Lord 10 am Service of Holy Communion</p> 	<p>Victoria Day Office Closed</p>  <p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Worship Committee Mtg</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Lifelong Learning Mtg 7:30 pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>Pentecost</p>  <p>10 am Service of Holy Communion</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 2 pm FD Drop off 4 pm Food Depot</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class</p>	 <p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi</p>	
31						
<p>Holy Trinity 10 am Service of the Word</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 2 pm FD Drop off 4 pm Food Depot</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA Tai Chi</p>	

 **ELCIC Day of Action** - Advocacy, Hygiene kit assembly, Property Cleanup, BBQ!