



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
November 2025

 (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:

Staff Planning Day - November 3
Remembrance Day - November 11

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

Nov 4, 7:00 pm - Admin Committee
Nov 5, 3:00 pm - Community Engagement
Nov 5, 6:30 pm - Church Council
Nov 12, 3:00 pm - Community Engagement
Nov 13, 10:00 am - Communications Com.
Nov 17, 2:30 pm - Ministry Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 3 & 17, 6:30 - Chrismon Ornament Decorating

Come decorate ornaments together and celebrate the meaning of the Christmas season! More details on page 4.



November 5, 12:00 - Yesterday's Youth Bag Lunch

Our monthly seniors' gathering! Bring a bag lunch, coffee and dessert will be provided. Following lunch we will be treated to a historic photo presentation by David Aaron.



November 15, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm - Christmas Market

This year, HSLC's annual Christmas market will feature well over 20 local artisans, live music, a raffle, a bake sale, and more! Entry is free, and all are welcome!



November 26, 7:00 pm - First Travelling Advent Service

Holy Spirit is joining up with three other Edmonton-area Lutheran churches for a series of midweek Advent services. The first one will be at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church (205 Fir St, Sherwood Park), with coffee and treats following the service.



SERVING WITHIN OUR WORSHIP

The ministry of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church would not be possible without the contributions, both big and small, from all the volunteers who freely give their time and energy in service. The Worship Committee reached out to HSLC's ushers and the Altar Guild to ask why they chose to serve in these roles and what they enjoy about this act of service.

Ushers: Why did you join?

- It is a straightforward act of service and support that doesn't require an extra time commitment, since I'm at worship anyway.
- I decided to usher to help out as a volunteer to our church community...it wouldn't run without volunteers.
- I do the ushering because it is one thing I can do to contribute. I have served on council and a variety of committees and don't really want to do that anymore but ushering and counting are things I can do.
- Volunteers were needed at the time.
- I am part of a church family and am willing to show my support by volunteering in some way. I am comfortable with ushering and feel I am helping Parishioners as they enter Worship. I also know that my assistance helps the Service run smoothly.
- I see ushering as helping to direct the flow of the congregation, especially during communion to ensure the process goes smoothly and orderly for all. It bothers me when the pastor and assistants have to wait for people at the altar rail to serve them. The ushers need to be inviting people forward so that communion can be served efficiently!
- It is an important ministry of hospitality. If no one is there to welcome and give a bulletin or instructions about the service, it feels as though something is lacking, especially for visitors.
- Some gentle coaxing by Dorothy Gitzel.



What do you enjoy about Ushering?

- I enjoy being part of the ritual of church. It's soothing and reassuring to reflect on many generations of Christians following a sacred pattern of worship.
- I like the camaraderie of having a co-usher, usually someone different each time. It's a little "get to know you while serving together" that adds to the process.
- Meeting and greeting people when I usher.
- Doing something I can do in the church and also just being part of the ushers' group.
- Greeting the congregation in the morning makes me smile, and sometimes they smile back.
- Greeting people and visiting people as they enter the Sanctuary. I also get a sense of accomplishment when I have assisted others.
- The opportunity to greet people and hopefully assist them in the worship experience.
- Greeting people and I try to be out in the open area as people come in just to welcome and answer any questions they may have.
- Learning more about our services and the interactions with people attending our services.

Continued on page 3



Altar Guild: What do you enjoy about your service?

- I volunteer with a friend. We get a chance to chat while doing the washing up. Makes my church feel more like my second home.
- My personal circumstances mean there are many things I can't volunteer for. However, besides the fun of working with a friend, Altar guild also allows me to feel a part of this church.
- Fits with my schedule and not overtaxing.
- A way that I can share in the work of the Lord.
- For me it's a meaningful job done when the sanctuary is peaceful.
- It is an easy and pleasing way to serve.
- It feels like a meditation and centres me for the week to come.
- Preparation and presentation help bring the intangible closer to those who partake in Holy Communion.
- Simple but very meaningful ministry. Setting the table for a communal meal: there's a tablecloth, napkins, a cup, and enough bread and wine for all.
- A small but important way to help our community of faith follow Jesus' example. Worship together is more fulfilling when we hear the Word read and preached and we celebrate Jesus' meal together.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Altar Guild or the ushers, please contact the office at (780) 434-4012 or church@holyspiritlutheran.ca.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Thank you to those who participated in the reverse offering for Thanksgiving! We stocked up our Parish Pantry and donated supplies to the food bank.

The fourth annual Christmas Market is coming on November 15th! With a full slate of vendors, a bake sale, live music, a kids' corner, and a same-day raffle, this year promises to be festive and memorable. If you would like to contribute, we would greatly appreciate donated items for the bake sale.

With the Advent season coming up, we are working on hosting ornament decorating activities, one of the travelling Advent services, the giving tree, and a potluck on Sunday, December 28th with games to follow. Stay tuned for more information about these events!

TREASURER'S REPORT 2025

	Income	Expense	+/-
January	23,719	29,342	-5,623
February	27,306	27,849	-543
March	32,135	30,019	2,116
April	22,388	28,873	-6,485
May	29,934	29,629	305
June	28,975	29,545	-570
July	31,292	31,514	-222
August	31,757	35,457	-3,700
Sept	<u>34,802</u>	<u>31,007</u>	<u>3,795</u>
Total	262,307	273,234	-10,928

Monthly Budget \$36,847

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Budget Surplus (Deficit) as of Dec 31, 2024	-(\$5,981)
Current Year Surplus (Deficit) as of July 31, 2025	-(\$10,928)
Total Surplus (Deficit)	-(\$16,909)

TWO HSLC COMMUNITY FUND PROJECTS FOR 2025-2026

Our community is full of good ideas! Two wonderful projects have been approved for funding from the Holy Spirit Endowment Fund this year.

A neighbourhood bottle drive to help drive down the deficit — Thanks to Rachel P. for bringing this forward. Most likely, the bottle campaign will take place in the spring. Stay tuned – and if you have bottle drive experience and want to help, please let someone on Council know!

A table at Edmonton's Two-Spirit powwow — Thanks to Kathy S. for heading this up, as a part of our ongoing efforts to enact reconciliation and build relationships with Indigenous kin. This will take place in 2026, so stay tuned.

NOV. 3 & 17 CHRISMON WORKSHOP



A 'Chrismon' is a Christmas ornament featuring Christian symbols, traditionally white and gold, derived from the words "Christ" and "Monogram." They are used to celebrate the meaning of Christmas and represent aspects of the faith, such as crosses, stars, and the Chi Rho symbol. They can be displayed on a special evergreen "Chrismon tree."

On **November 3rd and 17th, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm**, everyone is invited to come decorate Chrismons at HSLC! Sign up in the Narthex. Bring golden adornments to wrap or glue on bulbs: ribbons, sequins, stickers, beads...get creative!

ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

The accessibility working group (Sandra T., Tom D., Chris S., & Sara D.) is working on a number of fronts to try and make Holy Spirit more accessible to all. If you are interested in being a part of this effort, please let Sara D. know – we can always use more hands and hearts. A few things we are working on:

- Changes in furniture arrangements and access to the buildings and bathroom, for ease of mobility,
- Audio devices to support those with hearing loss,
- Supportive spaces and activities for neurodiverse people, and
- Applying for funding to support the above!

Oct 19: Pr. Liz' Installation



Oct 26: Lutheran Choir Festival



Congregational Comment

What is a Bible story or verse that you refer back to again & again? Why?

Woman at the Well

John 4

"She came with her water jar for water - after her encounter with Jesus she left her water jar and ran back to tell friends of someone she met who changed her life. I wonder what water jars in my life could I leave behind with Jesus? What weighs me down that I want to leave behind? As I name those water jars to leave, then I may hear God calling me to deeper faith."

Jonah and the Plant

(Summary): God loves people we might see as enemies and shows mercy. Our job is to love, not to judge.

Romans 8:26

"It reminds me that even if I don't get the words right, God knows and understands."

Phillipians 4:4-7

"This is my 'relief valve' when anxiety builds up to cut out worrying and anxiety by taking the worries to God in prayer for peace of mind."

Micah 6:8

"It's a call as to how I might live my life."

Walk to Emmaus

"It reminds me that I often do not recognize the presence of Jesus in those who walk or work with me. It also reminds me that the presence of Jesus is experienced as the Word is explained and the Sacrament is shared among us. That tells me why our worship services are most complete when both Word and Sacrament are shared."

Psalms 23

Romans 11:6

Luke 23:43

"Very simply, these verses give me hope."

Mary & Martha

Luke 10

"It is easy to relate to."

1 Corinthians 12:4-20

"It is one of the most enduring and inclusive messages of the New Testament."

Mark 11:24

"I truly believe in the power of prayer. I have numerous stories where I say this will happen because I prayed or this will get worked out because I prayed and it does."

This is just one verse I have highlighted in my bible. I grew up being told not to write in my Bible. But now I write in it and highlight verses. I love when I read a devotion book and the passage is something I have highlighted."

Proverbs 3:5-6

"I memorized this, as well as other Bible verses, as a teenager. It has stayed with me. It has been a comforting guide all through life."

1 Corinthians 13

"This is one of the most important teachings of Christianity. All of our talents, ambitions, and relationships mean nothing without love. Love is eternal, God's greatest gift. We so often forget this and don't live the gospel."

2 Corinthians 5:17

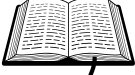
"In my mind, this is a new covenant between me and God. It is a promise that I have a new birth in Christ, and brings me back to the Garden of Eden where all things are created wholesome and new."

Psalms 46:10

"God is the calm in the middle of the storm. This verse is a reminder that God is God (and I am not!)."

Last month we asked about the verses and stories that have been significant to HSLC parishioners, and we received a wide variety of thought-provoking reflections in response. You are invited to look up these stories and verses suggested by your friends and neighbours. Thank you to everyone who submitted their thoughtful responses!

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Holy Spirit Lutheran Church ELCIC A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community General Office Hours 9 am - 3 pm Monday - Thursday 9 am - 1 pm Fridays Call: 780-434-4012 email: church@holyspiritlutheran.ca						1 8 am - Myeloma Alberta Support Society 7 pm - Rental
2 All Saints Sunday  10 am Service 5 pm - Installation of Rev. Elly McHan	3 Staff Planning Day - Office Closed 9 am ESL class 10 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Ornament Decorating 7:30 Malmö Community Choir	4 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 4:15 pm Confirmation class 6:45 pm Kickboxing 7 pm Admin Committee mtg	5  9 am ICANSA 9 am ESL Class 3 pm Community Engagement 12 pm Yesterday's Youth Lunch 6:30 Council Mtg	6 9 am ICANSA 7:30 pm Al-Anon	7 9 am ESL Class	8  1 pm ICAN Cooking Class
9 Pentecost 22 10 am Service 7 pm Pickleball	10 9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi	11  Remembrance Day - Office Closed  9 am ICANSA 6:45 pm Kickboxing	12  9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 3 pm Community Engagement 7 pm Ponder That	13  9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Commu-ications Mtg 7:30 pm Al-Anon	14  9 am ESL Class	15 Christmas Market 10 am - 4 pm 
16 Pentecost 23 - Faith Story Sunday 10 am Service 7 pm Pickleball	17 9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi 12 pm ICAN Cross Generation Event 2:30 pm Ministry Committee Mtg 6:30 pm Ornament Decorating 7:30 pm Malmö Community Choir	18 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:45 Kickboxing	19  9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 6 pm Advent Kit Worker Bee	20 9 am ICANSA 7:30 pm Al-Anon	21  9 am ESL Class	22   1 pm ICAN Cooking Class
23 Christ the King Sunday 10 am Service 7 pm Pickleball	24 9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi 7:30 pm Malmö Community Choir	25 9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:45 Kickboxing	26 Travelling Advent Service 7 pm @ Mt. Olivet  9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA	27  9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Al-Anon	28   9 am ESL Class	29   
30 First Advent 10 am Service 7 pm Pickleball						