



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
A Welcoming Christ-Centered
Community

OCTOBER 2025

CONTACT US



(780) 434-4012



church@holyspiritlutheran.ca



11223 - 51 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB T5H 0L5



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

GENERAL OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs 9 am - 3 pm

Fridays 9 am - 1 pm

Church Office Closed:

Monday, October 13

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.



October Committee/Council Meetings

Oct 1, 3:00 pm - Community Engagement

Oct 1, 6:30 pm - Church Council

Oct 7, 7:00 pm - Administration

Oct 9, 7:00 pm - Stewardship

Oct 15, 3:00 pm - Community Engagement

Oct 16, 6:30 pm - Worship

Oct 20, 2:30 pm - Ministry

Oct 29, 6:30 pm - Lifelong Learning

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1, 12:00 pm - Yesterday's Youth Bag Lunch



Come for fellowship and laughter, featuring a performance by the HVE Gospel Singers. Bring a bag lunch, coffee/tea and dessert are provided. All are welcome!

October 4, 9:00 am-1:00 pm - Many Hands Clean Up



Come help tidy the church inside and out! Please drop by as you are able.

October 8 & 22, 7:00 pm - Ponder That!



Join the conversation! This month, we will continue to explore the how and why of our holy scriptures.

October 9 & 23, 9:30 am - Bible Study



Join us twice a month to delve into our lectionary readings. All are welcome!

October 9-11 - Worship by Heart Retreat



An ABT Synod retreat for growing in the companion arts of telling scripture by heart and leading paperless singing. See page 2 for more details.

October 19, 3:00 pm - Pastor Liz's Installation



Come and celebrate with us as Pastor Liz is installed and officially welcomed as HSLC's Pastor. All are welcome to attend in person or online via [HSLC's YouTube Livestream](#). Stay for refreshments after the service!

October 25, 9:00-3:30 - May this Church Be Like A Tree



A congregational life event, held at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Red Deer, for faithful discernment on the subject of our church properties. See page 3 for more details.

October 26, 7:00 pm - Edmonton Lutheran Choir Festival

Join us at HSLC for a joint performance by six Edmonton area Lutheran Church choirs! Refreshments to follow.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised."

—Psalm 113: 3, NRSV

The leaves change their colours, the days become shorter, and the air is crisp and fresh. Autumn has arrived, and with it a celebration of friendship, family, and the abundance of the harvest.

As you prepare for this new season, I invite you to take a moment to notice.

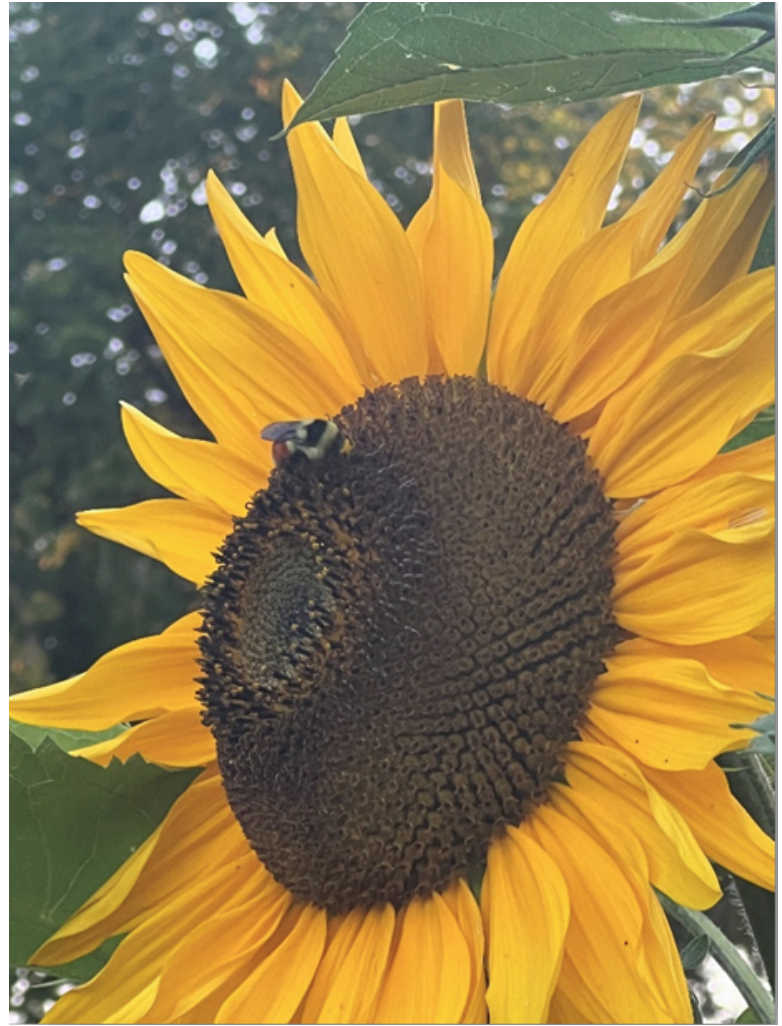
- Notice the sun's rising and falling, as the days shorten and the night deepens.
- Notice the people around you as they change from the colours and styles of summer to the warm weather clothes of Fall and Winter.
- Notice the birds moving overhead, the sounds of wind whistling through the trees.
- Notice yourself: your breath, your body, your "you-ness." As the seasons change, how are you changing? How is God transforming and working in you, through you?
- Where do you sense God's presence or handiwork?

Consider the sunflower. It is so attuned to the sun that it moves to follow the sun throughout the day, soaking in its warmth and energy.

As we enter a new season, let's take a cue from the sunflower by finding moments to notice the Earth and world around us, to pay attention to the creative work of the Holy Spirit, and to give thanks. Join the Psalmist who sings, *"from the rising of the sun to the setting of the same — the name of the Lord shall be praised."*

May gratitude inspire joy so that gladness and thankfulness might be this season's theme!

— **Pastor Liz Bell**



Worship by Heart Retreat

From October 9 to 11, the Worship by Heart retreat will take place at Kuriakos Retreat Centre! This event, focusing on the arts of telling scripture by heart and leading paperless singing, is for anyone who has a leadership role in a faith community: readers, choristers, pastors, and anyone else who wants to develop their skills of worship leadership. No previous experience necessary.

The cost to register is \$190 per person, with a \$20 discount if three or more attend from the same congregation. For more information and to register, visit kuriakos.ab.ca/programs/worship-by-heart.





Worship Committee Update

Now that fall is here, it is time to look forward to future events that precede the season of Advent.

Welcome Packages are available for new members visiting our church. These packages contain a business card, the current newsletter, a post card displaying our mission statement, and a past calendar of events.

September to October: Reverse Offering. A forest was created in the church with essential items taped to leaves on clothespins. Items can be brought to the church and spread around the trees until Thanksgiving Sunday. Our Parish Pantry and Food Bank welcome your generosity and support.

September 28: Truth and Reconciliation Sunday. We acknowledge the harms of the past and the oppression and discrimination that we passively continue to be a part of. May we be a voice for change and may this be a step in a long journey towards justice for and reconciliation with our siblings.

October 26: Reformation Sunday – Thank you, Martin Luther.

November 2: All Saints Sunday is celebrated to remember your loved ones who are now in heaven. Send your pictures to church@holyspiritlutheran.ca in memory to be shown during service.

November 19: Advent worship kits will be completed again this year with members of the congregation volunteering for a fun evening of fellowship and to put these kits together in November. A sign-up sheet will be available in the future.

Congregational Life Event

“May This Church Be Like a Tree.”

You might recognize those words from the hymn of the same title by Pablo D Sosa. (ACS 1042) Every tree knows the rhythm of the seasons and our churches are living through these seasons too. It's new territory for us as we hold the gifts of buildings from our predecessors and step forward to learn – how bricks and mortar, wood and nails may creatively continue to serve God's mission.

The 2025 ABT Congregational Life Event will be held on October 25, from 9:00-3:30, at Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd in Red Deer. Lunch will be provided. **Please register at albertasynod.ca by October 19 to help with meal planning!**

Our learning partner at this event will be Katja Brittain, who has worked with many congregations to shape faithful discernment. She will guide us in all kinds of new understandings of how we see our church properties.

Come and be part of this hopeful movement. Let's grow into the church our communities need today—and the church God is calling us to be tomorrow.

Everyone is welcome! We hope to see you at this important and inspiring gathering.

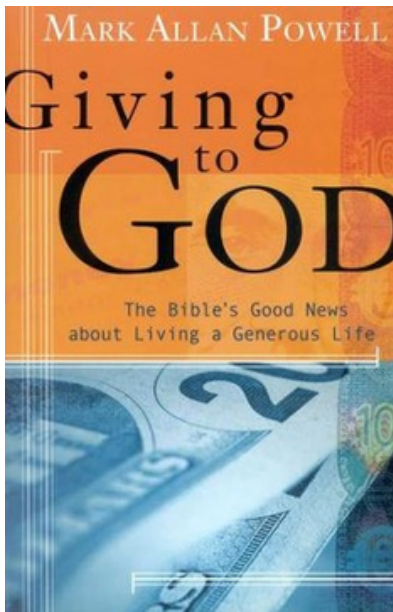
SAVE THE DATE!

**CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 15
10 AM - 4 PM**

 **HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH**
11223 - 51 AVE NW, EDMONTON

BOOK REVIEW – Giving to God



I grew up on a small farm in rural Saskatchewan. We never had much, although we did not lack for the necessities of life, so it was difficult not to compare with neighbors who seemed to have more of the good things of life. My fear was if I gave something away, I would not have what I needed.

Bible scholar Mark Allan Powell, has written a book well worth reading: ***Giving to God: the Bible's Good News about living a Generous Life***. Powell has written an excellent guide faithful to the teaching of Scripture, and to the promises of Christ. He looks at stewardship as a joy-filled aspect of our relationship with God. Our primary concern is not what we should do – whether to give our money away, where we should give it, or how much we should give. The good news of Scripture is more about learning to give to God as something we will want to do.

Free Leadership Certification Program

Are you concerned about climate change?

Do you want to find ways to share this concern with others and inspire your congregation?

Are you looking to improve your resume?

Canadian Lutheran World Relief is offering a free leadership certification program to youth ages 16-25! The program will be held on October 24th from 2 pm to 10 pm, and October 25th from 8 am to 4 pm.

In giving to God, we are expressing that all we are, and everything we have belongs to God, and we put this faith into action when we offer ourselves and our possessions to be used as God sees fit. When we do this, we discover God provides us with everything we need to be content. As well, we discover giving becomes a bond that brings us closer to God, and helps us to become the kind of people we want most to be. Faithful use of our time, talents and money begins with a satisfying relationship with God. We can learn to give generously out of our heartfelt connection with God.

This is not a “money management” book but a resource to give us direction on how to live a joyful, more satisfying life of faith. Jesus was not a fund-raiser. He talked about money a lot, not because he wanted people to give to any particular cause. He talked about money because he cared about us, and because he knew that what we do with our money affects who we are spiritually.

We often say, “Give from the heart!” But Jesus seemed to say, “Give where you want your heart to go, and let your heart catch up”. Don’t just give to things you care about, but give to things you want to care about. If I asked myself, if I were the sort of person I would really like to be, then what would I do? How would I spend my money and my time? Put your treasure where you want your heart to go, and your heart will follow. Mark Allen Powell’s book is in our church library, and I encourage a wide readership.

— Darryl M. Roste

For more information, visit clwr.org/foc-leadership or contact Wendy at wendy.clwr@gmail.com.



**Friends of
Creation**



SUMMER PEOPLE'S FORUM REPORT

In June, I travelled to Calgary to attend two People's Forum events: the G7 Jubilee People's Forum organized by Kairos, and a grassroots event hosted by the International Migrants Alliance. These events were planned to align with the meeting of world leaders in Kananaskis.

I attended as a congregant of Holy Spirit and to support and share the social justice work of this congregation. I travelled with Whitney from AWARE, helping to support 3 youth who were sharing their personal experiences with attendees, of living as undocumented children in Alberta, the impact that being denied access to education has had on their lives, and their activism through the Educ4All campaign.

The G7 Jubilee People's Forum was an interfaith conference "representing hundreds of thousands from around the globe who believe that by uplifting Indigenous voices, Global South voices and the voices of people of faith and conscience... demanding a more equitable, sustainable and humane future." ([Kairos, 2025](#)). The vision of conference organizers is to build, from the ground up, a Jubilee world – "...where enslaved and indentured people are freed, debts are cancelled, and the land is returned and allowed to rest. A world where economic and ecological justice and decolonization are the norm, not the exception."

The conference began with an interfaith service led by the Calgary Interfaith Council. His Eminence, Pedro Cardinal Barreto from Peru opened the conference. This was followed by voices from a wide variety of faith traditions who shared religious teachings connected to debt, relief and sharing. The evening closed with Langar provided by members of the Sikh community.

Over the weekend we participated in sessions highlighting the social, economic, and cultural costs of "debt" and to envision different models for our future. I was present to hear Yael, Dayana, and Ariana, the undocumented youth from Edmonton who are fighting for access to K-12 education, share their powerful stories during the Migrants and Jubilee session. Throughout the weekend we shared information about the Educa4All campaign and



collected signatures for a petition the youth hope will go to the Alberta legislature this fall.

The Jubilee movement calls for mobilizing communities of faith and conscience to demand:

- Debt cancellation
- Global financial reform
- A debt resolution framework within the United Nations

In addition to participating in the Jubilee conference, I met on Saturday with community groups and activists from across Canada engaged in work from tenant rights and labour protection to military disarmament, Indigenous land rights and protection of the environment. We discussed the challenges people are facing, successes and setbacks in advocacy, strategies for mobilizing action and how groups can engage in greater collaboration.

A few takeaways from the weekend:

- Community activism is formed by, nurtured by, and an extension of faith. While not all social justice work is directly a faith-based activity, it is faith that roots and sustains many people's activist work. What kind of activists are being raised and nurtured by this congregation?
- Religious spaces are vital for grassroots organizing. They are one of the few spaces where mutual aid rather than economic profit is operating. Religious spaces provide safe refuge. A tablemate, who worked in Hong Kong, shared ...

Continued on page 6

- ...that the churches have been at the center of organizing for migrant workers as it is the only space for meeting outside the view of employers and the state. It made me think of the welcome this congregation has given to various community groups, including FAM and Educ4ALL. It made me consider how we as a congregation extend and expand our vision of “all are welcome and all means all.”
- Justice and faith are intertwined and are not exclusive to religious communities.
- The youth are leading the charge in envisioning and demanding a more just world. What are we doing?
- Sometimes the most powerful and scary thing we can do is show up. How will I “show up” today?



Kairos



Educ4All

Blessed Education!

Backpacks were blessed September 7th on Rally Sunday, as were Sunday School teachers on September 14th! Thank you to the 14 prayer buddies who have volunteered to uphold our children and teachers in both Sunday School and confirmation.



I encourage folks to visit the Kairos website (kairoscanada.org/jubilee-2025-canada) to learn more about the Jubilee Movement and to learn more about the Educ4All campaign (albertaworkers.org/ed4all) advocating for access to education, regardless of status as expected of signatories to the [UN Convention for the Rights of the Child](https://www.un.org/en/conventions/treaty/44). I welcome conversations as to how this connects to the social justice work at Holy Spirit and the larger church.

– Wanda Chell



FINANCIAL UPDATE

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	<u>31,757</u>	<u>35,457</u>	<u>-3,700</u>
Total	227,505	242,228	-14,723

Monthly Budget \$36,847

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION AS AT AUGUST 31, 2025

Budget Surplus (Deficit) as of Dec 31, 2024	-(\$5,981)
Current Year Surplus (Deficit) as of July 31, 2025	-(\$14,723)
Total Surplus (Deficit)	-(\$20,704)



Edmonton Lutheran Choir Festival!

This month, HSLC will play host to a huge gathering of Edmonton area ELCIC Lutheran Church Choirs! Come and see performances from choirs heralding from Holy Spirit, Ascension, Trinity, Hosanna, and Glory Lutheran churches, as well as the combined mass choir!

The event will take place here at HSLC at 7:00 PM on October 26th. Refreshments will follow the performance.

All proceeds from the event will go towards Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church's Refugee fund. To donate and receive a charitable receipt, e-transfer donation@trinity-lutheran.ab.ca.

Eternity for Today

Oct-Dec 2025 Now Available

EFT is a daily devotional with prayers and reflections on our lectionary readings, provided by members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada



Booklets are available in the narthex

Tai Chi

BEGINNER CLASS

Mondays 10 - 11 am
Church Gym

All are welcome!















Saturday, Oct 4
9 - 1 PM

**MANY HANDS
FALL CLEAN UP**



October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>HSLC</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>		<p>1 </p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 12 pm Yesterday's Youth Lunch 3 pm Community Engagement mtg 6:30 Coucil mtg</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm 59th Ed. Scout Group 7:30 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>4 </p> <p>9 am Many Hands Clean Up 10 am Myeloma Alberta Support Society</p>
<p>5</p> <p>17 Pentecost 10 am Service of Holy Communion</p>  <p>7 pm Pickleball</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:45 Kickboxing 7 pm Admin mtg</p>	<p>8 </p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 7 pm Ponder That!</p>	<p>9 Worship By Heart Retreat</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm 59th Ed. Scout Group  7:00 pm Stewardship mtg 7:30 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>11 </p>
<p>12</p> <p>18 Pentecost & Thanksgiving Sunday 10 am Service of Holy Communion</p>	<p>13 Thanksgiving Monday Office Closed</p>  <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:45 Kickboxing</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 3 pm Community Engagement mtg</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Worship Committee mtg 7:30 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 am Ostomy Canada Support Society</p>
<p>19</p> <p>19 Pentecost 10 am Service of Holy Communion 12:30 Confirmation field trip 3 pm Pastor Liz installation</p> <p>7 pm Pickleball</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi 2:30 pm Ministry Committee mtg 7:30 pm Malmo Community Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 6:45 Kickboxing</p>	<p>22 </p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 7 pm Ponder That!</p>	<p>23 </p> <p>9 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>24</p> <p>2 pm - 10 pm CLWR Friends Of Creation Program</p> <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8 am - 4 pm CLWR Friends Of Creation Program 9 am: May This Church be Like A Tree </p>
<p>26</p> <p>Reformation & Confirmation Sunday 10 am Service of Holy Communion 7 pm Edmonton Lutheran Choir Festival</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 10 am Tai Chi 7:30 pm Malmo Community Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 4 pm Food Depot 4:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:45 Kickboxing</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9 am ESL Class 9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Lifelong Learning mtg</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9 am ICANSA 6:30 pm 59th Ed. Scout Group 7:30 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>31 </p> <p>9 am ESL Class</p>	