HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
October 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:
Thanksgiving Monday, October 12

STAFF
Pastor: **Liz Bell**
Office Admin: **Lori Zeiner**

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 EVENTS

October 7, 12:00 pm - Yesterday's Youth Bag Lunch
Come for fellowship and laughter. All are welcome! Bring a bag lunch, coffee/tea and treats provided. Following lunch will be a presentation from Tonia Leske on functional fitness for seniors.

October 8 & 22, 9:30 - 11 am - Bible Study
We meet the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month.
A time to discuss the upcoming Sunday's lectionary readings led by Pastor Darryl Roste. All are welcome!

October 14 & 28, 7 - 9 pm - Ponder That!
We begin our fall semester on Wednesday, Oct 14 and will meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month. We continue the series from Animate (Augsburg Publishing) on Faith and Practices of Faith with short videos, a speaker and time for questions and discussion. Come join us!

October 17, 2026, 5 pm - In Mission with Colombia
Come celebrate our ministry with the Lutheran Church in Colombia. Tickets $50/person and include a full Colombian meal, live entertainment, door prizes, silent auction, presentations and updates on future delegations and ministry plans. Tickets, donations, or additional information can be found here In Mission with Colombia

October 18, 11:30 am - Constitution Potluck!
Our Constitution Needs Updating! Come Learn and Contribute
Join us after church on October 18 (11:30 am - 1:15 pm) for a potluck and discussion of key changes to the constitution - a legal document that will govern our church for many years to come. We will learn together about the role of the constitution, and then tackle a few key issues - like who gets to vote, how we should review our finances, and how long terms on Council should be. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

October 25, 2 pm - Edmonton ELCIC Choir Festival
Our HSLC Choir will once again be participating in the Choir Festival. Hosanna Lutheran Church (9009 - 163 St) is hosting. Refreshments and fellowship to follow. A freewill offering will be collected to support the Colombia earthquake relief.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"Come and light a candle," he told her quietly.

They'd been neighbors for over 30 years and this was her second year without her partner, Chris. The last several years had been a struggle and he liked to check in on her now and again.

This week, he thought he might invite her to light a candle at his church. November 1 was All Saints Day and he had found it meaningful to light the candle for his wife and parents and thought she might too. Plus, All Saint's Day tended to be a quieter day at church and he thought his neighbor might appreciate that.

Last year he lit a candle for Chris, they'd been close friends. It felt good, it felt right to light the candle, to remember and have a quiet moment. This year, he decided to invite her to come and light a candle herself.

When he asked she said she wasn't sure. So, he told her he will light a candle and he'd save her a seat if she decided to come.

All Saint's Day is a day to remember those who have died and remember God's promises. It's space in a busy world to simply be - without explaining or apologizing for the grief that sometimes clings so closely.

Do you have anyone in your life who might need space to remember, who might find it meaningful to light a candle? They don't need to say a word. There will be time in worship for anyone to light candles for those who have died - doesn't matter how long ago it was.

Please consider inviting them to "come and light a candle." I invite you to come, light a candle, remember, and be held up by the songs and prayers of others and by the grace of God.

A personal invitation goes a long way. When you invite someone to something you find meaningful, it is kind and thoughtful. Most people will appreciate that you thought of them – even if they don't take you up on the invitation.

Thank you for being part of what makes Holy Spirit Lutheran Church a community that is easy to invite others to check out 😊.

— Pastor Liz Bell

COUNCIL UPDATE

What an amazing community to be part of! So often I have to pinch myself when I look around at all the activity, life, generosity, spirituality and energy that goes on at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church!! There is so much happening, and so many places we can see Jesus' love.

All the great work being done!

Following the work done by Admin Committee and review by the Constitution Task Force, Council has looked at the differences between the New Model Constitution and our current Constitution. We are ready to recommend a revised constitution to our congregation, but there are some sticky points that really need your thoughts and ideas. We hope you will join us on **Sunday, October 18** for a potluck following worship and discussion about our future Constitution! And we truly thank the Task Force for the thoughtful and thorough suggestions they have provided.

Our staff have seen a revolving door this summer as Darian left for full time work, then our Summer Student, Eden, joined us for July and August. More change is coming as we post the job ad for the part time Administration and Communications Assistant. Please pass it to anyone you think may be interested.

We also said a sad Good Bye to Isaac, after 7 years and wished him and Dan a safe move to Ontario!

All of our committees have been working so hard all summer and into the fall - to mention just a few ... our Ministry Committee does so much, including reaching out to our members and welcoming new people. Worship Committee makes sure each and every Sunday service is special, beautiful and meaningful. Lifelong Learning had a very successful VBS (Vacation Bible School) this summer - the kids had a fabulous time - and Sunday School is back in full swing along with other learning programs for young and old.

The Community Engagement Committee has been going crazy this summer with the Annual Picnic, Chili Cookoff, Pride Parade, and topped it off with the Carnival! Wasn't the Carnival phenomenal? And they aren't done yet - they are already getting ready for the Christmas Market which will be on Saturday, Nov 14. Mark your calendars!

We want to say "Thank You" to everyone that shared HSLC colour, joy, and excitement walking in the Pride Parade and for showing off their great T-shirts!

Our many Gifts

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church has been blessed with so many gifts the past 2 months.

Pastor Liz was so thrilled when we received a gift - a Processional Cross! We are so fortunate to have received this from Ascension Lutheran Church and are very grateful to them. The cross is beautiful and has been used a few times in worship.

Through another gift, the Communications Committee is working with Stingray Media to do some fun experimentation to find new ways to invite people to Holy Spirit and share all the great things that happen here.

Our old windows desperately needed to be replaced. Thanks to your incredible donations, our new windows are here, installed, and paid for!! And they look great!

And more blessings. The blinds that were on our old windows don't fit the new windows. But another gift will allow us to have new blinds!

And even more blessings. Our piano has a new cover to keep it protected and humidified and to retain its grandeur. Another gift that we are very thankful for.

Yes we are so blessed! Praise God!

— **Karen Oko**, on behalf of Congregatinal Council

Upcoming Meetings

Oct 1 @ 6:30 pm - Lifelong Learning

Oct 6 @ 7 pm - Administration Committee (via Zoom, contact office for link)

Oct 7 @ 6:30 pm - Council Meeting

Oct 8 @ 3 pm - Community Engagement

Oct 9 @ 9:30 am - Ministry Committee

Oct 22 @1 pm - Worship Committee

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church. At the end of August 2026, HSLC has a year-to-date deficit of **$15,990.** Currently our accumulated church deficit is **$13,272**.

'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven' – Ecclesiastes 3:1

When thinking about where Holy Spirit is right now, this verse came to mind. We are in a season of rebuilding. After a few years of uncertainty, changes and having our foundation built on sandy land, 2026 has been a year of building our foundation on the rock!

At the beginning of this year, we had an amazing response to the 'Mortgage to Ministry Campaign!! We were able to pay a lump sum on the mortgage renewal of $65,500. The current amount owing on the mortgage is $81,216. Our monthly payments are slightly higher when we renewed in March due to an increase in the mortgage rate. However, we will have the mortgage paid off in 5 years instead of 10, saving us interest in the long term.

After many years of having to defer building repairs because of finances, some of these needed repairs are now being completed. Thank you to the property committee for all their work in getting quotes and organizing fixes. Thank you, also, to Ken for his MacGyver abilities to fix things in unconventional ways to hold us over until the proper repairs can be completed.

The Building Fund has raised the needed funds to cover the cost of the 16 windows replaced on the south and east side of the building. We will have some roof repairs in the spring and you can support this by continuing to make designated offerings to the 'Building Fund'.

Thank you for all the support each of you has given, and continues to give, to Holy Spirit. We are a wonderful welcoming faith community.

I wish you all a wonderful fall.

— **Belynda Kelleher**, Treasurer

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2026

Budget Surplus as of Dec 31, 2025	$2,718
Current Year Surplus (Deficit) as of August 31, 2026	($15,990)
Total Surplus (Deficit)	**($13,272)**

TREASURER'S REPORT 2026

	Income	Expense	+/-
January	26,528	31,853	-5,325
February	29,118	32,661	-3,543
March	33,359	35,507	-2,148
April	36,175	33,739	2,436
May	25,350	27,209	-1,859
June	25,313	33,798	-8,485
July	33,854	40,892	-7,038
August	38,338	28,367	9,971
Total	**248,035**	**264,025**	**-15,990**

Monthly Budget $38,341

Worship Committee Update

It's a new season for everything to start up again. HSLC Choir is a group looking for singers to fill the empty chairs. Rehearsals are 11:30 am - 1:00 pm following Sunday service. No experience required, no auditions will be done, we will find a place for you. There will be a Mass Choir Festival at Hosanna on Saturday, October 25 at 2 pm and we look forward to hearing your voices. We are always looking for volunteers to make worship happen behind the scenes. Talk to anyone on council and volunteer your talents.

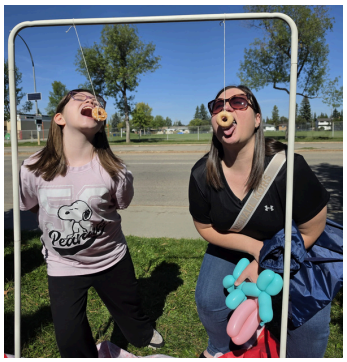
2025 Choir Festival held at HSLC

2026 HSLC Carnival

Holy Spirit hosted their very first Carnival following our church service on Sunday, September 13 from noon to 3 pm. The goal was to have a fall celebration that was fun for our congregation and potentially attract a few people from nearby communities.

Several hundred event cards were left in nearby community mailboxes inviting the residences to our Carnival.

Carnival passports were stamped at the 10 canopy tents where carnival-goers played games like corn hole, ladder toss, donut on a string, and jenga, saw a magician and a puppet show! Malmo Plains community league joined as well as our Scouts who hosted a hot dog venue.



There were an additional 4 stamps from individuals moving about the carnival:

- Pastor Liz had sweets to pass out as well as stamping passports
- The Ringmaster had gummy candies as well as telling a few kids jokes
- A wandering gentleman telling 'dad jokes'
- Plus a tattoo table!

The complimentary baked beans, popcorn, lemonade and donuts were appreciated.

Approximately 30 passports were verified to receive a fun loot bag!

The scouts had a successful day selling hot dogs.

The community league appreciated the opportunity and sold five new memberships.

HSLC had several people thank us for hosting a fun event where they felt welcomed.

Thank you to all those who helped to make our first carnival a great success!

Together We Give

2026 Fall Donation Drives

Items can be dropped off Sunday mornings or during office hours

Sept - Thanksgiving

Help restock our Parish Pantry and help out the Edmonton Food Bank.

Suggested Items:

Jam, Cereal, Milk (powdered, tinned, tetrapac), Canned Fruit, Vegetables and Meat, Juice, Coffee, Granola Bars, Pancake mix, Syrup

Sept - December

Donate hygiene items to be made into kits to be distributed to the local community and Boyle Street.

Suggested Items:

Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Lip Balm, Deodorant, Travel Size Shampoo and Conditioner,

October 2026

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 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Lifelong Learning Meeting 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-ANON	2 9 am ESL Class	3 8:30 am Synod Life Event in Red Deer 10 am Myeloma Support Group 11 am Rental 4 pm gym rental
4 **Pentecost 21** 10 am Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am HSLC Choir Practice 7 pm Pickleball	5 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Beavers	6 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing 7 pm Admin Mtg	7 9:30 ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 12 pm YY Lunch 1 pm ESL Class 6:30 pm Council Mtg	8 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 3 pm Community Engagement Mtg 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-ANON	9 9 am ESL Class	10
11 **Thanksgiving Sunday** 10 am Service of Holy Communion Happy Thanksgiving	12 **Thanksgiving Monday** Office Closed	13 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	14 9:30 ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm ESL Class 7 pm Ponder That!	15 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-ANON	16 9 am ESL Class	17 Colombia 5 pm In Mission with Colombia Gala
18 **Pentecost 21** 10 am Service of the Word 11:30 am Constitution Potluck 7 pm Pickleball	19 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Beavers 7 pm Malmo Choir Practice	20 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	21 9:30 ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm ESL Class 7 pm Area Chairs Meeting	22 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 1 pm Worship Committee Mtg 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-ANON	23 9 am ESL Class	24 2 pm Baby Shower
25 **Reformation Sunday** 10 am Service of Holy Communion 2 pm Choir Festival @ Hosanna Lutheran Church 7 pm Pickleball	26 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Beavers 7 pm Malmo Choir Practice	27 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	28 9:30 ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm ESL Class 7 pm Ponder That!	29 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-ANON	30 9 am ESL Class	31 **Halloween**