



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
September 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:
Labour Day, September 7

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 Meetings

Sept 2 - Community Engagement @ 6 pm
Sept 8 - Communication Com @ 11 am
Sept 8 - Administration Committee @ 7 pm
Sept 14 - Ministry Committee @ 10 am
Sept 14 - Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Sept 16 - Worship Committee @ 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9, 12:00 pm - Yesterday's Youth Bag Lunch

Come for fellowship and laughter. All are welcome! Bring a bag lunch, coffee/tea and dessert are provided. Presentation following lunch is from Susan Pointe on Downsizing.

September 10 and 24, 9:30 - 11:00 am - Bible Study

We meet the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month for a time to visit and discuss the upcoming Sunday's lectionary readings. All are welcome!

September 9 & 23, 7 - 9 pm - Ponder That! Chat Group

All are welcome! Meeting the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month in the library. We will continue discussion from the Animate: Practices curriculum. An introduction to the central practices of the Christian faith, why they are important, and how we can take part in them today.

September 13, 12:00 - 3:00 pm - Carnival

An afternoon of community and laughter. Bring your family, friends and neighbours to celebrate the fall season together. The Scouts will be selling hotdogs & pop. Malmo and Lendrum will be selling community league memberships. Games, popcorn, lemonade, tattoos and fun for all.



COUNCIL UPDATES

Accessibility Team

Access for All – and All means...

The Holy Spirit Accessibility Team (Chris, Pathma, Rachel, Sandra, Sara) has been chipping away at various areas where we know we can do better to be inclusive and welcoming of people of all abilities. As this work builds, we want to keep the congregation informed and learning alongside us (we are learning a lot).

We have identified six areas of growth and learning. Each of these is shared below along with some first steps we are taking.

Hearing – we have completed a hearing survey (thank you!) and are working with the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association to determine next steps

Immunosuppression – we are investigating scent-free cleaning supplies to provide a safe environment

Mental Health – we are in the early stages of looking at resources

Mobility – we are creating a no parking alley leading up to the curb ramp in the back, purchasing some sturdy easy up-and-down chairs for the sanctuary/library, and experimenting with more inclusive seating arrangements

Neurodiversity – we are purchasing fidget items and reviewing lighting in the narthex

Vision – we are working on guidelines for slides and posters, and investigating wayfinding signage

This work is funded by a federal Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) grant, and is guided by the Holy Spirit Accessibility Audit Report – available on the website. or [click here](#) to read. Please inquire at the office if you need a paper copy.

And stay tuned for a chance this fall to learn together about accessibility as stewardship!

We are looking for donations for our “fidget” corner, which provides activities to help people focus, relax, and process information better during worship.

- Do you have some extra soft thick yarn for our new handheld knitting looms?
- Do you have soft, thick-pointed coloring pencils or crayons for use with adult colouring books?

You can bring these on Sunday morning and give them to a member of the team.

Treasurer's Update

BUDGET ACCOUNT POSITION

AS AT JULY 31, 2026

Budget Surplus as of Dec 31, 2025	\$2,718
Current Year Surplus (Deficit) as of July 31, 2026	(\$25,962)
Total Surplus (Deficit)	(\$23,244)

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	<u>33,854</u>	<u>40,892</u>	<u>-7,038</u>
Total	209,697	235,659	-25,962

Monthly Budget \$38,341

Lifelong Learning Committee



VBC 2026 Creation Care Quest was full of faith filled fun with friends!

Our 14 kids heard the Bible creation story each morning from July 6 to 10 and how Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) helps with environmental challenges in Africa.

They weeded the garden to care for the Earth and played outside. Pastor Liz meaningfully connected the Bible to our church and Jesus' love.

Tracey Neufeld brought in animals from her school where she works as a technician and Elise visited with her French bulldog Birdie. Steph Green shared some treasures from the ocean and how her work at the University of Alberta helps coral reefs around the world. Thank you to the 3 summer young adult workers from the synod, our own Eden summer student and our youth Dax for their leadership! The families added to our parish pantry to help our neighbours in need and contributed to CLWR efforts in Africa. We thank God for these amazing children who make our creation a sustainable and wonderful place to be today and in the future!



Building Fund Update

The windows on the east and south of the building will be replaced in early September.

Our fundraising goal is well on it's way, we have raised **\$16,197** (as of Aug 25).

Once we have the windows paid for, designated building funds will go towards have the sloped roof redone in the spring.

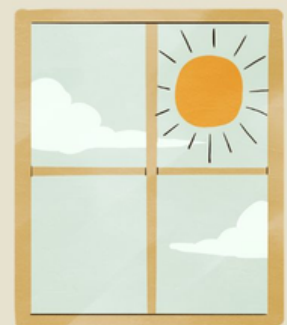


HSLC Window Renovations

Holy Spirit is raising funds to help cover the costs of our new windows.

With your support, we hope to reach our fundraising goal of **\$25,000**

If you would like to donate please scan the QR code indicate 'Building Fund' on your offering envelope



Holy Spirit Community Fund - Call for Proposals!

Do you have an idea that would benefit our Holy Spirit community? Would some funding help?

Church Council invites proposals for use of \$965 between October 2026 and August 2027!

HSLC holds a modest endowment fund through the Edmonton Community Foundation. This year, the endowment will yield \$965. The grant states that these funds are to be used to "support the activities, outreach, priorities and operations of the congregation of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church." There's lots of room there for your creative ideas!

Applications are available online by clicking [here](#) or you can get a paper copy in the narthex. The application will ask you for a short description of the project, along with a budget and timeline. Please submit by September 25. The Administration Committee of Church Council will review proposals and announce the lucky recipient(s) by mid-October. If you have questions about the application process, please feel free to reach out to Sara D. at sdorow@ualberta.ca (Administration Committee Chair, HSLC Council).

We look forward to receiving your ideas!



Farewell & Godspeed Isaac & Dan

Isaac has been a pianist at HSLC since September 2019 and we have all enjoyed his playing and his contributions to our services. Isaac has also been very forthcoming about his struggles with his mental health and I applaud his honesty. We hope for all good things for him and Dan in Kingston.



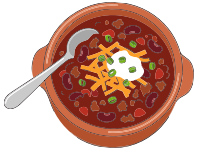
Pride Parade 2026

On August 22, a large group from HSLC along with friends marched in the Pride Parade.

Pastor Olav Traa, Assistant to the Bishop of the ABT Synod was also invited to walk and he said 'What an absolutely incredible day it was to walk alongside the amazing folks from Holy Spirit Lutheran Church of Edmonton at this year's Pride Parade! Together, we walked the one-kilometer route, surrounded by so much love, joy, and community spirit. Here's to love, inclusion, and the beautiful diversity of humanity.'



Community Engagement Committee



Potluck with Chili Cook-off theme. Community Engagement is hosting a chili tasting competition after service on **August 30th**. Some chili will be cooked with gluten free ingredients.



Next up is our 1st Annual Community Carnival Sunday, **September 13th**. An afternoon of community and laughter. Bring your family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the fall season together.



Mark your calendars for our 5th Annual Christmas Market. Join us for holiday shopping and delicious treats on Saturday, **November 14th** from 10 am - 3 pm. Browse unique handmade crafts perfect for Christmas gifting. Don't forget about the bake sale for homemade baked goodies.

Remember: Family and friends are welcome at ALL events.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE



September 2026

Grace and peace to you from Jesus!

September has always carried with it a welcome back to routine. We're often busy wondering,

What do I need to do? What do we have to buy? What must I mark in my schedule? But what if we begin this fall with a different question?

What are we here for?

The church in Canada faces significant challenges – financial, volunteers, buildings, spiritually - we know them well. Church is no longer at the centre of community life in the way it once was, and many people have little familiarity with the Christian story. These realities are real and they matter. They demand wisdom, courage, and faithful stewardship.

God has never relied upon abundance or even expertise to accomplish God's purposes. God has always invited faithful people willing to trust, willing to take a chance, willing to foster brave imagination.

So, what are we here for, ABT Synod? I believe the "answer" is more about what we do. Backed by an amazing God, we step out in curiosity to explore where God is and what God is up to. With open hearts we listen to the needs of the poor and oppressed. With generosity of time and talents and money we strive to be persistent in supporting the church and making meaningful changes in our world.

Put "Sunday worship" back in your calendars this fall. Worship is where we are nourished by community, word and sacrament (and perhaps good coffee!) to be ready to encounter a world that needs good news. Every Sunday, Christ gathers us not simply to comfort us, but to send us back into the world as witnesses of grace.

In addition – take advantage to join in learning together at gatherings and events planned by the Synod or in your region. October 3 you are invited to come to the ABT Synod Congregational Life Event in Red Deer. We welcome internationally recognized Anna Madsen to bolster our spirits and Ben and Caitlyn Johnston-Urey to inspire with a new healing liturgy. Such events are times that spark learning, imagination and hope as we meet others just like us and know we are not alone. Watch for more details on this event.

So as September begins, whatever corner or rural route you are on, spend some time in prayer and pondering: What are we here for?

May the Holy Spirit continue to lead us, challenge us, and surprise us together!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bishop Trish".

Bishop Trish Schmermund

Synod of Alberta and the Territories, ELCIC

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Holy Spirit Lutheran Church ELCIC <i>A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community</i>		1 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	2 9:30 am ICANSA 1 pm ELS Class 6 pm Community Engagement Mtg	3 9:30 am ICANSA 7:30 pm AL-Anon	4 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi	5  MYELOMA CANADA 10 am Myeloma Support Group
6 Pentecost 15 10 am Service of the Word	7 Labour Day Office Closed	8 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 11 am Communication Meeting 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing 7 pm Scout Mtg 7 pm Admin Mtg	9  9:30 am ICANSA 12 pm Yesterday's Youth Lunch 1 pm ELS Class	10  9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-Anon	11 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi	12
13 Pentecost 16 10 am Service of the Word 12 pm Carnival  7 pm Pickleball	14 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 10 am Ministry Meeting 6:30 pm Beavers 6:30 pm Council Meeting	15 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	16 9:30 am ICANSA 1 pm ELS Class 6:30 pm Worship Meeting	17 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-Anon	18 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi	19 9 am Many Hands Clean Up
20 Pentecost 17 10 am Service of Holy Communion 7 pm Pickleball	21 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Beavers	22 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	23  9:30 am ICANSA 1 pm ELS Class 7 pm Ponder That Chat Group	24  9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Scouts 7:30 pm AL-Anon	25 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi	26 10 am Ostomy Support Group
27 Pentecost 18 10 am Service of Holy Communion 7 pm Pickleball	28 9 am ESL Class 9:30 am ICANSA 6:30 pm Beavers	29 9:30 am ICANSA 9:30 am Tai Chi 4 pm Food Depot 7 pm Unleesh Kickboxing	30 9:30 am ICANSA 1 pm ELS Class	General Office Hours 9 am - 3 pm Monday - Thursday 9 am - 1 pm Fridays Call: 780-434-4012 email: church@holyspiritlutheran.ca		