

Spirit of Hope United Church THE SPARK

April 19th, 2020



BEING THE CHURCH IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

As of March 22, 2020,

Spirit of Hope United Church is **suspending gathering together for Sunday worship services** in the church.

This is expected to be the case for many weeks, but the Leadership Team and the Minister will be reviewing what can be possible as circumstances change.

This is a regrettable act, but it is an act of generosity to assist in preventing an escalation of infection, especially among the most vulnerable in our midst. On the News & Events page, expect to still find the weekly SPARK announcements and REFLECTION notes even for the Sundays that we will not meet in person.

If you are in self isolation, please contact the church office at officeadmin@spiritofhope.ca or call at 780.468.1418.

If you want to participate in a United Church worship service that is being live streamed online, look at this site

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Spirit of Hope United Church office is closed until further notice.

Please contact the office by phone at 780.468.1418 or

by email at officeadmin@spiritofhope.ca

GOD BLESS YOU ~~ WE ARE NOT ALONE

SUPPORT SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH

If you are wiling and able, *please consider continuing to support the church* through regular offerings during this time

You can mail your regular offerings/offering envelopes to the church or sign up to give a monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). PAR forms are available on our website. Please fill in and return the completed form to the office. Please attached a voided cheque or fill in with your credit card information at the bottom of the PAR form.

You can also donate online!

Go to, www.spiritofhope.ca and click on the "Donate Now" button or find us on "CanadaHelps.org".

We are not alone!

ONLINE MINISTRY

Links to the **Spirit of Hope United Church Services**, **Weekly Organ recitals and the National United Church Services** are on the front page of the Spirit of Hope United Church website.

Click on the links and a new window will open.

YOUTH GROUP

Contact Sandra Webber, Youth Leader, to join the youth group hangout and discussion online on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

Cell: (780) 504-1672

Email: youthleader@spiritofhope.ca



Find us at <u>www.spiritofhope.ca</u> or like us on Facebook!

For more information on events happening in the Northern Spirit Region,

please see our announcements and upcoming events on our website or Facebook page.

If you have an announcement to place in The Spark, please call Catherine in the office at (780) 468-1418 or email to officeadmin@spiritofhope.ca by Wednesday noon.

BLT! BREAKFAST CANCELLED

The BLT! Breakfast on Saturday April 25 has been cancelled due to the restrictions on meetings to prevent the spread of the Corona virus.

Our speaker, Nancy Steeves has agreed to be our first speaker of the fall, on Saturday, September 26, 2020. You can mark your calendars now!

If you purchased season tickets for this year, we would refund you the cost of the ticket for this breakfast, or if you choose it can be a credit toward tickets for the upcoming season of breakfasts.

Refunds will be available once the church resumes services.

Thanks to all our faithful patrons! We will return!

SANDWICHES FOR GARNEAU FOOD SECURITY (FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH)



As the Bissell Centre is temporarily closed, the Bissell sandwiches will be donated to the Garneau Food Security Program. They will be given out to their patrons on Saturday mornings.

Sandwiches can be brought to the church between 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5th, 2020.

Vern English will be there to collect them at the front entrance.

They should be uncut with freezable fillings: no mayonnaise or other salad dressings.

Thank you for helping with this community outreach.

Thank you to all who contributed!

"A Card in the Mail"

The joy of finding a card in the mail Painstakingly stamped and layered. Punched and inked, embossed with dots If I'm lucky, amazingly brayered!

It brings a message I'd hoped to get –
I'm thought of, cared for, free.
Yes, 'way beyond my mailbox
There's someone loving me.

EWG ©

GARNEAU STRATHCONA FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

The Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program wishes to extend its gratitude to Spirit of Hope for providing space in the gymnasium to accommodate the food distribution program on Saturdays. As of Mar. 29/20, the program has been relocated from Garneau United Church at Ashbourne due to the COVID-19 crisis. Since the relocation, 25-40 people/week have picked up food hampers to feed their families. It is estimated that 85-100 people have benefited from this program each week.

Several volunteers from Garneau United, St. Paul's United and Spirit of Hope United, as well as the community have been involved in this transition. Special thanks go out to Kevin Gue who offered his truck to move the fridges and supplies, and to Heather Morris-Tipples from St. Paul's who advised on adequate precautions to take to ensure safety in the face of COVID-19.

Thank you, also, to the Rocky Mountain Soap Factory (Canmore) which has donated hand sanitizer, and to several volunteers who have donated home-made masks.

If you would like to support this program, monetary donations may be made to Spirit of Hope United Church - - please specify 'for Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program' on the memo.

THANK YOU! PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE OR PAR

We have recently received several new applications to join PAR for regular offering donations. This is always helpful to the church, the offering counters, and the treasurer, and it is especially helpful in these difficult times. Thank you so much!

Not on PAR, but want to give it a try?

Go to the link on our web page,

https://www.spiritofhope.ca/contact, and click on the link titled Spirit of Hope Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) form (return completed form to office).

This will provide you with the application form.

Print the form, complete it, attach a VOID cheque, or fill in your credit card information at the bottom and return it to Catherine in our church office and you will be all set up. If you do not have a printer, please call the office at (780) 468-1418 and Catherine will mail one out to you.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 19TH, 2020 TO APRIL 26TH, 2020

Sat. Apr.25 8:00 am	Garneau Food Security Program (Gym)
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SPIRIT OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH

7909-82 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T6C 0Y1

Telephone: 780.468.1418
Email: officeadmin@spiritofhope.ca
Rev. Blaine Gregg: minister@spiritofhope.ca

Sandra Webber, Youth Leader: youthleader@spiritofhope.ca

Catherine Evoy, Office Administrator

Leo, Custodian

Sunday Service: Suspended until further notice Church offices are closed until further notice. Please contact by phone or email.