

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: Apr 1, 2026

WE DECIDED:

- That Rev. Lloyd Lovatt be designated as Minister Emeritus at Spirit of Hope United Church.
- That the entire building, including the Sanctuary, be rented to the South Sudanese Group on June 27.
- That the Sanctuary be rented for a private memorial from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2.

WE DISCUSSED:

- The “Toward 2035” Deep, Bold, Daring initiative within The United Church of Canada. The Moderator has issued an invitation to prayer and a whole church conversation about the future of God’s call to The United Church of Canada. We reflected on our mission of “Learning, Growing and Changing Together” and how we need to pay attention to the world and continue to change to be relevant.
- Feedback and appreciation for the work done for our Narrative Budget and Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM). Annual election of regional representatives will occur at ACMs going forward.
- Update on the Promotions Project. The core team is working with two consultants on website redesign and improving the ways we promote Spirit of Hope and its many programs and activities.
- Appreciation for our excellent staff and the work of the Ministry and Personnel Committee (M&P) in working with our staff. We will be looking to find volunteers to cover for our office administrator and custodian while they are on vacation during the summer.
- A revised wedding policy that includes planning considerations for the wedding ceremony and reception, with accompanying ministerial, music and AV support. A big thanks to Blaine and members of Property and Finance for putting this together! Our website will be updated and a brochure developed.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Observing the rest of Holy Week with Maundy Thursday potluck supper and Communion, Good Friday service by the choir and two Easter morning services (at Emily Murphy Park at 7 a.m. and at the church at 10:30 a.m.).
- A busy April, following Easter, with four Wednesday online Bible study Zoom sessions, three more Sunday afternoon Jazz and Reflections concerts, the Promotions Project community conversation (Apr 12), Garage Sale (Apr 18), Family Open Mic evening (Apr 18) and BLT! Breakfast (April 25).
- Continuing to welcome new people into Spirit of Hope, with warmth, openness and hospitality.
- Guided and inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus and other sources of great wisdom, continuing to journey; learning, changing, and growing together.

Next meeting: Wed, May 6, 2026

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

- Chair: Jim Lewis
- Vice Chair: Helen Newsham
- Secretary: Phyllis Verhaar
- Treasurer: Kevin Gue
- Ministry and Personnel: Eva Cooper
- Trustees: Sandra Hawes
- Property, Finance and Stewardship: Cathy Martin
- Worship Faith in Action Team (FIAT): Roslyn Thomson and Vici Wynn
- Learning and Growth FIAT: Heather Green and Chris Meintzer
- Just and Caring Community FIAT: Judy Meintzer and Sara van Halderen
- Communications: Susan Bramm
- Minister: Reverend Blaine Gregg