

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: July 8, 2026

WE DECIDED:

- That going forward, as of September, the Leadership Team meetings be held on Zoom as default.
- In recognition of Emancipation Sunday, people be encouraged to designate a special offering on August 2, 2026, in support of the anti-Black racism ministries within The United Church of Canada (UCC), and the “Here from the Beginning” exhibition, which highlights the history of The United Church of Canada through the lens of Black people.
- In 2027, after the Knygts Errant have provided a fundraiser for Spirit of Hope United Church, in lieu of payment to the group, that our gymnasium be provided to the group six times for two hours each time, at no cost.
- That up to \$20,000 from the Building Reserve Fund be authorized for HVAC and roofing repairs.
- That Kevin Gue be authorized as Treasurer to represent the church with respect to planning and arranging for a potential upgrade of the solar PV system via the City's Clean Energy Improvement Program.
- That professional services for a half day retreat in the Fall, “The Visiting Way” (Indigenous ways of interacting) to be open to our congregation and members from surrounding congregations (space permitting) be approved. The fee of \$900 will come from the Leadership Team budget. Jacquelyn Cardinal, of Naheyawin will be the facilitator.

WE DISCUSSED:

- Work proceeding on the redesign of the Spirit of Hope website (style and content), including a welcome video.
- Compiling and describing the 100+ volunteer opportunities at Spirit of Hope and having an event for people to sign-up.

- Installing the outside welcome table (with a rainbow umbrella), as part of The United Church of Canada’s “The 100 Tables Project”.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Enjoying the July outdoor worship services and opportunities for others to lead worship while Rev Blaine is away on holidays.
- Taking part in the annual support for Sanctuary of Peace (formerly Inner-City Pastoral Ministry) by donating funds and making and distributing lunch on the first weekend in August.
- Participating in Edmonton’s Pride Parade on August 22, along with those from other churches.
- Planning for a busy fall of annual and new activities.
- Seeing our gardens flourish, with care provided by children and teachers of Kids United and the gardening team.
- 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, September 2, 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 Bamm
- Minister: Reverend Blaine Gregg