

Spirit of Hope United Church

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: Mar 4, 2026

WE DISCUSSED:

- Music in worship – congregational singing, favourite and least favourite hymns, including secular music in our services.
- That regional representatives for Spirit of Hope to the Northern Spirit Region are voting members of the Leadership Team.
- Final planning details for the Narrative Budget presentation on March 8 and the Annual Congregational Meeting on March 15.
- A huge thank you to Carol for the six years of service she has faithfully dedicated to the Leadership Team (including as Vice Chair, Chair and outgoing Past Chair).
- Thanks to Susan, the Communications Team, Catherine and the several volunteers for their amazing work on the 2025 Annual Report.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Continuing our observance of Lent with the special stewardship project to benefit the Garneau Strathcona Food Security Program, “Dollars and Decorations for a Difference”.
- Participating in city wide weekly Lenten prayer services on Sundays at 4 p.m. during March.
- Our annual narrative budget discussion on Mar 8.
- Our Annual Congregational Meeting on Mar 15 to look back and ahead, celebrating our community with pies of all kinds (pizza and dessert pies).
- On March 15, we will be marking “PIE day” an annual celebration in The United Church of Canada held on or close to March 14 (coinciding with the mathematical Pi Day) that promotes the full inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people. It stands for being

Public, Intentional, and Explicit in affirming, welcoming, and inclusive actions. As an Affirming congregation, we are happy to welcome all.

- The Second Annual Southeast Edmonton Community Collaborative (SEECC) Resource Fair on Saturday, March 14 that will have many agencies and organizations in our community showcasing their services.
- Planning for Holy Week and the Spring!
- The Ladies Group is hosting a garage sale on April 18!
- The return of Jazz and Reflections concerts at the end of March.
- 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, Apr 1, 2026

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

- Chair: Jim Lewis
- Past Chair: Carol Loewen
- 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