

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: Oct 1, 2025

WE DECIDED:

- That Spirit of Hope United Church cover the cost of COVID shots for our staff who will provide receipt of payment for the immunization.

WE DISCUSSED:

- Revision of our health-related protocols.
- Renaming (rebranding) of our church school to “Kids United” that stands for Kindness, Inspiration, Diversity and Self-respect.
- Two applications for grants to support our ministries made to the City of Edmonton (queer youth programming) and the United Church of Canada Foundation - Promotion Project Fund. A big thank you to Judy and Cathy for their leadership and work, with input and support from others in our church and community partner organizations.
- Deep appreciation for all those who assisted with the Community BBQ and Showcase event on Sun, Sept 22. Between 150 and 200 people attended, with 12 community groups with booths, and the groups and activities of our community of faith also showcased.
- Gratitude to Colin Fraser for upgrading our office computer systems.
- Installation of three new efficient furnaces, with solar panels coming soon.
- Our appreciation to Trustees Chair Sandra Hawes for her work on legal matters pertaining to insurance and land title.
- Financial update: Local envelope giving running below last year.
- Duties and terms of office of Leadership Team members, Faith in Action Team (FIAT) leads, Committee chairs etc. – in preparation for the work of the Nominations Team for 2026.
- Looking ahead to 2026: Leadership Team retreat on Jan 24 to focus on future planning: narrative budget presentation on Mar 1, to be followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting on Mar 8.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- The planned giving and estate planning talk on Oct 5 after worship.
- A busy October with Thanksgiving Food Drive, movie time on Oct 19, and afternoon Halloween Party for everyone on Oct 25.
- Choir concert on Nov 1 and then into Christmas and Advent traditions, including the Nov 22 Christmas Sale with 15 local vendors, puzzles for sale – and lunch and baking by Ladies Group members.
- Initiating “Family Mic Nights” to provide an opportunity for families from our community and neighbourhood to have fun and gain confidence, skills and experience presenting and performing (art, poetry, music, dance, theatre ...). Our thanks to Marie Fontaine (director of the past three 9th Street Players’ productions) for offering to facilitate these exciting evenings.
- 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, Nov 5, 2025

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