

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: September 2, 2026

WE DISCUSSED:

- Planning for the annual Community BBQ and showcase on Sept. 27: FIAT leads are asked to contact groups and activity leaders to participate. The Just and Caring Community FIAT and the Communications Team will be asking for volunteers to be involved. Judy will coordinate participation by community agencies providing programs and services in our area.
- In response to correspondence received from a member, the process and possible questions regarding the implementation of Alberta's new integrated driver's licence and health card. We will have information to provide to members looking for it.
- The implementation of a new system to submit and share Spirit of Hope documents and reports, reducing workload on our office administrator. To be accessed by Leadership Team members as well as FIAT leads and committee/activity leads. Also, the process of gathering attendees' current information for our new system.
- Financial report: 36 households now use PAR; local envelope offerings are holding up quite well; building use is above budget; donations for Mission and Service are well above the goal; and a draft 2027 budget is being drawn up.
- Stewardship Team's very positive and informative Zoom call with Rev. Jordan Cantwell, national stewardship lead and former United Church of Canada Moderator.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Our annual Community BBQ and showcase on Sun, Sept 27.
- The "Spirit of Broadway" song and music Cabaret- style evening on Sept 18, presented at no charge to Spirit of Hope members by the Ghost Quartet cast who used the sanctuary to practise play for their Fringe performances.
- Jazz and Reflections concerts that return, starting Sept 13 and the first of four BLT! breakfasts on Sept 26.

- Community Open Mic Night – starting up again on Sept 19.
- Ongoing regular weekly programs including Stretch and Flex (Tues 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.), Creative Connections (Wed 1:30 to 3 p.m.) and the recently formed ukelele sing-along group (Wed 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.).
- YET's (Youth Empowered Together) weekly get togethers.
- Planning for a half-day retreat open to Spirit of Hope members and those from surrounding congregations on "The Visiting Way" (Indigenous ways of interacting) – date to be determined.
- Addition of two new discussion groups: (1) monthly current issues conversations led by Rev Blaine after worship, beginning Sept 13, and (2) in-person book-study sessions led by Minister Emeritus, Rev. Lloyd Lovatt on the Canadian novel *The Marriage of Rose Camilleri* by Robert Hough (Sept 22 from 7 – 9 p.m. and Sept 29 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.).
- 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, October 7, 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