

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: Sept 3, 2025

WE DECIDED:

- That the requested sanctuary rental for a book launch by Lana Skauge, to be held May 31, 2026, be approved.
- That the alcohol service for a wedding reception to be held in Spirit of Hope United Church on October 4 be granted an exception to the permit to allow a variety of mixed drinks.
- That the surplus of entry fees paid by local United Churches plus \$40 (our fee) for participation in the Pride Parade held in August, be sent to the Edmonton Pride Fest Association.
- That up to \$2,500 be spent to purchase a Monex device and an appropriate stand for this machine, and that Spirit of Hope United Church enter into a five-year contract with Monex.

WE DISCUSSED:

- Minister Blaine's monthly report that included participation of several Edmonton United Churches (including Spirit of Hope) in the August 23 Pride Parade; the release of the new hymn book, "Then Let us Sing" and ways of greeting newcomers that are affirming, kind and gentle.
- Focus on Just and Caring Community FIAT related issues and activities by Judy and Sara, including applications for grants being made to support queer youth programming and to increase the visibility of the congregation through effective promotion and communication.
- Appreciation to Roslyn and Vici for organizing summer worship services when Rev. Gregg was on vacation.
- Short United Church history vignettes written by Gayle Simonson to be placed in *The Spark* over the next few months.
- Printing and distribution of statements to people who have made monetary contributions to Spirit of Hope up to the end of August, accompanied by a letter of appreciation.
- Succession of FIAT leads to be discussed at the next meeting.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Follow-up meeting of the Caring Connections Team to discuss priorities and strategies to build meaningful connections with members of our church family.
- The fall 2025 Jazz and Reflections concert series of five concerts beginning on Sept 14.
- Planning fall and Advent worship services and events.
- Rolling out the welcome carpet at Spirit of Hope with warmth and smiles on Sunday, Sept 21 for the Community BBQ and Showcase. Members of our church and neighbouring community are invited to learn about various services and support provided by community-based agencies and Spirit of Hope to people in Southeast Edmonton.
- Four-week Bible study led by Reverend Blaine during October.
- 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, Oct 1, 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