

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting: Nov 6, 2024

WE DECIDED:

- That the Leadership Team support the proposal from Christine Gue and family to organize a fundraiser to aid humanitarian work in Gaza, with no charge for church rental on the date to be determined.

WE DISCUSSED:

- Reverend Blaine's October report showing how his work time was spent and the gatherings and learning sessions he attended, including the Annual Theological Conference held in Ottawa from Oct 21 – 22. Sessions centered around the Call of the United Church of Canada to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice.
- Rev Blaine's acclamation as a commissioner for the 45th General Council (online June 22, 2025, then in person in Calgary Aug 7 – 11).
- Just and Caring Community FIAT focus by Judy and Rhys with more information on the Alberta Health Services SOARING grant (Strengthening Opportunities for Adolescent Resilience and Growth) approved for Spirit of Hope United Church.
- Our acknowledgment and appreciation to all who organized and hosted (and attended) successful events during October:
 - o Halloween Party bringing in about 50 people from our community and beyond!
 - o Poetry Night hosted by Rhys, with interest in having more.
 - o Food Security Thanksgiving Drive, with generous food donations from members, fall concert goers and dodgeball players.
 - o The Oct 23 SE Edmonton Community Collaborative networking event with more representatives from nearby community leagues, churches and businesses.
 - o Steady attendance at weekly Stretch and Flex (Tue morning) and Creative Connections (Wed afternoon) gatherings.
- Finances: running below monthly projected givings by \$2,000.
- More interest by community and other groups in renting spaces.

- Thanks to the choir for its wonderful concert and dessert party on Nov 2 that raised \$1,635 for General Funds of the church.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- Inspiring and interesting November events Including: Eric Kane concert (Nov 16), Stewardship conversation after worship (Nov 17), monthly Sunday movie (Nov 17), BLT! Breakfast (Nov 23) and Affirm discussion after worship (Nov 24).
- Moving into the season of love and giving with tree decorating (Nov 24), Christmas Sale (Nov 30), Advent Giving Tree and Recital (Dec 1), Christmas Food Drive, Winter Community Fun Fest and Potluck (Dec 7), Caroling and Treats (Dec 16), Lessons and Carols followed by S.E.E.D.S Christmas dinner (Dec 22) and two Christmas Eve services (4:30 for all ages and 7:30 pm for candlelight communion service).
- 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, December 4, 2024 (then Wed Jan 8, 2025)

Leadership Team Members:

Chair: Carol Loewen

Vice Chair: Jim Lewis

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): Keith Kasha and Roslyn Thomson

Learning and Growth FIAT: Heather Green and Chris Meintzer

Just and Caring Community FIAT: Judy Meintzer and Rhys Toone

Communications: Susan Bramm

Minister: Reverend Blaine Gregg