

Growth and Stewardship Ideas: Discover the Gifts in Your Community

What's happening in your building—and who knows about it?

Many communities of faith share their space with a wide range of groups and activities, yet members and the wider community may know very little about them. Celebrate these connections by hosting a Community Connections Gathering.

Invite everyone who uses your space—and everyone connected to your congregation—to set up a table and share what they do. Include ministries and programs of the community of faith, along with community partners and local interest groups. Imagine learning:

“We're the Tuesday evening yoga group.”

“We're the Friday afternoon Muslim prayer group.”

“We're the Wednesday morning craft club.”

“We're the local theatre troupe.”

“We're the community meal team.”

“We're the food bank volunteers.”

Invite neighbouring places of worship, organizations, and interested groups to participate as well. Encourage a few people to take turns at each table, so everyone has time to visit all the tables. Explore a whole group opportunity, perhaps with some people working together to sponsor a presentation or meal. It might even be a brainstorming session of what needs and gaps exist. What do our neighbours name as needs? If your building has space availability, you may discover interest for potential future use, some reimagining of how others could see space utilized. Help grow the way you can meet needs. It is a great way to showcase all the rooms in your building. Together, you can create a vibrant snapshot of the people, activities, and opportunities that enrich your neighbourhood.

This week's Stewardship Second: As children of God, we are reminded of kindergarten teachings—share everything, play fair, clean up your own mess, hold hands, and stick together.

As of July 1, 2026, here are contacts for Growth and Stewardship:

BNS Sharon sballantyne@united-church.ca

FSLDW Rob, rshearer@united-church.ca

FDEE Sharon and Rob sharing support of FDEE until new position for growth and stewardship position is posted and filled

Note: for the 100 Tables project, contact Sharon, BNS, FSLDW and FDEE