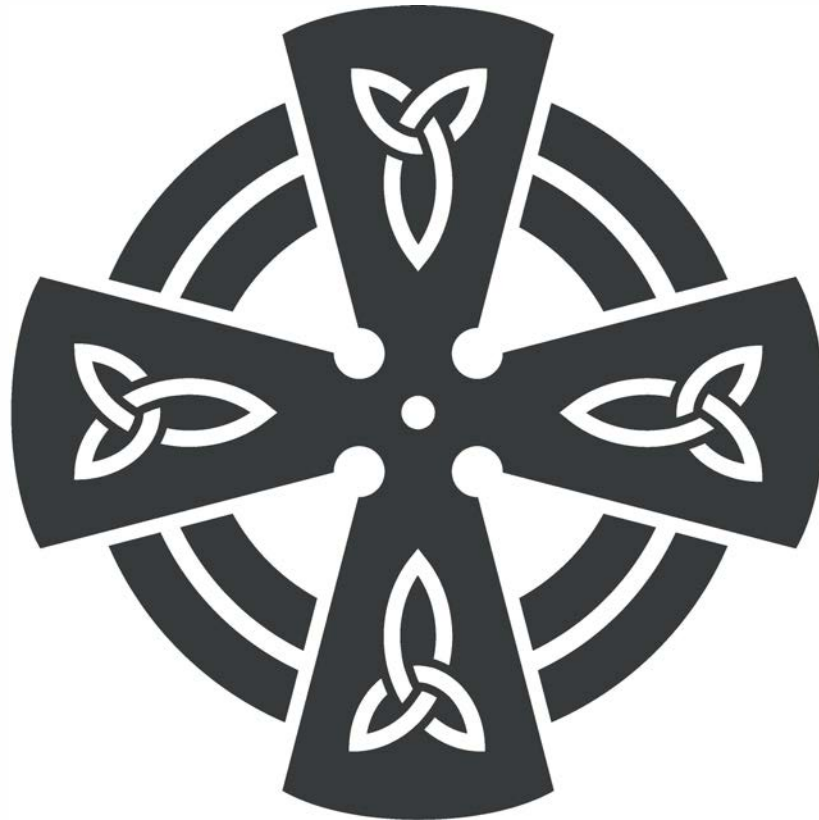




**ALAMO HEIGHTS**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# **CHARGE CONFERENCE**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
December 8, 2024



My Friends,

Life is a journey. For those of us who believe in a loving God, we walk this spiritual path together. I am privileged to be on this journey in the love of Christ. We have many milestones to celebrate for 2024.

- twenty-six baptisms in 2024
- seventy-eight new members
- children's Sunday school average attendance has risen from 52 in 2023 to 63 in 2024 (We have outgrown our Children's Worship space. There is such a thing as a good problem!)
- in-person worship average attendance of 520.
- on-line worship average attendance of 926.

This journey of faith would be selfish and shallow if we didn't include ministry and outreach to the world. I heard a church consultant once asked a church, "If your church disappeared tomorrow, would your community even notice?" This question is meant to assess a church's mission and impact in its community and the world. Here are some markers to highlight from 2024:

- 6 twelve-step recovery programs that have 11 meetings a week with 125-150 in weekly attendance
- 7 support groups
- 30 groups from our community
- 36 large events hosted with 100 guests at each event
- 177 clients served by Hope Center
- 189 blessing bags distributed
- 4,286 cans of food distributed
- 775 pillows made and donated to hospitals by Heart Pillow ministry
- VBS Collections:
  - 194 baseball caps
  - 376 cans of food
  - 423 books
  - 172 stuffed animals
  - \$251.93 collected for Compassion International

- \$17,490 will be donated to eight area ministries from our sales at the Pumpkin Patch! 181 volunteers worked the shifts.
- 35 students are enrolled in the second year of Arts for All. These students are from a wide range of ethnic diversity as well as low economic status.

I have no doubt our community would feel the loss if AHUMC ceased to exist.

Again, I give thanks and am blessed to be on this journey of faith with you. *The Message Bible* says it well, “Do you see what we’ve got? An unshakeable kingdom! And do you see how thankful we must be? Not only thankful, but brimming with worship, deeply reverent before God.” Hebrews 12:28.

Faithfully,

Pastor Jason



# Report of the Pastor

The report of the pastor shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items as outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline (¶¶ 234, 340). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

Alamo Heights UMC

Church

San Antonio

Charge

Las Misiones

District

Rio Texas

Annual Conference

For the period beginning January 7, 2024

and ending December 8, 2024

DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE

DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since the last report.

(Attach as a supplement.)

2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report.

(Attach as a supplement.)

- a. On profession of faith or restored.
- b. From other United Methodist churches.
- c. From other non-United Methodist churches.

3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since the last report.

(Attach as a supplement.)

- a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or by withdrawal.
- b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches.
- c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.
- d. By death.

4. Have the membership records and rolls been audited (¶231)?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

5. The Pastor shall give a report on the state of the church and an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (¶ 340): providing support, guidance, and training to the lay membership in the church; ministering within the congregation and to the world; and administering the temporal affairs of the congregation. Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (¶ 349). (Attach as a supplement.)

Signed

Printed Name JASON ADAMS

Date 12-05-24

## **Baptism, 2023**

Grayson Kirk

## **Baptism. 2024**

Charlotte Jones

Berkley Bernal

Eliana Stevens

David Rodriguez Adult

Kenneth Rodriguez-Townsend

Karma Rodriguez-Townsend

Louis Haynes

Brooklyn Croley

Brooks Darden

Victoria Portillo

John Gage Ostrander

Whitfield Boatsman

Ellis Boatsman

Beau Boatsman

jesse Boatsman

Gus Niehaus

Grace Niehaus

Trebor Berkshire II

Sophia Sorondo

Jake Persyn

Murphy Settles

Cella Swann

Bill Wali Adult

Sofia Barton

**TOTAL 25**

## Prof. of Faith 2024

Marty Harkey  
Katisha Chancy  
Isabel Munoz  
Emily Fridlington  
Justin Boatsman  
Addisyn Bacon  
Caitlyn Bacon  
Leah Latham  
Trebtor Berkshire II  
Troy Bettice  
William Brysacz  
Lainey Jackson  
Ann Person  
Greyson Robitschek  
Avery Spalten  
Liesl Urban  
Ryan Rakowitz  
Alyssa Rakowitz  
Jake Persyn  
Cynthia Rickenbach  
Ann Thomas  
Howard Hasting, Jr.  
Bill Wali  
Mona Lisa Adams  
Laura Kirby  
Barry Martens  
Greg Stevens  
Jayne Stevens  
John Townsend  
David Rodriguez  
Sarjrana Rodriguez  
Katie Holt  
**TOTAL**

## From other UMC 2024

Gina Kammerer  
Kent Kammerer  
Barbara York  
Karen Haram  
Mark Haram  
Jennifer Rodriguez  
Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Donna Goodwin  
John Goodwin  
Diana Davis  
Dave Labrec  
Leonard Rodriguez  
Beatrice Flores  
Eileen Adams  
Julie Brodt  
Janice Thomas  
Nancy Oro  
Camille Jones  
Felix Jones, II  
Morgan Spaulding  
Ginger Mittelstedt  
Fred Mittelstedt  
Michael DiCamillo  
Mike Brashear  
Priscilla Brashear  
Sutton Thomas  
Wade Lytal  
Malorie Lytal  
Meredith Macintire  
Scott Macintire  
Cynthia Rickenbach  
Stephen Whitaker  
Taylor Chamness  
Sydney Chamness  
**TOTAL**

## From other Denominations 2024

Amanda Christensen  
Harrison Kyle Lee  
James Summitt  
Greg McClendon  
Janet McClendon  
Sue Logan  
P.A. Cox  
Crystal Cox  
Nicholas Westerman  
Alexa Westerman  
Blair Settles  
Adam Settles  
**TOTAL 12**

**TOTAL 78**

**34**

**Transferred to other UMC**

**2024**

Kathy Basset  
Cynthia Scheick  
Jeffrey Scheick  
Janneke Zander  
McCarley Beal  
Kylea Jacobson

**Total**

**Transferred to Non-United Methodist 2023**

Kate Heyer

**Transferred to other Non-United Methodist 2024**

William Thompson  
Nancy Oberman  
John Oberman  
Donna Dunn  
Wanda Thomas  
Daniel McCarty

**Total**

**Left to Other**

**Denominations 2024**

Julie Patterson  
Jamie Patterson

**Total**

**Withdrew 2023**

Beth Howe  
Kent Hamilton  
George Woods  
Barbara Woods

**Withdrew 2024**

**6** Judy Zimmerman  
Carolyn Spurgeon

Tom Spurgeon  
Barbara Steed  
Jerry Steed

Kiech Jung  
Susan Jung  
Chad Porter  
Laura Porter  
Reeves Porter  
Heather Williamson  
Kenneth Vick

**7** Sally Vick  
Charles Felder

Debra Felder  
Barry Martens  
Sarah Hodge

**2** Chris Hodge  
Anna Hodge  
Ellie Hodge  
Sharon Lotz  
Harold Lotz

**Total**

26

**TOTAL**

**41**

## **Death, 2023**

Marion Branch

## **Death, 2024**

Shirley Sanders

Lila Ruth Carlson

Matthew Howard

Gregory Gordon

Lorine Kelly

John Nave

Anne Kilpatrick

Matthew Aycock

Shelli Ferguson

John Clark

Marilyn Lieb

Bob G. Miller

Lucile Pipes

Janice Blakeley

Charles Cusenbary

Dick Corrigan

Cristin Foreman

Joseph Vives

Jerry Nicks

Marty Harkey

Jane Manning

Arch Adams

Dorothy Griffin

Van Alston

Tony Westrich

BJ Kohutek

Margaret Cusenbary

Ruth Barry

Hike Jackson

Jack Pasqual

Myra Crawford

Patsy Light

**TOTAL**

**33**





6. Does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer report regularly to the Church Council on the giving trends in the church/charge?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

### III. THE HANDLING OF CHURCH FUNDS

7. Does the Treasurer regularly make reports to the Committee on Finance and the Church Council on the financial position of the church (§258.4b)?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

8. Are all benevolences and other connectional funds remitted monthly to the conference treasurer (§258.4b)?

Yes  No

If not, why not?

9.a. What bank(s) have been designated by the Church Council as a depository (§258.4d)?

Frost Bank

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b. Are all accounts FDIC insured and in amounts at or below the current FDIC insurable limit?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

Balances can exceed the limit.

c. Are all accounts in the name of the church?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

10.a. Has the committee established written financial policies to document the internal controls of the local church (§258.4d)? (Attach as a supplement.)  Yes  No

b. Have these policies been reviewed by the committee and found to be adequate and effective (§258.4d)?

Yes  No

11. Are the church offerings counted by a counting committee in accordance with the mandates of the

Discipline (§258.4a)?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

12. Are all funds deposited promptly in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Finance

(¶258.4a, d)?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

13. Are financial officers of the church bonded (¶258.4b)?  Yes  No

If not, why not?

14. a. Have the financial records of the church and all its organizations been audited for the prior fiscal year (¶258.4c)?

Yes  No

b. If not, why not?

The church engages Randy Walker Co. to perform a compilation of the church financial statements.



c. Were there any recommendations or exceptions?  Yes  No

d. If there were recommendations or exceptions, how has the church addressed them?

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Johnny Boyd

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

November 25, 2024

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**Report of the Finance Committee 2017-2020**

Prepared and edited by the General Council on Finance and Administration and authorized as the official form for this purpose.

|  | 2024 Budget      | 2025 Budget      | \$ Change From 2024 |   |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Revenue:</b>                            |                  |                  |                     |   |
| General Revenue                            | 2,562,516        | 2,613,766        | 51,250              |   |
| Plate Cash                                 | 54,000           | 64,000           | 10,000              |   |
| Prior Year Payment                         | 2,000            | 2,000            | -                   |   |
| Use of Facilities-Wedding                  | 7,000            | 7,000            | -                   |   |
| Use of Facilities-Other                    | 75,000           | 80,000           | 5,000               |   |
| Interest                                   | 56,000           | 56,000           | -                   |   |
| AHUMC Foundation                           | 229,348          | 229,348          | -                   |   |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                      | <b>2,985,864</b> | <b>3,052,914</b> | <b>67,050</b>       |   |
| <b>Expense:</b>                            |                  |                  |                     |   |
| <b>Salaries:</b>                           |                  |                  |                     |   |
| Ministers/Housing                          | 421,700          | 430,550          | 8,850               | Change in pastors   |
| Lay Staff                                  | 1,050,450        | 1,068,517        | 18,067              | Note 1  |
| Contractor Workers                         | 53,036           | 53,036           | -                   |   |
| <b>Total Salaries</b>                      | <b>1,525,186</b> | <b>1,552,103</b> | <b>26,917</b>       |   |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                           |                  |                  |                     |   |
| Health Insurance                           | 247,365          | 247,365          | -                   |   |
| Payroll Taxes                              | 76,639           | 76,564           | 325                 | Salary increases  |
| 403(B)/CPF                                 | 41,588           | 43,518           | 1,930               | Employee status changes   |
| Workers Comp                               | 3,000            | 3,000            | -                   |   |
| Minister's Retirement                      | 45,330           | 45,863           | 533                 | Change in pastors   |
| <b>Total Benefits</b>                      | <b>419,922</b>   | <b>422,709</b>   | <b>2,787</b>        |   |
| <b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>       | <b>1,945,108</b> | <b>1,974,812</b> | <b>29,704</b>       |   |
| <b>Fixed Costs:</b>                        |                  |                  |                     |   |
| Appointments - "                           | 260,300          | 272,000          | 11,700              | Full appointments planned   |
| Mission Community                          | 3,000            | 3,000            | -                   |   |
| Technology Services                        | 78,466           | 93,366           | 14,900              | Note 2  |
| Communications                             | 50,500           | 50,500           | -                   |   |
| Administration                             | 53,200           | 53,200           | -                   |   |
| Insurance                                  | 120,000          | 120,000          | -                   |   |
| Maintenance Programs                       | 498,435          | 493,535          | 4,900               | Note 2  |
| <b>Total Fixed &amp; Program Costs</b>     | <b>1,204,847</b> | <b>1,212,247</b> | <b>7,400</b>        | Note 1  |
| <b>Subtotal Salaries &amp; Fixed Costs</b> | <b>3,149,955</b> | <b>3,187,059</b> | <b>37,104</b>       |   |
| <b>Projected Surplus/Deficit</b>           | <b>(164,091)</b> | <b>(134,145)</b> | <b>29,946</b>       |   |
| <b>Expected Surplus To Be Applied</b>      | <b>44,000</b>    |                  |                     |   |
|  | <b>(120,091)</b> |                  |                     |   |
| <b>Note 1:</b>                             |                  |                  |                     |   |
| Lay Staff Salaries                         | 1,050,450        | 1,068,517        | 18,067              | Salary increases contractor reclassifications                     |
| Programs                                   | 140,346          | 129,546          | (14,300)            | Contractor reclassifications                                      |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>1,191,196</b> | <b>1,198,183</b> | <b>3,787</b>        | Net change due to salary increases                                |
| <b>Note 2:</b>                             |                  |                  |                     |   |
| Technology Services                        | 78,466           | 93,366           | 14,900              | Church telephone/internet moved from Maintenance to Tech Services |
| Maintenance                                | (498,435)        | (493,535)        | 4,900               | Church telephone/internet moved from Maintenance to Tech Services |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>575,901</b>   | <b>586,901</b>   | <b>10,000</b>       | Net change due to Maintenance budget increase                     |

## **Board of Stewards 2025**

David Kinder-Chair BOS  
Dianne Dorsett-Vice Chair BOS  
Vanessa Konkol-Secretary

## **Executive Committee-2025**

David Kinder-Chair BOS  
Dianne Dorsett- Vice Chair BOS  
To be elected-Chair Trustees  
To be elected-Chair Foundation  
Pat Crump-Chair SPRC  
Johnny Boyd - Chair Finance  
Dan St. Romain-Lay Leader

## **At-Large-2025**

Doran Dennis  
Brian Griffin  
James L. Smith

## **Finance Committee-2025**

Johnny Boyd/Chair Finance  
Carrie Lobasso  
Hill Ojeda  
Trustee Chair - To be elected  
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader

## **Trustees-2025**

Chair - To be elected  
Brian Nash  
Steve Waters  
Thad C. Ziegler  
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader

## **SPRC-2025**

Pat Crump - Chair  
Caroline Wernli  
Amy Willcox  
Randy Holmes  
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader

## **Foundation-2025**

Chair - To be elected 2025  
Senior Pastor - Jason Adams  
Treasurer - Valerie Slade  
Lindsay Hannah  
Chair of Finance (Advisory)- Johnny Boyd  
Ed Benson (Advisory)  
Bill Armstrong  
Clarence Bray  
Lavonne Garrison  
Cathy Johnson  
Ann Walton  
Tracy Vardiman  
Paul Darr  
Renee Kizziar  
Erin Drawert  
Tony Lobasso  
John Goodwin  
Helen Groos  
Richard Dullnig

## **Nominations-2025**

Chair - Jason Adams, Senior Pastor  
Clay Person  
Sarah Ojeda  
Craig Woodworth  
Niki Burnam  
Lindsay Evans  
Kresta Wright  
Dale Clark  
Luise Cates  
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader

## **Delegates to Annual Coference 2025**

David Kinder  
Vickie Kinder  
Dan St. Romain  
Priscilla St. Romain  
Chip Slade  
Valerie Slade  
Tony Lobasso  
Carrie Lobasso

## **Delegate Alternates**

John Burnam  
Niki urham

# **Candidates for Ordained/Licensed Ministry 2025**

## **Renewals**

Chris Estus

Darrell Smith

Janet Weatherston



# Report of the Trustees

The trustees are amenable to the Charge Conference and as such are required to make an annual report

(¶ 2550). Additional reports should be made as requested by the Charge Conference or Church Council or equivalent. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs in the 2016 Book of Discipline.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and the board of trustees.

Alamo Heights UMC Church Alamo Heights UMC Charge  
Las Misiones District Rio Texas Annual Conference

For the period beginning January 7, 2024, and ending December 8, 2024  
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

1. Organization for the present conference year was effective (date) , by electing the following officers (no less than three, and up to nine persons):

|                | Name            | Term Expires |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President      | Steve Waters    | 2025         |
| Vice President | Brian Nash      | 2027         |
| Secretary      | Thad C. Ziegler | 2026         |
| Treasurer      | Lindsay Hannah  | Staff        |
| Member         | Dan St. Romain  |              |
| Member         |                 |              |
| Member         |                 |              |
| Member         |                 |              |
| Member         |                 |              |

2. Is the local church incorporated (¶2529.1a)?  Yes  No

3. a. Name or names in which title to each piece of property is recorded, as shown by civil land records (¶¶2536, 2538):

|                  | Name(s) | Office       | Book | Page |
|------------------|---------|--------------|------|------|
| Church Buildings | AHUMC   | Bexar County | 5188 | 1912 |
| Church Buildings |         |              |      |      |
| Parsonages       |         |              |      |      |
| Parsonages       |         |              |      |      |
| Other            |         |              |      |      |
| Other            |         |              |      |      |

b. Who is the custodian of deeds and other legal papers? Valerie Slade

c. Where are they kept? Church Office

4. Does each deed contain trust clause (¶2503)?  Yes  No

5. Do you have a long-term plan for the replacement of facilities and equipment as they deteriorate?  Yes  No

6. a. Insurance (¶2533.2, 2550.7)

| Item Insured/ Insurance                                       | Replacement Value | Amount of Coverage | Type of Coverage | Company               | Restricted By Coinsurance (Yes or No and amount)                             | Expires When |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Church Buildings  | \$ 2,343,100      | \$ Same            | Property         | Care Providers-90%    | Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount::<br>N <input type="checkbox"/> | 01/01/2025   |
| Parsonages  | \$ NA             | \$                 |                  |                       | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input type="checkbox"/>             |              |
| Church Furnishings and Equipment                              | \$ 3,531,000      | \$ Same            | Property         | Care Providers-90%    | Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount::<br>N <input type="checkbox"/> | 01/01/2025   |
| Parsonage Furnishings and Equipment                           | \$ NA             | \$                 |                  |                       | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input type="checkbox"/>             |              |
| Vehicle(s)  | \$ NA             | \$                 |                  |                       | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input type="checkbox"/>             |              |
| General Liability   |                   | \$ 5,000,000       | General/Umbrella | Care Providers        | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount::<br>N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 01/01/2025   |
| Worker's Compensation   |                   |                    |                  | Church Mutual         | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | 01/01/2025   |
| Directors and Officers/Errors and Omissions/Crime             |                   | \$ 1,000,000       | Liability        | Great American Zurich | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | 01/01/2025   |
| Professional Liability Coverage (Including Sexual Misconduct) |                   | \$ 3,000,000       | Liability        | Care Providers        | Y <input type="checkbox"/> Amount:<br>N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | 01/01/2025   |

b. Have the buildings been inspected for fire and other safety hazards within the past year?  Yes  No

c. Have you assessed the of replacement value within the last 5 years?  Yes  No

d. Who performed the assessment? Care Providers

e. Does the church have a Safe Sanctuary Policy?  Yes  No

f. Is the amount of insurance adequate?  Yes  No

(to determine adequacy of coverage, please use the GCFR Insurance Worksheet found at <http://www.gcfra.org/insured-ministries-church-minimum-insurance-requirements>)

7 a. Has an annual accessibility audit for church properties been conducted (§ 2533.6)?  Yes  No

(attach as a report; an example accessibility audit form may be found at <http://www.gcfra.org/forms-and-resources>)

b. If needed, have you developed an accessibility plan?  Yes  No (Attach plan)

8 Provide a detailed list of income-producing and permanent funds

| Item          | Date Received        | Amount     | Where Invested                        | Income  | How Income is Used for Ministry            |
|---------------|----------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--|
|               | October 2024 & prior | 1,924,141* | Wells Fargo Bank                      | 119,735 | Operational Costs, Special Ministries      |
| Endowed Funds | October 2024 & prior | 8,673,498  | First Methodist Foundation-First Bank | 741,517 | Operational, Missions, Outreach Ministries |

(Attach as a supplement a statement clarifying the manner in which these investments made a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the church and showing the investments are socially responsible (§ 2533.5 and § 2550.9))

President of Trustees

Steven A. Waters

Printed Name: Steve Waters

Date: November 25, 2024



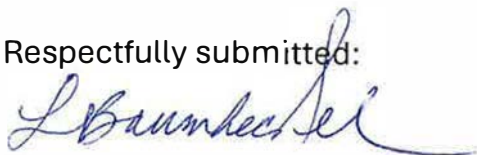
REPORT FROM CONGREGATIONAL CARE 2024  
Pastor Linda Baumheckel

- Sent out 47 letters to people who we knew, and who we were not certain, of their homebound and related status. It included a printed Advent Devotional since this generation is not internet dependent. Cover letter attached.
  - Leah Jayne has an intake form to accompany their return phone calls to obtain accurate status and communication preferences. This form is attached.
- Inducted Stephen Minister Julie Schweppe in worship.
- Two people who are Stephen Ministers and wanted to reactivate will receive training in January. Increasing our Stephen Ministers to 5 active ministers.
- Prepared a meal and meeting of appreciation for the Prayer Room Ministry Team.
- Held a Prayer Room Open House on Palm Sunday.
- Physically updated and improved the appearance and some logistical steps in the prayer process for the prayer team.
- Coordinated with Pastor Jason a sermon Series on Prayer.
- Sunday Schools signed up for me to travel to their classes in the month the theme was prayer. I presented a lesson on prayer.
- Included a Mental Health theme in worship and related the month before it was Mental Health month in the country.
- Held an extra program for Porter Loring for Grief in the Holidays. A single session 18 attended.
- Coordinated Porter Loring's offering of a special 8-week course on managing grief in our studies this fall. 8 attended.
- Provided a Blue Christmas Service in the Garden Chapel.
- Preached twice this year in the traditional services.
- 3 Care Ministers enlisted and trained for support in Congregational Care. They were added to an in-place team of two who do phone and text ministries.
- Updated the Email Prayer Copy to streamline the content for those who pray online. Leah sends these out weekly.
- Obtained a printer to the prayer room to send the prayers promptly to the team. These requests are from prayer cards and emails that congregational care receives online and in the prayer boxes.
- Updated the outlying prayer boxes and the printed prayer cards for helpful accuracy in terms of what we do with the information and the congruent look. Metal boxes are now mounted and wooden boxes put into play in other ministry areas.

- Facilitated a class on Estrangement of Parents from their children and related.
- Met with multiple persons throughout the year for one-on-one pastoral care appointments.
- Conducted necessary hospital, rehab, home visits.
- I drove so much for church visits and related that the budget mileage allowance was not adequate this year!
- Added the Juniper retirement Center to our worship offerings. Wednesday at 10:30 am.
- Added Lay Person James Smith as song leader to both weekly services at Juniper and the Forum. When I am unavailable, James leads the Juniper Service.
- James Smith is looking into Lay Minister status in the UMC via Jason and my encouragement.
- Visited the Prayer Shawl Ministry team twice and we had them offer shawls in the Worship Service for others to take and highlighted this ministry in worship both Modern and Traditional.
- Participated in music in worship in traditional as Preludes/Offertory, Soloist, and song leader.
- Flower Ministry: We have 4 drivers for the Flower Ministry. Created new Stem Cards for each arrangement. The drivers now write cards to go with their arrangements each week. We now have a card supply for every circumstance, new storage boxes for such. Pastor oversees who receives deliveries every Monday. We now include Forum Retirement Center clientele for birthdays and/or suffering on low days for this congregation's needs. Average deployment per week 8-12. We serve 48 weeks of deliveries x 8 per week: A minimum of 384 flower arrangements delivered in a year.
- Floral arrangers. A Lay person oversees and works with me. She has recruited 4 new people to do arrangements after the 11-worship service. This ministry uses the flowers in the worship service to prepare flowers to be deployed accordingly.
- I am now playing for the Lunch Bunch event on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.

Honestly - - I believe there is more. However, I feel this is a great overview of the Congregational Ministry and its growth in 2024.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda Baumheckel

## Darrell Smith, Pastor of Discipleship and Communications 2024

2024 has been a fruitful year of growth and rhythm. After working with the staff and congregation in 2022 and 2023 to build systems and processes for the consistent flow of communicating the rhythms of the church, we began to realize the fruits of our collective labor. The many channels of communication at AHUMC's disposal were allowed to work in harmony, creating a layering effect, rather than working against each other to confuse the community.

Working with the staff and congregation, the Communications Team built a strategy and classification system that reflects the liturgical and communal rhythms of AHUMC. The AHUMC Communications Team provides oversight for all communications that are received from AHUMC. Working under the discretion of the Senior Pastor and responsively to the Leadership Team and ministry directors, the AHUMC Communications Team manages the marketing, branding, and the overall creative graphic and media communication efforts of the church, employing the following principles:

- We recognize that communication begins with listening. We, therefore, purpose to receive, reflect, and respond to the needs of the church and the community, valuing relationship and process over events or projects.
- We hope to provide simple, up-front communication that engages our audiences with timely, relevant, and consistent messaging.
- We acknowledge that the number of messages people receive daily is overwhelming. People and families are engaged in a wide range of activities that demand attention. Accordingly, we must provide clear, concise, and compelling information that is easily accessible and appropriately targeted through a variety of channels.
- We desire to empower our ministry directors and lay leaders with the communication training and tools necessary to effectively communicate with their specific audiences.

All AHUMC communications fall into one of four classifications: Liturgical, Ministry, Community, or Common Good. Each classification includes activated channels of communication that are automatically employed and additional channels of communication that are employed at the discretion of the Communications Team.

- Events or initiatives classified as **Liturgical** are AHUMC-sponsored with an unrestricted audience. Examples of liturgical expressions include worship services, course offerings, *Plastic Free July*, *Role Call*, and festivals.

- Events or initiatives classified as **Ministry** are AHUMC-sponsored with a restricted audience. Ministry expressions originate within AHUMC departments and ministries and are the most common classification of communication at AHUMC. Examples of ministry expressions include *Vacation Bible School, Arts for All, Summer Sounds*, mission trips, and retreats.
- Events or initiatives classified as **Community** are sponsored by AHUMC congregants. Community expressions promote AHUMC's members and congregants on mission. Examples of community expressions include *Fishing Under the Bridge, Walk to Emmaus, Kairos, SAMM Ministries, 1 HOPE for Kids*, Scholarship Committee, and *School Supply Drive*.
- Events or initiatives classified as **Common Good** are external events or initiatives sponsored by like-minded organizations. Common Good expressions partner with outside organizations to help inform the larger community. Examples of Common Good expressions include Alzheimer's Care Support, Grief Support Groups, and Recovery Bake Sales.

We are grateful for the tenure and service of Communication Team members Adam Crowell, Cristian Ortiz, and Angelina Vannez as well as the support of lay leaders like John Burnam and Kalos Strategies in building and implementing these processes and systems.

Our year in Adult Learning and Discipleship continued in the recognition that disciples are not mass-produced, and they are not created with the flip of a switch. Living into the life of a disciple—someone who lives out the love and teaching of Jesus the Christ—takes time. In fact, the process of living as a disciple is a lifetime endeavor that requires lots of space and lots of love. It is our hope that our efforts in discipleship formation continue to be reflective of both the time and space needed for discipleship as well as our scriptural and historical tradition.

We continue to develop and offer educational and dialogical opportunities within the community of faith that create opportunities for relationship building as well as encourage, edify, and sustain disciples. In January 2024, AHUMC began the semester by hosting seven unique, staff-led courses, including *Making Sense of the Bible*—led by Rev. Donna Strieb—that became the church's most attended course with over forty participants each week.

We launched our fall semester in September with ten new staff-led courses, ranging from six to fourteen weeks in length. Throughout the year, all of AHUMC's course offerings are free to any interested participants. Moreover, all of our courses are offered both in-person and online.

Our efforts to survey the hundreds of participants who engaged one of AHUMC courses in 2024 overwhelmingly affirmed our efforts to provide for both the education and connection of disciples.

- 98% of respondents indicated that they had recommended AHUMC's courses to someone else or would in the future.
- 97% of respondents reported that their participation in the course had led to new relationships and connection with others.
- 99% of respondents defined their course experience as "transformative," "helpful or encouraging," or "educational."
- 96% of respondents rated their overall experience of a course at AHUMC as positive.

AHUMC is committed to offering a wide array of opportunities for the education, encouragement, and equipping of disciples. The spring semester of 2025 will feature another roster of staff-led courses. Opportunities for discipleship connection, study, and growth at AHUMC are not limited, however, to educational opportunities alone. We continue to support Sunday school classes, study groups, support groups, and recovery groups at AHUMC. In addition to providing resource and communication support to these groups, we also help our groups and classes adapt to the hybrid environment of meeting in-person and online simultaneously. It is our hope to continue supporting our existing groups as well as creating an encouraging environment for the foundation of new ones.

# **2024 Charge Conference Report**

## **Modern Worship, Wedding Ministries**

While I have only been here a short amount of time, I am happy to report that 2024 has been full of moments of fruitful ministry and developing leadership in the congregation of Alamo Heights.

My primary area of ministry, the Modern Worship service on Sunday mornings, has been an example of this. Despite a couple of challenges in the personal lives of some of the leaders (illnesses/unexpected deaths with family, unexpected surgery), our leaders in the worship band have consistently stepped up when someone has had to be away, ensuring continuity of excellence from Sunday to Sunday. Additionally, the worship leadership team has had to endure 3 pastoral transitions in 3 years. While frustrating because it is beyond their control, the leadership team has grown in adaptability, patience, and leadership as they learn to work with different pastoral approaches. The worship band is especially excited by the impending additions of Sarah Ortiz as Associate Modern Worship Director and Jordan Bryant as Vocal Director in 2025. Their continued presence and gifts make a great difference in the experience that our congregants have on a Sunday morning.

Beyond the Sunday morning worship service, the community in the CLC has continued to strengthen because of leadership from dedicated laypeople. Several participants of the modern worship community have organized a small group that welcomes people who are new to AHUMC; they intentionally meet in the atrium to practice hospitality and are available to receive visitors. Others have assisted me in planning and implementing discipleship opportunities during the season of Advent so that people can be the Church during the week and not just on Sunday mornings for an hour. And the Common Space class, which I have helped facilitate, continues to grow as people find space to reflect honestly about the Christian faith and what it means to be faithful.

Looking ahead, the Modern Worship community will work on creative ways to gather people beyond Sunday morning worship with leadership from our regular attenders. Additionally, the hospitality and communications ministries are helping the Modern Worship community develop ways to connect with new visitors and follow up with them to help them find their way at AHUMC and become part of the life of the church.

Turning to weddings at AHUMC: Nancy Haney continues to serve as a steady, knowledgeable, and hospitable presence for couples who are married at AHUMC. Because of her vast experience and her passion for her work, people continue to want to be married at our church and work with her – she is already hard at work booking weekends for 2025 ceremonies.

Submitted by Rev. Reed McNitzky

In partnership with AJ Navarro, Nance Haney, and the wonderful people of the AHUMC modern worship community.

November 19, 2024

All areas of mission and outreach are expanding as we continue to develop new opportunities and improve existing ministries. The congregation at Alamo Heights UMC continues to be generous with their time, talent, gifts, service, and witness. As a pastor, I continue to support the congregation and the ideas and dreams that parishioners bring me.

I have sought to partner with children and youth over the past year. I have offered my pastoral presence and teaching on the New Zion Youth Retreat to Camp Capers and the youth's trip to the cross in Kerrville, and I also taught Confirmation. I have met with a couple of Boy Scout Troops and presented information on partnering with people in poverty so that they might experience hope. During the summer, mission and outreach taught a rotation during Vacation Bible School (VBS). The children who attended were very generous as we collected hundreds of books, stuffed animals, baseball caps, items for blessing bags, and canned food for the Hope Center. We also had some wonderful volunteers participate in Project Transformation as reading buddies during June and July. Many of the books collected from VBS were donated to Project Transformation.

Mission and Outreach partnered with the Wesley Nurse, Sonia Serna, to host a back-to-school vaccine bus from Christus Santa Rosa Hospital in July. We also offered free haircuts donated by an AHUMC adult Sunday class and a local salon. School supplies and a health fair were also available. It was a great success!

The Mission and Outreach Taskforce met to decide on our manger donations for Advent 2024. We will collect items for different ministries in San Antonio during the four weeks of Advent. The collections will be toys for children in Piedras Negras, pots and pans for Magdalena House, toiletries for San Antonio Metropolitan Ministry, and twin-sized bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. We are offering Alternative Christmas Cards to support ministries at AHUMC. The market will support Arts for All, The Hope Center, The AHUMC Garden Team, Mission Central, and meals for the Reaching Maximum Independence adults attending Thursday Lunch Bunch. We partnered with the children and youth choirs to add songs to our Christmas cards.

Opportunities abound for us to be Christ to our neighbors and neighborhood. We will continue to meet needs through our Mission and Outreach opportunities as we meet people where they are in this life so that they might experience hope.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as the Mission and Outreach Pastor at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church.

Peace,  
Pastor Janet Weatherston



## **2024 Charge Conference Report-Rev. Chris Estus**

The recovery ministry at AHUMC is thriving. Through the Recovery Ministry, AHUMC hosts 6 different 12-step Recovery Fellowships. Included are Alcoholics Anonymous, Debtors Anonymous, Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families, Sexaholics Anonymous, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, and our own Pioneer Group. These groups hold 11 meetings per week in the West Wing. Weekly attendance is between 125 to 150 people.

I also have the privilege to be a part of the worship services on Sunday and serve wherever I am needed. We also have a study on Sunday mornings called Common Space, led by Darrell Smith, Reed McNitzky and me which allows us to discuss topics brought up by the people attending the group.

Respectfully,

Rev. Chris Estus, Pastor of Recovery

## 2024 Charge Conference Report - Rev. Donna Strieb

As part-time Pastor of Spiritual Formation, I focus on three primary areas...teaching, worship, and ministry with senior adults, plus some additional opportunities that present themselves during the year:

- I continue teaching a hybrid *Thursday Morning Class* with 30-35 class participants attending in person and on Zoom. In the spring we studied Adam Hamilton's book, *The Gospel of Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, and this fall we used *Matthew Skinner's book on Matthew: Gospel of Promised Blessings*. Both studies were very timely for this year in our UMC.
- Assisting as part of the clergy team teaching the 2023 Confirmation Class, I taught the session on John Wesley, the Methodist Movement, and history of Alamo Heights United Methodist Church.
- Leading the monthly *Taizé* prayer services on the first Wednesday of the month that are offered both in person and via livestream. And on December 4 of this year, celebrating 25 years of offering this ministry by hosting a special Advent Taizé.
- Serving as liturgist in the traditional worship services each week.
- Serving as staff liaison with our *Thursday Lunch Bunch* for senior adults. This ministry provides fellowship and a hot meal for seniors, the majority of whom are not members of AHUMC. We continue to host a group of 24 persons from the program for special needs young adults - *Reaching Maximum Independence*. This fall we welcomed a large group of seniors from Juniper Village Assisted Living (next door) who now attend every week. Invitations have also been issued to The Forum and St. Anthony de Padua Retired Priests Home.
- Offering pastoral care as needed, including officiating at 10 funerals and occasionally visiting hospitals.
- Serving as host/church liaison for the Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation that was held July 28-August 2 here at AHUMC.
- I prepared the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration display that chronicled the building of the Basse Rd. church. This display was in the Atrium from September 22 – October 20.

Plans for 2025 include continuing and strengthening the above three primary ministries, and faithfully serving Christ at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church.

Respectfully,

Rev. Donna Strieb, Pastor of Spiritual Formation Ministries (Part-time Retired)

## **2024 Charge Conference Report AHUMC Weekday School**

The AHUMC Weekday School is a growing and thriving pre-school where young children are loved and appreciated. Our focus and mission is to teach our young students the Love of God and to encourage them to share that love with everyone they meet! We start each day with chapel in the Sanctuary learning about God and His love for each of us. We spend our time in chapel singing praise songs, hearing bible stories, practicing our monthly bible verse, and praying. We are richly blessed with Pastor Jason Adams along with Pastor Reed McNitzsky joining us every Wednesday to lead our chapel time. The children and families regularly share how impactful their lessons and stories are for the children each Wednesday. Our pastors are seen as rockstars and celebrities to our children!

We love, care for, and educate children 6 weeks old to 5 years old. We are blessed to have 126 children enrolled at the school and from those children we serve 100 different families. We have roughly 92 children attend each day, Monday through Friday. There are 28 staff members at the Weekday School. We have a beautiful mixture of certified teachers with decades of teaching experience with young learners working alongside of early childhood care givers who are gifted in meeting the needs and developmental goals of young children. We continue to offer extended hours of care offered to our families until 5pm Monday through Friday. We now offer high quality and affordable childcare Monday through Friday from 7:30am until 5pm each day to all our families. The Weekday School also continues to offer our staff health benefits for our full-time employees as well as paid sick days for teachers and staff.

The Weekday School has worked hard to expand our fine arts education for all our students and have added art easels to classrooms, light tables for all classrooms toddler up to five years old, and have continued to add to our Godly Play curriculum and education. We continue to grow and cultivate a strong Parent Teacher Organization to help build community, encourage communication between families, the school, and the church, and to help and support the teachers for special activities, events and celebrations. It has been a joy to see even some of our youngest classrooms have holiday “parties” complete with a activity, story, special snack, and parents enjoying time together with their children. This spring we resurrected the Weekday School annual fundraiser after almost 2 decades of not having one and our focus for the fundraising was safety, security, and classroom enhancements. We had a wonderful turnout of over 100 people who helped raise funds, celebrate children’s art work, and enjoy a night out building community together! Using some of the funds raised at this event, we were able to cover all exterior doors of the Weekday School with ballistic film covering for added safety and security for all. We continue to invite parents to come on campus as special guest readers, center time helpers, small group leaders, and helping with class celebrations. It is a joy to see Weekday School families on Sunday mornings attending services and Sunday School classes here at AHUMC. We have had several families from our school join the church this year and that is one of our greatest celebrations!

As we move into 2025, we are looking forward to continued growth and expanding our school to meet the needs of the community we serve. We are excited to continue our mission of sharing the love of God with the children and families we serve, while educating the children for their future.

Sarah Jernigan  
Director of Weekday School

## Charge Conference Report 2024 Music and Worship Ministry

The purpose of the Music and Worship Ministry is to serve the congregation in weekly worship through art and music. Through the gifts of music, poetry, hymns, prayers, and visual art, we consider it our purpose to offer our gifts to enhance, deepen, and expand the spoken word. It is our purpose and our joy.

We have continued to offer a variety of places for people to serve. We have dedicated members of Adult Choirs, Youth Choir, Children's Music, and Adult Handbells.

Some of the highlights of the year have included:

- The Arts for All Program, now in its second year, continues to thrive as a vibrant afterschool initiative. With 35 students currently enrolled, the program meets weekly to offer engaging classes in Visual Arts, Creative Movement, and Handbells. Our partnership with AHISD ensures seamless transportation from school to our church, enabling consistent participation. Of those enrolled, 95% attend regularly, with 66% depending on the provided transportation. Our diverse student body includes 17% identifying as Asian/Pacific Islander, 42% as Hispanic/Latino, and 14% from households with an annual income of \$25,000 or less, reflecting our mission to serve and uplift our community.
- This year, we launched a concert series thoughtfully planned and organized by MaryLou Russell. Over the course of the year, we presented six performances, showcasing the talents of our AHUMC family and welcoming gifted artists from the broader community. We're thrilled to carry this momentum into 2025 and look forward to what lies ahead!
- Our Holy Week experience involved the adult choirs, the youth choir, and brass
  - Good Friday is a highlight of the Holy Week experience as it is planned and led by our Youth Choir. The congregation finds great hope in seeing our youth serve in this way.
- Our annual Children's Music Camp in June brings in people from the community and the state. This year, we had one of the largest attendances since COVID. Percentage-wise, our outreach is about 75% of the people who do not attend Alamo Heights UMC.
- The Youth Choir embarked on an inspiring mission trip to Dubuque, Iowa, where they partnered with Rev. Stephanie Lind Schlimm to bring the joy of music to the local community. Together, we created a Music Camp modeled after our Summer Sounds Program. Over the course of three days, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., we provided musical & creative art experiences, mentorship, and a shared lunch for the children and staff. The camp concluded with a program on Wednesday afternoon, with a musical prepared in the three days of camp.
  - A unique highlight this year was witnessing the youth bond in a way that deepened their sense of community and faith. The younger youth are already expressing a desire to step up as leaders and carry forward the legacy of care and connection within the group. It is heartening to see the fruits of love and guidance flourish as these young people embrace the call to nurture and uplift one another.
  - Our youth shone as mentors and teachers, embracing the opportunity to lead and inspire. This experience left a profound impact on both the participants and our youth, with many expressing a desire to return in 2025 to continue supporting the Dubuque Church in its ministry. This mission trip was not just a sharing of music but a powerful exchange of faith, friendship, and growth.
- We continued with bringing in a Brass Ensemble for All Saints Sunday. It was a joyous celebration of the saints who have been a part of the community.
  - A new idea for this service was to have all ages process in with candles and line the Chancel rail. One candle for each of our saints. This proved to be a beautiful and meaningful addition to this service.
- The Lessons and Carols Service with the Orchestra and all the choirs is a particular highlight for this ministry.

- We hired Angela Leonhardt to be our Director of Children's Music. She is serving in this role in a part-time capacity. Bringing Angela on in this role has been an amazing addition to the team. She has a deep love for children and the church and is a master teacher. In many ways, she is acting in ways above and beyond her "job description".
- We have an amazing staff in our Children's Music program and Arts for All. They are all master teachers, love working with children, and are supportive of the programs. We are grateful for each of them and the gifts they bring.
  - Selena Davila - Children's Music & Arts for All Art
  - Chelsea Short - Children's Music
  - Stacie Brown - Arts for All Lead Teacher & Handbells
  - Heather Kelly - Arts for All Drama
  - Lucy Warner - Arts for All Ukulele
  - Tess Kilduff - Arts for All Admin & Class Assistant
  - Abby Fernandez - Arts for All Class Assistant
  - Asia White - Arts for All Class Assistant
  - Clara Schweninger - Arts for All Class Assistant
  - Carol Cauley - Arts for All Snack Coordinator
- Our Music Ministry Staff is a wonderful team that supports Worship, Music, and all those in the ministry and larger church. It is an honor to walk alongside them in ministry.
  - MaryLou Russell - Pianist & Organist
  - Angela Leonhardt - Director of Children's Music
  - Ashley Person - Music Admin
  - Tessa Kilduff - Music Admin

Participation in a musical ensemble provides a common space for people of varied ages, occupations, ethnicities, and theological views to join in a common purpose beyond themselves. Each Sunday, corporate worship offers the same opportunity for unity, encouragement, and community. It is our desire that as we practice our faith through worship and song, we grow as disciples of Jesus, making space for God's transformative work in our lives and having the courage to share our lives with others.

Respectfully submitted,

Nona Schwab  
Music and Worship Director

**Subject:** It's A Wrap  
**Date:** Saturday, July 13, 2024 at 3:21:56 PM Central Daylight Time  
**From:** Kathey Adams  
**To:** All Staff  
**Attachments:** processed-657FA0A4-6225-4AE6-B57C-043E8BFA62D1.jpeg, processed-32668D1D-49AB-4716-8114-1CC3A709735C.jpeg, original-EBA554B6-5DC7-425C-8CCC-9D5FD7CBCF98.jpeg, original-961DCCFA-F5DA-4E4B-8862-F28E33205ECC.jpeg, original-845F9D34-A9B6-450B-8FB1-64AEE485560A.jpeg, original-798829A3-934D-496B-AEA3-3A63DBFBC0C8.jpeg, original-FBC06537-1D2C-49DA-BB97-351CE7A8D2FD.jpeg, original-38125DC2-21F1-4FCC-9714-7FEC2FD70B31.jpeg, original-35E89A8D-8867-499B-9BCB-71E2C5CF65CF.jpeg, original-8792350A-065F-4BAC-AFE0-C94E03B58C35.jpeg, original-C6EB0B90-CB58-49F2-9A2E-5611A03AA28A.jpeg

“Don’t forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!” Hebrews 13:2 NLT

49 teens and adults

4 Texas churches (Baytown, Red Oak, Mason, La Grange)

6 work sites - four wheelchair ramps, lots of siding and trim repair, at Impacto carpet was removed, rooms painted and an old concrete bbq was destroyed and hauled off, Wesley Center on SAC had some chores done and AHUMC had rotten fence torn down and replaced

Lots of worship and games at the church!

And Vanessa Konkel organized a night for the youth to swim!

Thank you so much for rearranging life this week at AHUMC to welcome in UMARMY. The adults and young people that participate in this ministry are really the hands and feet of Jesus in the communities they serve.

Enjoy the pictures and I have more if you would like to see.

Blessings,  
Kathey

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**Adam Crowell, Technical Arts Director**  
**2024**

2024 has been a tremendous year for Audio, Visual, and IT growth. Through consultation with staff and Lay leadership, we developed a list of campus-wide priorities to help ministry leaders conduct the work of the church both in person and online.

The AHUMC Technical Arts Team provides technical oversight for all on-campus events at AHUMC. Working under the discretion of the Senior Pastor and responsively to the Leadership Team and other ministry directors, the AHUMC Technical Arts Team manages the audio, visual, and IT efforts of the church, employing the following principles:

- We recognize that not all people have an understanding of A/V or IT operations or equipment. Therefore, we purpose to meet people where they are in their knowledge to equip and empower their ministry needs.
- We aim to provide simple, up-front communication that addresses technical needs thoroughly and quickly.
- We desire to empower our ministry directors and lay leaders with the technical training and tools necessary to execute their events effectively.

We are grateful for the tenure and service of Technical Arts Team members Rick Alvarez, Jacob Adams, Gavin Jernigan, and Aaron Navarro. We also recognize and are thankful for the support of our volunteers, Faye Crowell, Elliott Smith, and Angelina Vannez.

AHUMC's Technical Arts Team is committed to enhancing the church's audio, visual, and IT capabilities and efficiency. In 2025, we anticipate substantial livestream upgrades for all venues, including the Sanctuary, CLC, and Garden Chapel. We also expect to expand the church's use of more Planning Center apps, including People, Check-ins, Services, Groups, and Registration. This will help to centralize the information flow for all events, from planning to execution. We are collaborating with the Communications and Facilities teams to implement and educate the staff and congregation.