

Alamo Heights UMC
Board of Stewards – MEETING NOTES
March 20, 2025
5:00pm in W100

Board of Stewards (Blue italics = Attending)

1. *David Kinder, Chair*
2. *Dianne Dorsett, Vice Chair*
3. *Steve Waters, Chair Trustees*
4. *Renee Kizziar - Chair Foundation*
5. Pat Crump - Chair SPRC
6. *Johnny Boyd - Chair Finance*
7. *Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader*
8. *Carrie Lobasso, Finance Committee*
9. *Hill Ojeda, Finance Committee*
10. *Brian Nash, Trustee*
11. *Thad Ziegler, Trustee*
12. *Caroline Wernli, SPRC*
13. *Randy Holmes, SPRC*
14. Amy Wilcox, SPRC
15. Doran Dennis, At-Large
16. *Brian Griffin, At-Large*
17. *James Smith, At-Large*
18. *Jason Adams, Senior Pastor*
19. *Linda Baumheckel, Congregational Care Pastor*
20. Chris Estes, Recovery Pastor
21. *Reed McNitzky, Modern Worship Pastor*
22. Darrell Smith, Discipleship & Communications Pastor
23. Donna Strieb, Spiritual Formation & Worship Pastor
24. *Janet Weatherston, Mission & Outreach Pastor*
25. *Valerie Slade, Executive Director*
26. *Lindsay Hannah, Finance Director*
27. *Vanessa Konkol, Secretary*

Welcome: David Kinder opened the meeting.

Prayer: Janet Weatherston opened in prayer, referencing Ecclesiastes 11:1.

BOS Minutes February 2025: David Kinder proposed the motion to approve last month's meeting minutes.

- *MOTION: Steve Waters*
- *SECOND: Johnny Boyd*
- *MOTION PASSES*

Finance Report #1: Johnny Boyd reviewed the ADDENDUM: ALAMO HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY. Johnny reviewed highlights, including the Total Receipts for the year show a variance over budget by \$75,052. Two explanations shared include parishioners who made annual pledges in full, and an increase in overall giving YTD.

Trustees Report: Steve Waters reported that the church has engaged Pape-Dawson to replat the northeast parking lot. He also informed the board that there will be minor construction in the sanctuary as the facility team is creating a handicap seating area in the east transept.

Finance Committee Report: Lindsay Hannah highlighted the February 2025 Financials, and referenced the ADDENDUM: GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS AS OF FEBRUARY 2025. There was a projected deficit but we ended up in a surplus position of \$57,335 because Salary & Benefits and Insurance both came in under budget. Areas over budget were 1) Communication & Tech Arts due to equipment purchase to include a method for staff to discreetly communicate during the service, and 2) Maintenance. YTD better than budget at \$76,984.

Stewardship Workshop Report: Johnny Boyd outlined the ADDENDUM: PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION HANDOUT, PAGE 5. Back on February 26th, the pastors, business staff, and Finance Committee participated in a workshop with Joe Park (Horizons Stewardship), regarding the stewardship campaign for the church. Key takeaways included a general review of charitable giving, which has been stable. Interesting points included that the economy doesn't really affect charitable giving, as many believe. Inflation, however, does tend to affect giving, though Christians tend to outgive other givers. There's a problem if there's not an increase in giving despite inflation with Christians. Nonprofits compete for Spiritual Giving. One reason is that nonprofits give a clear and specific vision when asking for giving - this is an important area to focus on with Spiritual Giving.

Grow Together Capital Campaign- Phase 1: Valerie Slade shared John 15:5 where Jesus says, "I am the Vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." This represents the varying areas that make up the church. Regarding the stewardship campaign, initial focus is on facility renovation and bringing younger adults and family demographics into the church. The preliminary estimate for renovations is \$5M; FINANCE /TRUSTEES have approved this phase. The next step is current

proposal to enter the “quiet phase” and begin meeting with leaders and congregational focus groups to measure traction of moving the building forward into the future. Horizon Stewardship consultants/guides will help us vision-cast through these phases. The cost for the 1st Phase through Horizon Stewardship is \$11,475. We are ready to move to the lay leaders’ level and bring in congregation for input. In first phase, priorities are building renovations and to welcome new families and all people, some recommendations are: Building a young family gathering area on one of the exterior lawns, ADA accessibility for the campus, and evangelism touchpoints to grow this church

- Grow Together Capital Campaign - Phase 1 proposal to move forward to the next phase of communication at the cost of \$11,475 (page 5, see chart):
 - *MOTION: Renee Kizziar*
 - *SECOND: James Smith*
 - *MOTION PASSES*

Senior Pastor’s Comments: Pastor Jason Adams provided commentary on having so many new families joining, including several “under 30” parishioners wanting to be baptized, and how these are great indications of the work of the Holy Spirit. This coming-together to focus on ministry is wonderful. Proverbs says “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” This could also be understood “where there is vision, there people live!” What is the Holy Spirit’s vision in using us to bring about His work? Thanks for those present who are focusing on Jesus, focusing on ministry and outreach.

BOS Chairman Comments: David Kinder walked the members through a visualization exercise. He instructed all to take 10 seconds and look around the room and look at everything that is green and to then to close your eyes. After, he asked the question, “What is orange?” The group stumbled to recall orange in the room. Any time we “focus on what is green” and what we think we want/what we think is best, even if we think we know the answer, keep an open mind. In like manner, what we are doing with the \$ we are raising for the church through the stewardship campaign, we should “be also open to seeing orange” because there may be new ideas the congregation shares we haven’t even thought about. As we embark on this journey to revitalize and revolutionize our church, it is about God’s future, along with our children and grandchildren. David concluded by thanking the attendees for their time!

Closing Prayer: Closing prayer offered by James Larkin.

Next Meeting: April 24, 2025 at 5:00pm in W100 (4th Thursday due to Easter)