

Alamo Heights UMC  
**Board of Stewards – Agenda & Meeting Notes**  
 May 15, 2025  
 5:00PM in Room W100

<i>Live</i>	<i>Out</i>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>
	X	David Kinder	Chair
X		Dianne Dorsett	Vice Chair
	X	Steve Waters	Chair Trustees
X		Renee Kizziar	Chair Foundation
X		Pat Crump	Chair SPRC
X		Johnny Boyd	Chair Finance
X		Dan St. Romain	Lay Leader
X		Vanessa Konkol	Secretary
X		Carrie Lobasso	Finance
	X	Hill Ojeda	Finance
	X	Steve Waters	Trustee Chair
	X	Brian Nash	Trustee
	X	Thad C. Ziegler	Trustee
X		Caroline Wernli	SPRC
X		Randy Holmes	SPRC
X		Amy Wilcox	SPRC
X		Doran Dennis	At-Large
X		Brian Griffin	At-Large
X		James L. Smith	At-Large
X		Rev. Jason Adams	Senior Pastor
X		Rev. Linda Baumheckel	Congregational Care Pastor
	X	Rev. Chris Estus	Recovery Pastor
X		Rev. Reed McNitzky	Modern Worship Pastor
	X	Rev. Darrell Smith	Discipleship & Communications Pastor
X		Rev. Donna Strieb	Pastor of Prayer & Spiritual Nurture
X		Rev. Janet Weatherston	Missions & Outreach Pastor
X		Valerie Slade	Executive Director
X		Lindsay Hannah	Finance Director

**Welcome - Dianne Dorsett**

**Prayer - Janet Weatherston**

**Approval of April Minutes - Diane Dorsett:**

- MOTION 1st: Johnny Boyd
- MOTION 2nd: Rev. Jason Adams
- DECISION: Passes

**Finance Report:** Johnny Boyd & Lindsay Hannah reviewed highlighted sections of the ADDENDUM 1: ALAMO HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY - April 2025. Financial Explanations show that April receipts were more than expected by \$27.8K. This was largely attributable to higher than planned tithes from regular contributors and annual pledges paid in full. This was partially offset by lower than anticipated plate cash. Additionally, weddings were less than projected because we receive deposits in March while wedding and related expenses occurred in April. Household givers were 323 with a per capita giving of \$675. There were 15 new givers in plate cash for the month. YTD receipts exceeded the budget by \$111.4K. April disbursements were lower than expected by \$5.2K. This was primarily driven by positive variances for salaries and benefits, insurance cost premiums, partially offset by higher than planned expenses for communications and technical arts. Programs were less than anticipated because VBS registration fees were collected while the related expenses have not been incurred. Communication and technical arts were more than projected because of a laptop purchased for the communications team and a rolling stage purchased for worship. Because of healthy receipts, we paid our apportionment balance for the month. Overall, April's net results had a positive variance of \$33K and YTD net results exceeded expectations by \$140.2K.

**Grow Together:** Valerie Slade provided an update on the Grow Together campaign, which is "running down the train track," as we have met with consultants. We are vision-casting to bring ideas into templates. We have been fortunate to be able to receive shared documents from Adam Hamilton's Church of the Resurrection. Planning leader meetings and FIGS (First Impression Groups) – invitations have gone to our leaders, and there are several presentations planned for June. Attendance is encouraged as input and feedback is being sought. This is the most critical phase because the 1<sup>st</sup> impression determines whether we continue or stop. Focal points include preparing this church for the future generations (think back on the 1990s, when "future planners" planned forward for 31 years to what we experience now! Currently, we are gathering versus disseminating information. Also, we are currently researching

costs. We have pro-bono support to help us evaluate projects and have connected us with an ADA consultant to make the church more accessible.

**Open Positions:** Valerie Slade provided update that this past Sunday was Gabe Garza's last day. However, a fulltime custodian has been hired, Sunny Adams. Additionally, Noella Yellowe has been hired as a Summer Youth Intern. Candidates are also being interviewed for Assistant Youth Director (1<sup>st</sup> final candidate has been selected, currently interviewing 2<sup>nd</sup> final candidate). Final decision projected by next BOS meeting in June.

**Senior Pastor's Comments:** Jason Adams provided a membership update for the month:

- 45 new members since last Charge Conference in November 2024
- 4/45 were adult baptism
- 13/45 have come from other denominations
- 11/45 have come from other Methodist or United Methodist churches
- 8 were confirmands

As a church, are we a thermometer or a thermostat? A church is only effective as its leadership - without leaders, things just don't get done. AHUMC is hosting the Global Leadership Conference this year! Every time, the leaders get healthier, and so does the organization. An organization will never outgrow the maturation of its leadership. It is very important to invest in our leadership.

*Global Leadership Conference Dates: Thurs/Fri, August 7-8 (8:30am-4pm)*

*BOS all invited. Units provided for Continuing Education - great opportunity to hone leadership!*

**Chairman of the Board's Comments:** Dianne Dorsett read the lyrics from a song recently sung by the combined Sanctuary Adult Choir and New Zion Youth Choir. It started as a single voice, joined by a 2<sup>nd</sup>, then 3<sup>rd</sup>, then the entire choir. At the end of the song, it transitioned from the entire choir, to 3 voices, then 2, then 1. The song is an analogy, as it pertains to the work and growth of our church. Thirty+ years ago, church congregants came together to plan for the future that we now are experiencing through their community of prayer, planning, and preparing how the church community would grow together. Today, we are together walking in a journey as we prepare for the goal to ensure that our church can "Grow Together" to expand God's Kingdom.

*Recommendation to search YouTube for "One Voice," performed by the U.S. Air Force Band and Choir. See ADDENDUM 2 to read song lyrics.*

**Closing Prayer – Linda Baumheckel**

**Next meeting: June 19, at 5pm in W100**

**ADDENDUM 1:** ALAMO HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY - April 2025

**ADDENDUM 2:** "Once Voice" song lyrics

One Voice Lyrics

The song "One Voice," recorded by [The](#) Wailin Jennys, was written by Ruth Moody"

This is the sound of one voice  
One spirit, one voice  
The sound of one who makes a choice  
This is the sound of one voice  
This is the sound of one voice

This is the sound of voices two  
The sound of me singing with you  
Helping each other to make it through  
This is the sound of voices two  
This is the sound of voices two

This is the sound of voices three  
Singing together in harmony  
Surrendering to the mystery  
This is the sound of voices three  
This is the sound of voices three

This is the sound of all of us  
Singing with love and the will to trust  
Leave the rest behind it will turn to dust  
This is the sound of all of us  
This is the sound of all of us

This is the sound of one voice  
One people, one voice  
A song for every one of us  
This is the sound of one voice  
This is the sound of one voice