



**ALAMO HEIGHTS**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# **CHARGE CONFERENCE 2023**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
December 11, 2022

## **Board of Stewards 2023**

David Kinder-Chair BOS	Ends 2023
Leah Jayne-Secretary	N/A

### **Executive Committee-2023**

David Kinder-Chair BOS	2023
To be elected-Chair Trustees	
To be elected-Chair Foundation	
Carol Cauley-Chair SPRC	2024
Dianne Dorsett - Chair Finance	2023
Dan St. Romain-Lay Leader	N/A

### **At-Large-2023**

Doran Dennis	2025
Brian Griffin	2025

### **Finance Committee-2023**

Dianne Dorsett-Chair	2023
Johnny Boyd	2025
Charles Johnson	2024
Trustee Chair - To be elected	
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader	N/A

### **Trustees-2023**

Chair - To be elected	
Scott Boynton	2023
Brian Nash	2024
Steve Waters	2025
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader	N/A

### **SPRC-2023**

Carol Cauley - Chair	2024
Jack Rodgers	2024
Pat Crump	2025
Amy Willcox	2025
Dan St. Romain - Lay Leader	N/A

**Nominations-2023**

Chair – Jason Adams, Senior Pastor	
Emily Urban	2023
Shannon Nester	2023
Erin Drawert	2023
Emily Jones	2024
Thad C. Ziegler	2024
Ginger Brewer	2024
Clay Person	2025
Sarah Ojeda	2025
Craig Woodworth	2025
Dan St. Romain – Lay Leader	N/A

**Foundation-2023**

Chair – To be elected 2023	
Senior Pastor – Jason Adams	N/A
Treasurer – Valerie Slade	N/A
Chair of Finance (Advisory)– Dianne Dorsett	2023
Richard Miller	2023
Dianne Dorsett	2023
Tracy Vardiman	2023
Paul Darr	2023
Ross Evans	2024
David Reed	2024
Roger Lind	2024
Ed Benson	2024
Bill Armstrong	2025
Clarence Bray	2025
Lavonne Garrison	2025
Cathy Johnson	2025
Ann Walton	2025

**Delegates to Annual Conference 2023**

David Kinder  
Vickie Kinder  
Dan St. Romain  
Priscilla St. Romain  
Chip Slade  
Valerie Slade  
Cathy Johnson  
Charles Johnson

## **Candidates for Ordained/Licensed Ministry 2023**

### **Renewals**

Chris Estus  
Ryan Jacobson  
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- San Antonio **Charge**  
Las Misiones **District** Rio Texas **Annual Conference**

For the period beginning January 1, 2022 , and ending November 30, 2022  
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	Carr Hornbuckle	2022
Vice President	Scott Boynton	2023
Secretary	Brian Nash	2024
Treasurer	Valerie Slade	NS
Member	Dan St. Romain- Lay Leader	
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 Basse	Bexar County	9526	19 & 20
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	\$ 22,024,803	\$ same	Limited All Risk	Church Mutual	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023
Parsonages	\$ NA	\$			N <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount:	
Church Furnishings and Equipment	\$ 22,024,803	\$ Same	Limited All Risk	Church Mutual	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023
Parsonage Furnishings and Equipment	\$ NA	\$			N <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	
Vehicle(s)	\$ NA	\$			Y <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	
General Liability		\$ 6000000	Umbrella	Church Mutual	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023
Worker's Compensation				Church Mutual	Y <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023
Directors and Officers/Errors and Omissions/Crime		\$ 1000000	Liability	Great American Zurich	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023
Professional Liability Coverage (Including Sexual Misconduct)		\$ 3000000	Liability	Church Mutual	Y <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount::	01/01/2023

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? Church Mutual

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 GCFA Insurance Worksheet found at <http://www.gcfa.org/gcfa/united-methodist-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.gcfa.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
Cash, Loan Funds, Mutual Funds, Stock Certificates	October 2022 and Prior	4,287,076	Hilltop Securities and TX Meth Foundation	41,727	Operations, Capital Expenditures, Specific Ministry
Endowed Funds	October 202 and Prior	5,421,599	Texas Methodist Foundation	-823,474	Operating Budget, Music Ministries, & Children's

(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 \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: Carr Hornbuckle

Date: December 11, 2022

## Annual Report of the Board of Trustees, 2017-2020

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



# Report of the Finance Committee

The report of the Finance Committee shall be made on this form, or one revised and adapted by the Annual Conference. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*.

*Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of the committee on finance*

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

For the period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 11, 2022  
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

## I. ORGANIZATION

1.a. Has the committee been organized according to the 2016 *Book of Discipline* (§258.4)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

b. Names of officers?

Chairperson Dianne Dorsett

Vice Chairperson Frank Guerra

Treasurer(s) Valerie Slade

Financial Secretary Dana Hawkes/Renee Kizziar

## II. BUDGET AND COMMITMENT PLAN

2.a. Has the committee submitted to the Church Council, or its equivalent, a complete budget for the ensuing year? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If not, why not?

b. Did the committee give the Church Council an opportunity to request financial support for recommended ministries (§258.4)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If not, why not?

3. How frequently does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer send members and contributors regular reports of their giving?

☐ Monthly ☒ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually ☐ Annually ☐ No, we do not send reports

4. Is giving by individual participants in the local church regularly reviewed? ☒ Yes ☐ No;

If not, why not?

5. What are the plans for raising sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the Church Council (§258.4)?

Stewardship campaign, quarterly fin. updates to congregation, weekly, offering, Found. support.

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

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

If not, why not?

Our account frequently exceeds \$250K in order to meet all operating expenses.

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?

Audit firm engaged to produce a compilation that is thoroughly reviewed by Fin. Committee

c. Were there any recommendations or exceptions? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Printed Name: Dianne Dorsett

Date: December 11, 2022

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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.

**Alamo Heights United Methodist Church  
2023 PROPOSED BUDGET**

**Revenue:**

	2020 Actuals	2021 Budget	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Projected Actuals	2023 Budget	Budgeted % of Revenue	2022 \$ Net Change From 2021	2022 Budgeted % Change
General Revenue	2,529,738	2,610,856	2,425,388	2,532,530	2,532,530	2,532,530	82.55%	-	0.00%
Plate Cash	14,676	25,000	32,281	27,000	32,000	32,000	1.04%	5,000	18.52%
Prior Year	4,200	2,000	6,581	2,000	1,270	2,000	0.07%	-	0.00%
Use of Facilities-Wedding	5,760	5,000	9,826	5,000	8,000	5,000	0.16%	-	0.00%
Use of Facilities-Other	64,887	71,000	65,378	61,000	60,000	61,000	1.99%	-	0.00%
Interest	29,404	27,000	33,000	32,000	32,000	33,000	1.08%	1,000	3.13%
AHUMC Foundation	373,000	370,000	375,000	300,000	300,000	402,250	13.11%	102,250	34.08%
Asbury General	41,198	45,600	19,302	-	3,500	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Asbury Use of Facilities	41,758	44,400	44,650	23,000	21,125	-	0.00%	(23,000)	-100.00%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>3,104,621</b>	<b>3,200,856</b>	<b>3,011,406</b>	<b>2,982,530</b>	<b>2,990,425</b>	<b>3,067,780</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>85,250</b>	<b>2.86%</b>
PPP Forgiveness***	419,300								
Less WDS Allocation	-66,758								
<b>Total With Forgiveness</b>	<b>3,457,163</b>								
<b>Expense:</b>									
<b>Salaries:</b>									
Ministers	333,356	349,164	350,664	351,345	292,876	300,209	9.79%	(51,136)	-14.55%
Housing	235,857	240,782	235,628	240,782	190,803	160,200	5.22%	(80,582)	-33.47%
Lay Staff	879,247	950,644	883,893	936,622	896,958	991,817	32.33%	55,195	5.89%
Childcare Workers	17,671	50,036	31,199	50,036	45,000	50,036	1.63%	-	0.00%
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>1,466,131</b>	<b>1,590,626</b>	<b>1,501,384</b>	<b>1,578,785</b>	<b>1,425,637</b>	<b>1,502,262</b>	<b>48.97%</b>	<b>(76,523)</b>	<b>-4.85%</b>
<b>Benefits:</b>									
Health Insurance	226,831	259,908	219,242	255,960	218,274	266,292	8.68%	10,332	4.04%
Payroll Taxes	66,371	73,349	69,703	72,803	69,000	70,000	2.28%	(2,803)	-3.85%
403(B)/GPF	20,782	43,871	34,823	40,000	26,356	40,000	1.30%	-	0.00%
Workers Comp	11,607	11,000	8,104	11,000	9,753	11,000	0.36%	-	0.00%
Minister's Retirement	67,988	72,308	66,545	73,000	56,863	56,562	1.84%	(16,438)	-22.52%
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>393,579</b>	<b>460,436</b>	<b>398,417</b>	<b>452,763</b>	<b>380,246</b>	<b>443,854</b>	<b>14.47%</b>	<b>(8,909)</b>	<b>-1.97%</b>
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>1,859,710</b>	<b>2,051,062</b>	<b>1,899,801</b>	<b>2,031,548</b>	<b>1,901,548</b>	<b>1,946,116</b>	<b>63.44%</b>	<b>(85,432)</b>	<b>-4.21%</b>
<b>Fixed Costs:</b>									
Apportionments**	179,975	239,850	170,964	221,788	221,788	274,000	8.93%	52,212	23.54%
Mission Community	3,156	4,000	2,641	4,000	3,000	4,000	0.13%	-	0.00%
Technology Services	23,105	35,312	22,680	35,312	26,484	35,312	1.15%	-	0.00%
Communications	66,475	71,180	62,940	141,180	125,000	141,180	4.60%	-	0.00%
Administration	39,868	55,700	36,717	55,700	48,800	61,700	2.01%	6,000	10.77%
Insurance	75,167	83,857	92,135	97,000	102,000	107,000	3.49%	10,000	10.31%
Maintenance	480,412	553,935	554,012	498,435	498,435	498,435	16.25%	-	0.00%
Asbury Community	62,865	66,600	57,033	28,500	23,464	0	0.00%	(28,500)	-100.00%
Programs	101,516	145,360	133,414	146,512	125,000	145,012	4.73%	(1,500)	-1.02%
<b>Total Fixed &amp; Program Costs</b>	<b>1,032,539</b>	<b>1,255,794</b>	<b>1,132,536</b>	<b>1,228,427</b>	<b>1,173,971</b>	<b>1,266,639</b>	<b>41.29%</b>	<b>38,212</b>	<b>3.11%</b>
<b>SubTotal Salaries &amp; Fixed Costs</b>	<b>2,892,249</b>	<b>3,306,856</b>	<b>3,032,337</b>	<b>3,259,975</b>	<b>3,075,519</b>	<b>3,212,755</b>	<b>104.73%</b>	<b>(47,220)</b>	<b>-1.45%</b>
<b>Projected Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>564,914</b>	<b>-106,000</b>	<b>-20,931</b>	<b>-277,445</b>	<b>-85,094</b>	<b>-144,975</b>			
<b>Expected Tax Credit To Be Applied</b>				<b>192,000</b>		<b>144,975</b>			
<b>Expected 2020 Surplus To Be Applied</b>				<b>85,445</b>					



# 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 Sań Antonio

Charge

Rio Texas

District Las Misiones

Annual Conference

For the period beginning 01/11/22

and ending 12/11/2022

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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Report of Pastor / Church Conference 2017-2020

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

**Profession of Faith 2022**

Darren Dickout  
Kristin Carrera  
Gabriel Munoz  
Paul Leon  
Athena Leon  
Michael Goddard  
  
Vanessa Woodworth  
Craig Woodworth  
Mia Barker  
Michael Gray  
Charles Jackson  
Meryl Jones  
Maci Maroney  
Aaron Navarro  
Jacob Panek  
Joseph Panek  
Rocco Pearce  
Reeves Porter  
Austin Ramos  
Lynn Juel  
Brian Griffin

**Total** **21**

**From Other Denominations/2022**

Keeley Bell  
Madeline Hewson  
Sonia Lewis  
Peggy Avent  
Leah Jayne  
Anita Evans  
Gerry Lee

**Total** **7**

**From Other Methodist  
2022**

R. Michael Lemond  
Julie Lemond  
Denise Upton  
Paul Bowers  
Kate Bowers  
Kalenda Addams  
  
Jacob Adams  
Grayson Adams  
Abigail Adams  
Sue Peacock  
Michelle Matsler  
Kathey Adams  
Javier Adams  
Shirley Sondock  
Ralph Dockray  
LuEllen Dockray  
Steven Kassarjian  
P.K. Carvajal  
Craig Jones  
Shawn Jones  
Sally Hackett

**Total** **21**

**Transferred to Other Denom.****Church 2022**

Randy Hansen

Erin Hansen

**Total****2****Withdrew 2022**

John Tennison

Peggy Tennison

Caitlin Tennison

Adam Fraser

**Transferred to Other****Methodist Church 2022**

Jeff Harvey

Katie Harvey

Greg Seay

Anne Seay

Campbell Seay

Andrew Seay

Libby Ann Rinn Weyel

Eric Yates

Kim Yates

Shelly Coker

Penny Clarkson

Tim Clarkson

Patrick Ballantyne

Dana Hawkes

David Curren

Jenny Curren

Rick Trefzer

Jenny Trefzer

Jeff Bailey

Stephanie Bailey

Ruth Bongio

Janet Casey

Ashley Brownlee

Mitchell Brownlee

Trey Guinn

Dan Mullins

Jennifer Fraser

Joe Johnston

Carrie Johnston

Olivia Johnston

Julia Johnston

Nancy Hollimon

Charles Hollimon

Cathy Biedenharn

Darrell F. Smith

Janet Smith

Ron Ross

Carol Ross

Ellen Frazier

Katherine Wehmeyer

William Hayter

Andrea Hayter

Lott McIlhenny

Dina McIlhenny

Nancy Gunter

Emma Soupiset

Amy Soupiset

Brooke Tribbey Williams

Wesley Tribbey Williams

Ron Ross

Carol Ross

**Total****29****Second Reading-First****Reading 2021**

Garrett Anders

Diane Bowman

Stuart Benson

Susan McReynolds

Jamie Weyand

Christopher Weyand

Natalie Weyand

Emily Weyand

**Total****8**

Leslie Mullins

**Total****27**

## **Deaths 2022**

Berta Marbut  
Patricia Younts  
Fred Schimmel  
Knox Miller, Jr.  
Martha Villalva  
Curly Robinson  
Dorothy H. Griffin  
Harold Burkhardt  
Mary Beth Grimes  
Kevin Davis  
Christopher Smisek  
John Hendry  
Sandy Littrell  
William Dodge  
Jewell Garwood  
Sheila Moody  
William Salmon  
Patsy Coleman  
Robert Scott  
Dot Wares  
Pat White  
Jan Davis  
Kenneth Bennett  
Warner Fassnidge  
Challes Donaho  
Doris Miller  
Robert Hetrick  
Pat McConnell

**Total**

28

## Senior Pastor Report

December 11, 2022

An ancient Chinese proverb says, “A long journey begins with a single step.” My family and I are blessed to be in the first steps of our journey with Alamo Heights United Methodist Church, a journey we pray will be a long and lasting one. We are excited to be a part of all that Christ is doing in our midst. We look forward to where God will lead us. In the six months we have been here, we have experienced a loving, passionate, Christ-focused church. A church that is ready to move into the future that God has in store for us. Not to be overly optimistic, but rather a realist, we have our share of obstacles to overcome. With God’s help we will succeed and share the love of God in our church and the world. We need to continue to focus on passionate worship, powerful prayer, abundant hospitality, and clear communication.

1. **Passionate Worship.** We need worship that connects us personally to God. Worship that revives our spirits and empowers us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world. Worship that reminds us that we are loved and forgiven. I am thankful for our modern and traditional worship styles and feel confident that we will continue to engage our congregation in passionate worship.
2. **Powerful Prayer.** Alamo Heights United Methodist Church has a long tradition of being a people defined by prayer. We need to continue to live into this tradition. Prayer connects us to God and empowers us to do the ministry that is before us. It is only through prayer that we can understand where God is calling us to serve in the world.
3. **Abundant Hospitality.** I am so thankful that our church understands the need to be loving and welcoming to all our guests. Our guests provide the basis of offering Jesus Christ to all. When we accept the stranger in our midst, we welcome the living Lord in our church. We plan to keep hospitality a high priority in the year ahead.
4. **Clear Communication.** One of the greatest challenges in our large church is clearly communicating all the needs, direction, and vision of the church. We will endeavor to become more effective in all the ways and means we connect with people inside and outside our church.

Praise God for the journey that we are on together. When I came here six months ago, my family included my wife and three kids. Now, in the love of Christ, my family has grown to include all the brothers and sisters here at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church. Through passionate worship, powerful prayer, abundant hospitality, and clear communication, we know God is guiding each step.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jason

District Superintendent Rev. Greg Hackett, Rev. Jason Adams, and Members of the Alamo Heights United Methodist Church Charge Conference:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

I pray this report finds each of you doing well and experiencing the blessings of God. As I look back over the past year I am in awe of the glorious nature of our Triune God. Through all our experiences, both good and bad, God continues to shower us with God's love and grace. God continues to be faithful to God's promises and word. God continues to make a way where there seems to be no way, and God continues to be the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. In short, God continues to be God!

2022 has been a year of transition for me in my role as one of the pastors of AHUMC. I started the year as the Pastor of Mission & Outreach, but with the pastoral appointment of Rev. Dinah Shelly to Spring Creek UMC, I accepted the position of Modern Worship Preaching Pastor in July of this year. I am thankful that the Mission & Outreach position was filled by my dear friend and colleague, Rev. Janet Weatherston.

The month prior to starting in the CLC, the Modern Worship service went from two services each Sunday to one. Over the past six months we have had an increase in Sunday morning worship from an average of 62 people in June to an average 74 in November, not including online worshipers. Our focus is on worshipping God in spirit and in truth and proclaiming the liberating, transformational gospel message of Jesus Christ. We also give attention to responding to the will of God in our lives by being the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

It is a great joy and privilege for me to serve in this capacity, and I look forward to all that God will do in the future. I am thankful to work with such an amazing team of individuals who love God and people with authenticity. Praise be to God!

As an elder in the Rio Texas Conference, I also serve outside the local church. I am currently on the Board of Ordained Ministry, the District Strategy Team, the Board of Directors for the Wesley Foundation of San Antonio (Campus Ministry), and in 2023 I will join the Board of Directors for Project Transformation of San Antonio.

Over the past year I have participated in a cohort group (Courageous Leadership Initiative) sponsored by the Texas Methodist Foundation. The group meets quarterly and is comprised of pastors from the South-Central Jurisdiction. The focus of the group is to address ministry issues and to learn from one another. I also participate monthly in an accountability group with three other pastors from the Rio Texas Conference. It is an opportunity to hold each other accountable, to pray for each other, and to ask the very important question, *how is it with your soul?*

Sisters and brothers, I look forward to the coming year and all that God has in store for us here at AHUMC.

In Christ love,





## 2022 Charge Conference Report - Rev. Donna Strieb

I am most grateful to continue serving on staff at Alamo Heights UMC, and to have done so since 1980. As Pastor of Spiritual Formation, I focus on three primary areas...teaching, worship, and ministry with senior adults. Ministries include:

- Teaching a hybrid *Thursday Morning Class* with 30-35 class participants attending in person and on Zoom. In the spring we studied Danielle Shroyer's book, *Where Jesus Prayed*, and this fall we used Adam Hamilton's *The Journey: Walking to Way to Bethlehem*.
- Assisting as part of the clergy team teaching the 2022 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.
- Serving as liturgist in the traditional worship services each week.
- Creating occasional altarscapes or visuals for special days.
- 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. This past November, we began hosting a group of 22 persons from the program for special needs young adults - Reaching Maximum Independence. This was made possible by a grant from the Las Misiones District.
- Serving as the staff liaison with the Chancel Guild that prepares the sanctuary for special holy days and the seasons of the Christian Year.
- Offering pastoral care as needed, including officiating at 12 funerals and occasionally visiting hospitals.

Plans for 2023 include continuing and strengthening the above ministries, and faithfully serving Christ at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church.

Respectfully,

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

## **Darrell Smith, Pastor of Discipleship and Communications 2022**

2022 has been both a year of difficult change and a year of new growth. At the end of 2021, our Communications Department lost its director, Ryan Kuecks, and its graphic designer, Emily Cleveland, as they moved to new jobs in new cities.

Beginning in late December, we built a new Communications Team with the generous help of congregant and non-profit communications consultant John Burnam. We hired Sarah Smith as graphic designer and brand manager, Cristian Ortiz as digital content coordinator, and expanded the job description of A/V Coordinator Adam Crowell to include video editing and production as our Multimedia Storyteller. We were also able to develop and fill two college internship positions in the areas of printing and technology. We are incredibly blessed to have the Communications Team we have been able to build this year. Each team member carries unique expertise, experience, and a calling to serve—they each work diligently and dutifully together as a team to help our congregation and community.

In addition to responding to the communication needs of the congregation throughout the year, our Communications Team in 2022 undertook an initiative to build healthy communications systems, standards, and practices at AHUMC. That initiative—to bring clarity and consistency to both internal and external communication—will continue in 2023 as we complete our first year as a team and build on all we are learning from our congregation and each other. We hope to add two new college internships in the areas of design and website editing in 2023.

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 encourage, edify, sustain, and call forth disciples. In January of 2022, AHUMC began the semester by hosting nine unique, staff-led courses including a church-wide, six-week study of *Where Jesus Prayed* led by the entire pastoral staff.

We launched our fall semester in late August with seven new staff-led courses, ranging from six to fourteen weeks in length. Throughout the year, all AHUMC's

course offerings are free to any interested participants. Moreover, all our courses are offered both in-person and online.

Our efforts to survey the hundreds of participants who engaged one of AHUMC courses in 2022 garnered over 150 completed online surveys. Survey respondents overwhelmingly affirmed our efforts to provide for both the education and connection of disciples.

- 93% of respondents indicated that they had recommended AHUMC's courses to someone else or would in the future.
- 94% of respondents reported that their participation in the course had led to new relationships and connection with others.
- 92% of respondents attributed their course participation to encouraging them as a disciple of Jesus the Christ.
- 91% 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 2022 will feature another roster of eight 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.

AHUMC also continues to serve as one of the host communities for The Foundry—a conference initiative toward young adults. Our pastors and worship leaders have provided teaching, worship, and support to The Foundry. We also anticipate being a hosting campus for the Foundry again in 2023. We are grateful to staff members Kacey Brewer and A.J. Navarro, as well as volunteers Jordan and Colin Bryant, for providing leadership in The Foundry community.

2022 has been a year of growth and transformation. Our community is blessed with a steadfast and strong group of disciples who recognize their training as calling them to inner work, love, and action.

I have been the Mission and Outreach Pastor since July 2022. My first task was becoming aware of the different outreach opportunities available at AHUMC. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting people and learning about their passion and areas of ministry in the church.

I meet regularly with the Mission and Outreach Task Force group to learn about different ministries and what is needed. We had a very successful Pumpkin Patch which raised \$17,000.00 to be donated to area community ministries. The Hope Center reopened to in-person appointments on the first of November. The Hope Center offers monetary help with a client's bill and provides food for people in need.

We made Blessing Bags for the houseless after Emmy talked to her mother about wanting to help the people in need of food. We made Emmy's Blessing Bags and offered them to anyone in the congregation who desired to take one to bless someone in need.

I have worked closely with the Wesley Nurse, Sonia Serna Gonzalez. We regularly go to San Pedro Ave., where the Asylum Seekers building is located, to see if we might offer the people there hope for the journey. We have taken clothes, shoes, and underwear. We have provided prayer and resources to the people we have met.

We currently have a Manger Drive for Advent. We will collect different items in the Manger each week of Advent. These items will be given to area people in need. We have built our first bunk bed prototype for children who do not have a bed to sleep on. We are hoping to create more bunks beds in the spring of 2023.

My hope for 2023 is to begin to create the foundational team for the Mission Central Outreach for our church area. We will seek the Lord through prayer, fasting, and meeting together. Mission Central is a continuation of the ministries begun at Asbury Church.

I have continued to progress in my education and have completed two classes at SMU since July. I am involved in a Missional Cohort with Rio Texas pastors. I have helped in the Sunday Worship Services. I shared a message in the Community Life Center. I have also led a weekly class on Tuesday Mornings.

I am thankful for the opportunity to be the Mission and Outreach Pastor at AHUMC. There are many opportunities ahead of us to meet the needs of the people we encounter daily.

Respectively,

## **2022 Congregational Care – Charge Conference Report**

2022 has once again been a fruitful year at AHUMC as we offer spiritual, mental, and emotional support to our community. We have continued to assess the care needs and seek to meet them at Alamo Heights United Methodist Church. We continue with the vision to carry forth the words of John Wesley in "caring for one another in love." Our church membership is large.

As our church communication systems improve, our ability to communicate our needs and coordinate support for those in need improves with it. Our church members and the wider community are increasingly able to easily notify the church when care is needed.

Our church continues to offer care to our community in many different ways. We stay in contact with members who are isolated due to various ailments. We visit those in hospitals. We offer support for those with long-term needs. We offer pastoral and lay care to those grieving. We travel with communion. We offer spiritual counseling. We are connected with professional counselors with many different specialties. We pray for the healing of our people and our world.

John and Priscilla MacDougall continue to offer their vast experience in counseling to our church at no cost to those that need help. Additionally, Priscilla has been trained by Prepare/Enrich and offers premarital counseling to many of the couples that wed in our church.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Donna Nicolson to practice therapy at AHUMC. Donna is a former staff member and a recent graduate with a master's in clinical therapy. Through Hill Country Wellness, Donna will offer professional counseling in our building both to our membership and the wider community.

Rev. Donna Martin continues to offer a communion service at the Forum next-door to the church. The Forum is an assisted living facility, and many of the residents there are unable to travel to church. The service Rev. Martin leads has grown to an average of 40 participants weekly.

Our recovery ministry continues strong. Through the Recovery Ministry, AHUMC now 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 and 150 people.

Our church hosted 15 weddings at AHUMC this year. We also offered support, training, and counseling to a number of weddings off campus.

Finally, Rev. Ryan Jacobson completed his studies at Fuller Theological Seminary and will receive a Master of Divinity degree. He is deeply thankful

for the support of the church and many of its members in enabling him to pursue this degree.

Unfortunately, our lives are often marked with pain and suffering. Alamo Heights United Methodist church seeks to offer comfort and care to those that need it. We look forward to another fruitful year loving our neighbors well when they need it the most.

**Submitted by Rev. Ryan Jacobson, Rev. Chris Estus, and Nance Haney**

## Charge Conference Report 2022

### 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*.

During 2022 we experienced a change in our Senior Leadership with the departure of Holly Gotelli and the arrival of Jason Adams. The church has welcomed Jason, and he has brought a revived sense of energy and purpose to our staff and church.

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:

- a Children's Handbell Camp where 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders gathered on a Saturday to learn music and then played the next morning in worship.
- 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. Percentage-wise, our outreach is about 60% of people do not attend Alamo Heights UMC, and 40% do.
- The Youth Choir was able to take its first mission trip since COVID. They traveled to Mountain Home, Arkansas, where they worked at the homes of people in the community and the local food bank. They also delivered school supplies that the AHUMC VBS collected as their mission project to a school community in Arkansas in need.
- We are in search of an Associate Director of Music. We have a wonderful bank of volunteers in the ministry that have stepped forward to fill in the gaps as we continue our search.
- Our music community continues to grow in all choirs, and we look forward to what the future holds.
- We added a staff member to our team, Vanessa Woodworth. She is our Program Coordinator. Her main role is the building and planning of the arts program mentioned below.

For 2023 we are excited about the plans for an Arts program that will offer an after-school arts alternative focused on students in the lower SES community of Alamo Heights. It will be open to all students in Grades 3-5. We will begin in the Fall of 2023 with an offering one day a week in hopes that as the years progress, it will grow into more grades and days and hopefully open to adult offerings as well. In our first year, we will offer classes in Handbells, Ukulele, Visual Arts, and Movement.

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

## **2022 Charge Conference Report Children's Ministries**

2022 has been a very busy year for Children's Ministries. The spring began with VBS planning and a Friday Fun Night for kids. In April we hosted a Community Egg Hunt with activities for kids, live bunnies to pet, and hid more than 7,000 eggs for the kids to find. We waved palms on Palm Sunday and welcomed visitors to Sunday School on Easter Sunday. In May, we wrapped up the school year with a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Blessing to celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> graders and prepare them for the transition to Youth Ministry.

For Vacation Bible School in June, we transformed the CLC into a Jerusalem Marketplace as we learned more about Jesus' final week of ministry before his death and resurrection. Our adult volunteers dressed as shopkeepers and helped the kids learn more about what life might have been like in ancient Jerusalem. They kids made pottery bowls, wove baskets, baked bread, tooled leather, created mosaics and jewelry. For our mission project, we collected school supplies for kids in need in Mountain Home, Arkansas. The New Zion Youth Choir delivered the supplies during their mission trip there.

We had a really fun summer with Summer Sunday Fundays. Each week we had a fun theme and tied it into a Bible story. While learning our Bible stories, we made snowcones, wore our favorite sports' team's jerseys, made S'mores, did science experiments, and more! We also finished repainting our upstairs classrooms and hallway, complete with a beautiful mural painted by Sarah Smith, our graphic artist, and Abby Smith, daughter of Darrell Smith. And we managed to squeeze in a Wacky Wednesday with The Minions movie.

August was busy with Back to School and our Blessing of the Backpacks on August 14<sup>th</sup>. We had custom "You Are Wonderfully Made" stickers made to give to each child. In September we had a Family Movie Night, inviting families from the community to join us!

October was a busy one! We were thrilled to celebrate 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Sunday with 18 of our third graders and their families. We closed the month with our biggest Harvest Festival to date! We welcomed more than 700 guests at the festival to enjoy games, food, bounce houses, a hayride, petting zoo, face painting, and a photo booth.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we hosted our 2<sup>nd</sup> Festival de Navidad: A Night in Bethlehem welcoming more than 500 guests to our church. We transformed our parking lot into a street in ancient Bethlehem with 11 different shops for families to visit. Volunteers wore biblical costumes and greeted families in their shops. The kids were able to "fish", paint, visit a spice shop and a bakery, make jewelry, and hear from the InnKeepers that offered their stable to Mary and Joseph that very special night. Families were able to enjoy hot chocolate while watching 2 performances of our Live Nativity. We are so grateful to the volunteers that helped make this night so special!

As we close out this year, we are looking forward to the Children's Christmas Eve service. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders kids will lead the service and kids in Kinder thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade will act out the story of Jesus' birth.

Gina Beal  
Children's Ministry Director



## **2022 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 these young children 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. This year we have been richly blessed with Pastor Jason Adams joining us every Wednesday to lead our chapel time. The children and families regularly share how impactful his lessons and stories are for the children each Wednesday.

We love, care for, and educate children 6 weeks old to 5 years old. This year our numbers have grown, and we are excited to have 140 children enrolled at the school and from those children we serve 119 families. We have roughly 83 children attend each day, Monday through Friday. There are 24 staff members of the Weekday School, many of whom have worked here for over 10 years. This fall we were blessed to add 4 certified early childhood educators to our staff who all have 10 years or more experience working in public education educating young children.

The Weekday School started updating and refreshing our rooms and facilities this year. We have painted all classrooms and most hallways and will have the remaining hallways painted and completed this month. We are working to refresh the children's library space to enhance the children's experience when visiting the library and hope to include Godly Play curriculum into the space in the coming months. This year we adopted "The Creative Curriculum" from Teaching Strategies as a classroom curriculum for teachers to use. This curriculum includes lesson plans, books, digital content, circle time activities and more for children from birth to 5 years old. The Weekday School is also excited about a major playground renovation we have initiated. Supplies have been ordered and are planned to ship soon to include outdoor musical instruments, areas to paint and create, as well as extended track surfaces and new tricycles and cars for children to ride. We are also expanding our Toddler Porch area to include more opportunities for our Toddlers and young learners to play, grow, and learn. Another area we have developed is parent involvement in the classroom. We have parents coming on campus as special guest readers, center time helpers, small group leaders, and helping with class celebrations.

Another celebration from this year is our partnership with Juniper Village, a retirement home next door. Our Pre-School children and teachers take field trips each month to visit with residents throughout the year! We have visited with them for Grandparents Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

As we move into 2023, 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

## **2022 Church Conference Report CLC Worship Band**

As the worship director for the CLC service, I have been blessed by seeing the flexibility and growth with the band considering the pastoral change this year. The addition of Robert Ortiz to the pastoral team is a blessing to us and the CLC community. We are excited about what's to come in 2023.

Like every year, one of my main goals is to recruit and develop new worship team members. I was able to recruit three new musicians. Jason Smith, Wendy Taylor, and Chris Estus now serve in the band. Given the reality of how difficult it is to recruit volunteers, this is a huge success. It is always a priority for me to be available and present for all band members, new and established, to provide growth opportunities in their role.

We began using studio production tracks in 2020 due to limitations caused by the pandemic. Production tracks are musical beds of different instrumentation digitally created and played live to support a band. It is now a yearly goal to continue to create and write these tracks that are used in worship weekly. It requires a lot of time to arrange and record these types of production. Production tracks have been an area of extraordinary growth for the band. We have acquired the tools and training to program tracks for every worship song and have gone to great lengths in self-education to do so. Those tracks have sustained the worship band in the CLC to present day.

The CLC Worship team has performed extraordinarily in 2022 and continues to put forth their diligent efforts allowing us to create a worship space that calls people from all walks of life, giving them a safe place to be who they are called to be. We are lucky to have this team and I am blessed to serve alongside them.

CLC Worship Director at AHUMC  
AJ Navarro