

First Methodist Church Alvin
Leadership Board Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026

Mission: Make More and Stronger Disciples of Jesus Christ
Vision: Setting the Table for the Next Generation

Members Present:

Katie Austin
Suzanne Carso
Kenny Carter
Kirby Dickinson

Chad Fontenot

Harold Horton
Cathy Miglicco
John Mize
Carol Ortega

Guests:

Roy Chapman
Roxann Corona
Darrell Bailey

Members Absent:

Shary Horn

Opening Prayer:

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.
- B. Chad Fontenot opened the meeting with prayer.

Spiritual Formation:

Darrell Bailey

Opening prayer: Thanked God for assembling the group and for victories already won in their lives. Prayed for continued strength, guidance, and unity as a team.

Devotional Thought: Emphasized the importance of team over individual achievement, using the analogy of winning championships rather than individual trophies.

Key Devotional Message: Quoted John Maxwell on honest communication in leadership (Proverbs 16:13), encouraging directness and respect within teams.

Original Reflection: Affirmed that the group is chosen, resilient, and their gifts are interconnected – reminding all that, together, they are precious, unsinkable cargo like Noah's Ark.

Closing Prayer: Thanked God for each leader, prayed for those traveling, for balance, joy, and continued guidance from the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual Formation:

Item 1: Business Items

Cathy Miglicco

MOTION: Suzanne Carso made a motion to approve March meeting minutes with correction. Katie Austin seconded. Unanimous approval.

- Family Promise: Urgent need for volunteers for May 3-4. Emphasis on informing the congregation about the program and encouraging participation. Noted new church members showing interest. Chad Fontenot asked to make an announcement during Sunday's church announcements.
- Vacation Bible School (VBS): Progressing well; leaders in place, most volunteer spots filled, but more "shepherds" (guides, not teachers) are needed for June 22-25.

Item 2: Finance Report

Katie Austin
Roxann Corona

- Financial Health: The church is currently ahead of budget, with giving exceeding expectations. No deficit; positive cash flow reported for March.
- Preschool Revenue: Now tracked monthly for clearer budgeting.
- Accountability: Plans to implement a new tracking system for investments to improve transparency and checks and balances.

Item 3: Trustees Report

John Mize

- Scholarships: Nine \$1000 scholarships awarded to students, with recipients named. Renewals required letters about their faith journey.
- Facility Maintenance:
 - Door security upgrades completed.
 - Room renumbering for better emergency response.
 - Maintenance issues: cracked columns, brickwork, door repairs, and ongoing ant control.
 - Approval for local teachers to use pre-K rooms for a summer literacy program. (15-20 students, June 16-18th from 9:00-11:30 a.m.)
 - Youth/family band rehearsals moving to the church facility for safety and engagement. (Saturday evenings in sanctuary)
 - Action Items:
 - Front sanctuary columns: Get another estimate for repair.
 - Front of church: crack in bricks
 - Exterior Doors: Continue to work on fixing issues
- Funds Management:

MOTION: John Mize made a motion to move Family Life Endowment and Insurance Fund from Church 1 to Church 6. Suzanne Carso seconded. Unanimous approval.

- Details to be finalized and reported back to the Leadership Board.
- Discussed the need for clear bookkeeping and reporting on fund transfers and balances.
- Kitchen Renovation: Progressing with bids and donor-funded improvements. Bereavement committee included in communication. Kitchen meeting next Tuesday.
- Investment Committee:
 - Squires Trust Proposal: The original purpose, parsonage maintenance is obsolete.

MOTION: Harold Horton made a motion to move the interest in the Squires investment over to budget for 2026 to support pastor housing allowance in budget. Chad Fontenot seconded. Unanimous approval.

- Family Life Endowment: Discussed since the Family Life Center project was abandoned.
- Endowments and Investments:
 - Housekeeping moves to consolidate and clarify account locations. Edling will be moved from C1 to C4. Insurance will be moved from C1 to C6. IBD accounts will be used through January 2027.
 - New procedures for tracking and approving investment transactions (introducing a "blue slip" system for accountability).

- Plan to reinvest maturing CDs, keep principal consistent, and move interest to sweep accounts for clearer accounting.

Item 4: Pastor's Report

Kenny Carter

- Worship and Attendance: Sunday worship services and Fueled Up Family nights remain well-attended, with increased engagement and service-mindedness among members.
 - Ministries Brochure: Team working on Ministries Brochure of offering places to serve.
 - Directory: Photo directory nearing completion; details on distribution and costs clarified.
 - New Staff and Members: Welcomed new pianist, celebrated 7 baptisms and 7 new members so far this year. God at work and we get to be a part of and seeing God's Kingdom grow.
 - Trip to Greek Islands: Linda and I thank you for this time of refreshment. Darrell Bailey and Cameron Lasoya will be preaching during this time.
 - Upcoming Events:
 - May 10th - Mother's Day service led by youth and children.
 - May 14th - Preschool graduation
 - May 16th - Men's breakfast
 - May 17th - "The Faith We Sing" event, and scholarship awards
 - May 20th - Ivey Pantry distribution
 - May 24th - Pentecost Sunday planning barbecue luncheon with pot luck sides.
 - Summer - New life groups in planning phase for young adults (19-22 year olds) led by Isaiah Blythe, Riley Chaffin, Mckayla Smalls.
 - New Life group for older young adults in planning phase.
 - Confirmation Class: Planned for mid-late September through Easter, with adults paired as mentors for youth.
 - Emmaus Walk: Four women participating at the end of May.
- Thanks be to God for all he has planned for HIS church here in Alvin to be a part.
Thank each of you for serving as leaders on this board.

Other Business:

- Security and Safety:
 - Door Security: Reminder to ensure doors remain locked, especially during Sunday mornings, to protect staff and those counting offerings.
 - Ongoing Upgrades: Continued work on key fob policies and remote access systems.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

- A. Carol Ortega closed the meeting in prayer. Thanked God for the unity, diverse gifts, and honorable intentions of the leadership team (Hebrews 13:18). Asked for continued guidance in making disciples and acting honorably.
- B. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.