

THALIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LEADERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 by Mark Mckinney

In attendance: John Martin, John Middleton, Cameron Brown, Jerry Ditty, Barbra Jennings, Joe Mattox, Mark McKinney, Pastor Megan Collins and Bob Holdren

notes by: John Middleton

Barbara shared thought from Rev. Dr. Ericka Stalcup about the importance of who we are as Methodist, knowing what Methodism is and from where it comes. She shared to the congregation at Village Mosaique UMC (Switzerland) about using that theology to help unite us with our neighbors, but not putting it above our Christian identity to seek the needs of people where they are, AS they are. And to treat our theology as a journey to study at the feet of one whom called himself **The Way**. Then shared an opening prayer with the team.

Megan reported almost better expected results from our new Admin (Juli Audet). Cathy was to be out for a few days, and Bob's first cataract surgery went well. She will represent us at the Virginia Pastoral Foundation May 4-5 @ Richmond. Thoughts were shared (with table discussion) about going to a single (Sunday Worship) service for the summer, which my notes show as 1st Sunday traditional service and other 3 as blended. In this discussion there was some indication of a "re-order" of some of the worship items to save. . . waiting time. Leadership team asked Megan to consider leading an August combined Sunday school.

Several minutes we allocated for reading on March's minutes which upon move by Cameron and second by John (Martin) were unanimously passed.

Gist of the treasurer's report (details already on the wall of) John Martin's office was for April the general fund was still in the negative (about \$1,885) for the month. and considerably more for the year. Though conversely several designated funds are up. From this a protracted discussion/explanation ensued about designated funds, different way of handling them, what other congregations have tried etc. No actions were assigned from this discussion.

Trustee's report:

Trustee Jerry deferred to Bob Holdren for several items to be reviewed

- Since the Columbarium committee now longer convenes, Bob has been ad-hoc managing that and mentioned no real changes in fees for quite some time and should be reviewed:
 - 1) increases have occurred in both the marble covers and etching of the doors
 - 2) the number of urns are dwindling-increase of pricing
 - 3) pre-buy (both single & double) contract
 - 4) consider making an "interment fee" at such time
- Mark indicated need to find a copy of the existing columbarium contract to enhance this review
- Building space rental (school, day school, others) pricing hasn't been reviewed in some time (and needs it)
- Wedding/funeral staff (organ sound, custodian) fee in addition to the above need review to which Bob, Megan and John Middleton formed a committee

Bob has started to get pricing on tree trimming (to which Jerry wanted to add making space for a new basketball backboard.

Jerry stated no firm date from the paving company, but they are still pending a little warmer weather (for the ground to heat). He also shared;

- Thalia Day School has a repair list which though not present will need board review. To which mentioned finding the Day School contract to check those responsibilities as well.
- Thalia Day School is doing some painting on their own.
- The saga of the “new” dishwasher, with the replacement (upgraded model for the same price) now a Hobart (now in temporary installation). Full installation should be completed soon.

Dismissal and go into the world closing by Megan @ 7:54

Respectfully submitted John Middleton