Valley Presbyterian Church

Mission Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 14, 2026, **Time:** 8:45 AM, **Location:** Room 1

Chair: Doug Clark, **Co-Chair:** Ed Storey, **Recording Secretary:** Jan Schoeben

Attendance:

Members Present:
Patti Bright, Maureen Brealey, Kay Brouwer, Doug Clark, Laurel Erickson, Jan Farrington, Jody Fenlason, John Fenlason, Geneva Halliday, Steve Hart, Kylene Joplin, Linda Kucera, Reed Olson, Monica Pataki, Linda Piotrowski, Jan Schoeben, Ed Storey

Members Absent:
Judy Aguayo, Mary Horn, Deb Jones

1. Opening

The meeting was called to order at **8:45 AM**. Opening prayer was offered.

Devotional – Doug Clark
Doug led a reflection on the theme of "Rest," focusing on rest as a biblical principle and divine commandment, the Sabbath as a gift rather than a burden, and Jesus' emphasis on mercy and human benefit. Discussion touched on practicing Sabbath in modern culture and personal examples of preserving Sunday for church and family.

2. Announcements

No major announcements beyond items covered in the agenda.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the **March 17, 2026, meeting** were approved and submitted to Session.

4. Financial Report

Doug Clark presented the March 2026 Mission Budget Review.

Key updates:

- Undesignated mission funds available: $187,874
- Pass-through giving: $20,000 additional giving ($24,000 total given to VAS)
- Just Coffee sales continuing as stated
- Monthly transaction report reviewed and accepted
- Financial discrepancy noted in Casa Vida Nueva reporting; Reed to review with Linda
- Valley Galley spending not clearly visible in financial reports; Doug and Linda to address

5. Mission Updates

Amado–Green Valley Food Bank (Kylene Joplin)
March contributions totaled $549.03, split between Amado and Green Valley. New manager Denise Freeland has been appointed; conditions are improving. Volunteer opportunities available for office work.

Casa Vida Nueva para Niños (Reed Olson)
The March 28 Mission Breakfast raised $5,648 with 140+ attendees. Two college students spoke in English and a video was shown thanking Green Valley for support. A financial discrepancy between reports is under review with Linda. Next visit for Christmas is scheduled December 12.

Compañeros en Misión (Jan Farrington)
Board met via Zoom on April 9. Building site ready for construction; awaiting final city hall approval. After-school program inconsistent due to lack of volunteers. Isaac Pazos was accepted for a YAV position but received a full-time job and must decide his future. Joint fundraiser planned for October with planning meeting April 30.

Hands of a Friend (Jan Farrington)
Shelter is busy with new residents. A mother at Genesis House for one year needs extensive dental work to enter the workforce; the organization is pursuing a dental evaluation and exploring funding options. Style show held April 9 at Pueblo Estates. Needed items: tampons, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels, trash bags.

Crossroads Nogales Mission (Linda Kucera / Steve Hart)
Easter lunch on March 28 served approximately 70 meals, down from 140 last year, likely due to Holy Week in Mexico. Approximately 40 leftover Easter baskets were donated to St. Andrew's Clinic. Several clothing deliveries made with more planned. Board Zoom meeting had technical issues; June meeting may include vote to add Linda to the board. Tax forms (990) still needed from Alejandra.

Operation Christmas Child (Monica Pataki)
No substantial update this month.

Mission Quilts (Patti Bright / Geneva Halliday)
Quilts in the fellowship hall changed out for new display. Three March work sessions had 11, 15, and 20 participants respectively.

Native American Advancement Foundation – NAAF (Linda Piotrowski)
Linda spoke at Sunday service in preparation for the Palm Sunday Noisy Offering, which raised $1,046.50. Donations of fabric, yarn, sewing supplies, books, and other items received from Patio Sale and individual donors for transport to GUVO. Upcoming presentations at the Women's Luncheon (April 16) and Presbytery Women's gathering (April 18). Prayer requested for summer immersion programs.

Posada Life Community Services (Deb Jones)
No report submitted. Interest expressed in arranging a tour of the facilities and programs.

Presbyterian Campus Ministry (Judy Aguayo)

Judy Aguayo now lives in Sierra Vista but remains on the board of Presbyterian Campus Ministry and will communicate updates. The church continues to support the Lutheran program with hope of including Presbyterian students.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic (Kay Brouwer)
April 2 visit with Maria Ramirez, Joe Bruce, and Kimberly Beaver. Donations delivered included a wheelchair, coloring books, diapers, wipes, and 40 Easter baskets from Crossroads. Next visit May 7. Valley Galley lunch planned June 4 for approximately 120 guests (planned serving at 1:00 PM, families at 2:00 PM). Volunteers needed for making meals.

Valley Galley (Maureen Brealey)
April lunch served 150 meals at $1.82 per person ($273.80 total) with 13 volunteers. Deliveries: 126 to VAS, 20+ to Green Valley Food Bank. Year-over-year April growth: 50 (2024) → 90 (2025) → 150 (2026). Upcoming: May 15 fundraiser at Quail Creek with Valley Galley serving meals with money collected for Valley Galley account; June 4 lunch at St. Andrew's. Long-term goal to extend Valley Galley outreach to additional mission projects.

Valley Assistance Services – VAS (Laurel Erickson)
Tony Bruno provided a quarterly update on the VPC grant priorities; nearly complete with minor delays. Stucco entrance work completed. Medical transport van ordered (church paying 20%, Pima County 80%); delivery expected in 30–60 days. Staff training underway for van operations. Bruno will continue quarterly updates.

Young Adult Volunteer – YAV Program (Ed Storey)
James focused on demonstrating YAV impact and recruiting next year's participants. A tamale fundraiser raised approximately $500. Presented request for Funds for Juba Evangelical Bible School (JEBS) fence in the amount of $9,000 from G&M approved by the Mission Committee.

Youth On Their Own – YOTO (Jan Farrington)
April 3 delivery: 20 boxes of cereal, 43 inspiration cards, 10 volunteer hours. Next card-making session April 22. Valley Galley may provide a meal for a year-end graduation event in May.

Operation Mobilization (Doug Clark)
No new update. Pam and Dave remain in discernment regarding their next direction in ministry.

6. Old Business

Mission Breakfasts

- March 28, 2026: Casa Vida Nueva / RISE – Reed Olson – $5,648 raised
- November 14, 2026: Crossroads Nogales Mission – Linda Kucera / Steve Hart
- January 16, 2027: Frontera de Cristo – Tom Lobb
- February 13, 2027: Hands of a Friend – Jan Farrington
- March 27, 2027: YAV – Ed Storey

Noisy Offering

- March 29, 2026: NAAF – Linda Piotrowski – $1,046.50
- May 31, 2026: Compañeros en Misión – Jan Farrington

- August 30, 2026: Presbyterian Campus Ministry – Doug Clark
- November 29, 2026: Posada Life Community Services – Deb Jones
- March 29, 2027: VAS – Laure Erickson
- May 31, 2027: Frontera de Cristo – Tom Lobb
- August 30, 2027: Hands of a Friend – Jan Farrington
- November 29, 2027: Food Bank – Kylene Joplin

Revised Noisy Offering protocol circulated and reviewed. Coin counting remains manual as local banks no longer have coin-counting machines.

Mission Planning & Administration

- Crossroads Men's Shower Room Renovation ($33,500 estimated) was approved by Patio Sale committee previously approved by Mission Committee and sent to Session for approval.
- JEBS Building Construction ($9,000 estimated) reviewed and sent to G&M Committee for funding approved by Mission Committee.
- Frontera de Cristo: Possible addition through Tom Lobb (Mark & Miriam Adams) was tabled.
- Approximately $100,000 available between Gifts & Memorials and Patio Sale funds. Committee members asked to identify suitable projects from their agencies.
- Donation cabinet installation expected April 25.
- Name tags ordered; members noted they prompt congregant questions about missions.
- Mission Moments coordinated with Pastor Blair; monthly signup sheet available.
- Valley Voice: 11 articles published in April, exceeding the 10+ per month goal.

Special Recognition

Sahuarita High School Marching Band selected for the Philadelphia July 4th celebration, representing Arizona (60% minority, 25% low-income students). Fundraising at $162,000 toward goal. Suggested for Valley Voice feature.

7. New Business

Report Format and AI-Assisted Summaries

Jan introduced a standardized report format and proposed using AI to create concise summaries for Session. Current minutes are often too long and Session is reportedly not reading them fully. Several members liked the new format. One member raised concern that AI had altered the meaning of a report, and the committee agreed that all AI-generated summaries must be reviewed and corrected by humans. The committee supported a two-tier system: detailed reports for the committee and condensed summaries for Session. Jan will send the report template in Word format.

8. Open Discussion / Brainstorming

No additional items raised beyond topics covered above.

9. Action Items

- Reed: Resolve financial reporting discrepancies with Linda, especially Casa Vida Nueva.
- Jan: Send new report template in Word format to all committee members.

- Doug and Linda: Address Valley Galley expense visibility in financial reports.
- All coordinators: Identify projects suitable for Gifts & Memorials / Patio Sale funding.

10. Closing

Closing prayer offered by Doug Clark, asking for guidance for committee members and for all mission work to glorify Christ.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

May 12, 2026, 8:45 AM – Room 1
No planned meetings in June and July.

Attachments

April Devotional – Rest

Submitted by: Jan Schoeben / Doug Clark