Valley Presbyterian Church
Mission Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 12, 2026 **Time:** 8:45 AM **Location:** Room 1

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

Attendance

Members Present: Don Brooks, Maureen Brealey, Patti Bright, Kay Brouwer, Doug Clark, Laurel Erickson, Steve Hart, Mary Horn, Reed Olson, Monica Pataki, Linda Piotrowski, Ed Storey

Members Absent: Judy Aguayo, Jan Farrington, Jody Fenlason, John Fenlason, Geneva Halliday, Deb Jones, Kylene Joplin (medical appointment), Linda Kucera, Jan Schoeben

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 "Trials," drawing on Scripture to explore how God uses trials as intentional tests of faith that develop perseverance, spiritual maturity, and character. Passages cited included Deuteronomy 29:2–4, Ephesians 6:12, Romans 8:20–22, 1 Peter 1:6–7, James 1:2–4, and 2 Thessalonians 1:3–5, alongside examples of Job's patience, Abraham's faith, Joseph's endurance, and the trials of Jesus. Doug noted that the legal trials of Jesus — both religious (Annas, Caiaphas, the Sanhedrin) and civil (Pilate, Herod, Pilate again) — were rapid and complex, and that without trials there is no testimony. Members were invited to reflect on the question: *What trials have led to your testimony?*

2. Announcements

None reported beyond items covered in the agenda.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the **April 14, 2026 meeting** were approved and submitted to Session.

4. Financial Report

Doug Clark presented the **April 2026 Mission Budget Review**, including the Custodial Account and the monthly transactional report.

Key updates:

- **Custodial Account balance:** $2,077.36
- Monthly transactional report reviewed and accepted
- Gifts to Mission Custodial Account considered
- Follow-up from April: Casa Vida Nueva financial discrepancy and Valley Galley expense visibility

5. Mission Updates

Amado–Green Valley Food Bank (Kylene Joplin) — Kylene submitted a written update in her absence (medical appointment). This month, 79 lbs. of food was delivered and $235.00 collected, per Maria.

Casa Vida Nueva para Niños (Reed Olson) — Reed spoke with Elias about a request for additional funds for new facility projects. Elias is waiting on the builder for construction cost estimates and will send two budgets when available. Focus continues on improvement of key projects within the scope of the facility.

Compañeros en Misión (Jan Farrington) — Four guitars and a keyboard were donated to launch a music ministry for children at Sol de Justicia Presbyterian Church in Nogales, Sonora, offering an alternative to gang-culture music and a chance to learn an instrument. Board member Tito Boroquez has been accepted into seminary, which will give the church access to regular spiritual leadership. Summer Bible School planning is underway, though community-building remodel work remains delayed by City of Nogales permitting issues — a significant impact on program planning.

Crossroads Nogales Mission (Linda Kucera / Steve Hart) — Linda and Steve made several trips to Crossroads, delivering clothing and toiletries and meeting with Alejandra to gather additional information about the mission. On a follow-up visit, they presented Alejandra with a $33,500 check from Patio Sale proceeds to fund renovation of the men's dormitory showers — an immediate impact for the men housed there. The committee thanked all who donated to and supported the Patio Sale.

Hands of a Friend (Jan Farrington) — Genesis House continues to operate at near capacity, with residents safe from prior environments and receiving training and rehabilitation services coordinated by the executive director. The DaZees resale boutique generates approximately $12,000 per month in support of Genesis House operations. One resident with significant dental needs cancelled her evaluation appointment.

Operation Christmas Child (Monica Pataki) — No written report submitted this month.

Mission Quilts (Patti Bright / Geneva Halliday) — No written report submitted this month.

Native American Advancement Foundation – NAAF (Linda Piotrowski) — Materials for a new five-week, all-ages Summer Bible School curriculum, "Bloom in the Desert," have been donated and received; teachers are in planning workshops. Inspired by the resilient flowers of the desert, the curriculum explores how God calls each person to bloom and to welcome the stranger — creating a garden where everyone can thrive together. Summer Bible School begins in early June, with preschool graduation at the end of May, and the summer immersion programs for grade-school and high-school students follow.

Operation Mobilization (Doug Clark) — No written report submitted this month.

Posada Life Community Services (Deb Jones) — No written report submitted this month.

Presbyterian Campus Ministry (Judy Aguayo) — No written report submitted this month.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic (Kay Brouwer) — Kay and Maureen Brealey met with Laura on May 7 to plan the June 4 Valley Galley "Fun Lunch" for clinic volunteers and families, with face-painting for the children. Follow-up is underway on the practical impact of the April 17 Mexican Consulate reaffirmation of support, particularly around funding and border-crossing logistics. A 15-passenger border-transport van is partially funded; the proposal for a second 8-passenger van with two lifts is on hold pending more information, and possible shared use of the VAS medical van will be explored. The "Back-to-School" clothing drive launches this month

in the Valley Voice, with collection beginning approximately two weeks before the August 6, 2026 presentation.

Valley Galley (Maureen Brealey) — The May 8 lunch served a record 182 meals (152 to VAS, 30 to the Green Valley Food Bank), prepared by 13 volunteers across two days at $2.39 per person. Valley Galley will participate in the May 15 Quail Creek BFD Party as one of six food trucks, with sale proceeds funding additional free-meal programs. Upcoming events include the June 4 St. Andrew's lunch and a September YOTO dinner. The Galley has purchased two generators from its equity fund, significantly expanding flexibility for off-site outreach meals.

Valley Assistance Services – VAS (Laurel Erickson) — Pima County is in the procurement process for the medical transport van; VAS has paid its share and will report once the van arrives. The "Transforming Healthcare Through Transportation" program will benefit over 750 qualifying seniors who are low-income, unable to drive, disabled, or have hearing or visual impairments. Laurel expressed appreciation for the VPC grant. The next VAS fundraiser will be announced soon.

Young Adult Volunteer – YAV Program (Ed Storey) — Ed spoke with James Martin on May 2. A new cohort of five or six YAVs will begin around September 1, many from Mexico, and will be assigned to Compañeros and other projects in Mexico. The committee supported sponsoring another YAV fundraiser sale, with empanadas raised as a possible alternative to tamales.

Juba Evangelical Bible School – JEBS (Ed Storey) — Construction of the school compound continues, with Valley Pres's $9,000 contribution funding a perimeter wall. The wall will likely be block rather than wire, as bricks can be made locally in South Sudan but fencing materials are unavailable. Funds were routed through a Presbytery in Pennsylvania experienced in safe, low-cost transfers to Juba. The wall is intended to prevent squatters from attempting to take over the facility.

Youth On Their Own – YOTO (Mary Horn) — The 2024–2025 YOTO Annual Report is now on the website, with annual totals of 1,459 homeless youth served, 271 high school graduates, and an 89% graduation rate for YOTO seniors. The highest service percentages are among 11th and 12th graders and alumni. Card makers will work from home in May, June, and July and reconvene at church on August 26. Maureen Brealey's planned YOTO meal has been rescheduled from May to an October/Halloween date.

6. Old Business

Mission Breakfasts

- November 14, 2026: Crossroads Nogales Mission – Linda Kucera / Steve Hart
- January 16, 2027: Frontera de Cristo – Tom Lobb
- February 13, 2027: VAS – Laurel Erickson
- March 27, 2027: YAV – Ed Storey

Noisy Offering

- June 28, 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: Frontera de Cristo – Tom Lobb
- May 31, 2027: Operation Mobilization (Pam and Dave Lovett) – Doug Clark

- August 30, 2027: Hands of a Friend – Jan Farrington
- November 29, 2027: Food Bank – Kylene Joplin

Mission Planning & Administration

- **Crossroads Men's Shower Room Renovation ($33,500):** Completed. Linda Kucera and Steve Hart presented the check to Alejandra from Patio Sale proceeds.
- **JEBS Building Construction ($9,000):** Funded by G&M; funds transferred via a Pennsylvania Presbytery for safe delivery to Juba. Fence/wall construction in progress.
- **Frontera de Cristo (Mark & Miriam Adams) – Tom Lobb:** Q&A presented; **approved** as the 20th mission of the committee, with the 2025 Financial Report (990) pending submission.
- **2025 990 Income Reports:** Requested from all agencies as they become available.
- **Contribution Drop-Off Cabinets:** Project completed; the committee recognized Maureen Brealey with a standing ovation.
- **Reports & Minutes in New Format with AI Assistance:** Very well received by the committee. Continued use of the standardized monthly report form and AI-assisted summaries for Session, with all AI-generated summaries reviewed and corrected by humans.
- **Mission Moments:** 60-second mission story before Sunday service approved as needed; monthly signup sheet available.
- **Congregational Communication:** Eblast article submissions should be sent to Ed Storey as needed.
- **Valley Voice Articles:** 11 articles published in May 2026, meeting the 10+ per month goal.

7. New Business

None recorded. Items arising from individual mission updates (e.g., St. Andrew's Back-to-School clothing drive, St. Andrew's second van proposal, YAV fundraiser sale) are documented under the respective mission updates in Section 5.

Brainstorming

No additional items raised.

8. Action Items

- **Reed Olson:** Follow up with Elias regarding construction budgets from the builder for Casa Vida Nueva projects.
- **Kay Brouwer:** Launch the St. Andrew's Back-to-School clothing drive in the Valley Voice; follow up with Laura on practical impact of the Mexican Consulate's reaffirmed support and on van logistics (including possible VAS van use).
- **Ed Storey:** Coordinate with James Martin on the incoming YAV cohort; develop a plan for the YAV fundraiser sale (tamales or empanadas).
- **Laurel Erickson:** Report back when the Pima County medical transport van arrives and announce the next VAS fundraiser.
- **All coordinators:** Submit 2025 990 income reports for assigned agencies as they become available.

- **All coordinators:** Continue identifying projects suitable for Gifts & Memorials / Patio Sale funding.

9. Closing

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

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

August 11, 2026, 8:45 AM – Room 1.

No planned meetings in June and July.

Attachments

- May Devotional – Trials
- Compiled Committee Report – May 2026

Submitted by: Jan Schoeben / Doug Clark