

Minutes from the VPC Mission Committee Meeting

October 10, 2023 in Room 1 from 8:45 – 10:15

Members Present: Doug Clark, Pastor Craig Lindsey, Les Walter, Deb Jones, Steve Larson, Kylene Joplin, Carol Stephens, Ann Ball, Kay Brouwer, Reed Olson, Ed Storey, Mary Horn.

Members Absent: Jim Fitzpatrick, Kara Fitzpatrick, Patti Bright, Pat Nau, Judy Aguayo, George Curtis, Patty Bright

Devotional: The Gospel

Doug Clark

What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the Greek word **euangelion** and means “good news”. Many of us were raised in churches where the Gospel, eye-witness teaching of Jesus, was read from Matthew, Mark, Luke or John and we would stand. This emphasis reinforced the idea that the Gospel is only the teaching of Jesus. The teaching of Jesus is important in all ways but is only part of the meaning of Gospel.

What is the Gospel, the good news?

1 Thessalonians 1:5 (New International Version)⁵ because our Gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction...

Notice, Paul is describing “our Gospel” to the Thessalonians which was one of the early letters written 10-20 years before Mark the first of the books of the Gospels was written. Indeed, the word Gospel is used 76 times in the New Testament but not used in Luke or John. The fundamentals of the Gospels are clearly stated in **1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (Living Bible)³ I passed on to you right from the first what had been told to me, that Christ died for our sins just as the Scriptures said he would,⁴ and that he was buried, and that three days afterwards he arose from the grave just as the prophets foretold. ⁵He was seen by Peter and later by the rest of “the Twelve.”^{[a]6} After that he was seen by more than five hundred Christian brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now.** First, Paul “received” the gospel and then “passed it on “this is a divine message, not man-made statement. Second, the Gospel is “from the first what had been told to me”. Everywhere the apostles went, they preached the forgiveness of sins with the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. Third, the message of the gospel is accompanied by proofs: Christ died for our sins (proved by His burial), and He rose again the third day (proved by the eyewitness). The Gospel is Jesus-God’s plan of salvation. This truth is stated in the Apostles and Nicene Creed. A portion of the Nicene Creed which states “For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven. By the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake He was Crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day He rose again, in fulfillment of the scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory,

What is the Gospel, the good news?

A case can be made that the Gospel includes the entire Bible. **Genesis 12:3 (New International Version) ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.** God blesses Abraham and his descendants in a new relationship. **Isaiah 53** describes the suffering servant. Christ in the Old Testament is concealed, and in the New Testament is revealed. The theme of the whole Bible is the salvation of mankind through Christ. The Bible is also Gospel.

What is the Gospel? The teachings of Christ, the statement of salvation, and the story of God’s plan for redemption of sinful man. All are the “good news” and are called Gospel.

9:00 Call to Order and Prayer by Reed Olson

Announcements: Prayers for members Pat Nau and George and Karen Curtis.

Approval of Minutes: September 12 minutes were approved and submitted to the VPC session.

Financial Report: The February 2023 Mission Budget was presented. \$110,100.00 is the original budget. The Contingency Funds are at \$3781.00. We should consider distribution.

MISSION REPORTS/COMMENTS – Round Table

Update Reminder: Each person with an assigned Mission area should contact agency or Missionary on a regular monthly basis for update and activity. If able or unable to attend our meeting, please submit written update for committee and minutes.

Amado-GV Food Bank – Kylene Joplin reported that 33 pounds of food was delivered to the Food Bank and \$325.63 was given to each Food Bank (Green Valley and Amado). These two food banks are separate, but under one “umbrella.” We give each food bank the same amount of money, but food donations stay in Green Valley and focuses on milk and eggs. Carol and Kylene plan to visit the Amado Food Bank this month and talk about it at our next meeting. Roberto Hernandez has recently been hired to be the director of the two Food Banks. A Green Valley News article gave detailed information about this excellent addition to our community.

Casa Vida Nueva para Niños – Reed Olson reported that the orphanage trip is planned for Saturday, December 9. Details will be coming soon. Reed plans on setting up a Fellowship Hall table for trip sign ups, Christmas card signing and gift donations. That will be on the Sundays of Nov.12, Nov.19 and Nov. 26.

Edgar is graduating from College in December with a degree in business. This will be the first person from the Home for Children to graduate from college three more students to follow. Reed hopes to attend Edgar’s graduation ceremony in December, accompanied by a few RISE participants.

Compañeros en Misión – Judy Aguayo sent no report but here is information from Brad Munroe:

Presbytery de Cristo Mission Partners (Synod of the Southwest, PCUSA)

Compañeros en Misión seeks to build faith, understanding and relationships among Presbyterians on both sides of the border. As a joint mission project of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the National Church of Mexico, Compañeros is helping the Mexican Presbytery to enable the churches to become self-sufficient, self-governing, and self-propagating.

Frontera de Cristo Frontera de Cristo sees borders as places for encounter, compassion, and the sharing of culture. Through partnerships in both Agua Prieta, Sonora, and Douglas, Arizona, we work to extend welcome and support to migrants and the surrounding communities.

Korean Presbyterian Church As a God-loving community, we strive to worship God with all our heart, and strength, to learn the teachings of Jesus Christ through the Bible; to love our neighbor like Jesus, who loved us as his own body, and the church community. It is a community of those who confess to the Savior Jesus Christ. We fellowship, devote, serve, and live in the lives of each other today.

Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship The MEPF is an Arabic speaking Fellowship, welcoming all Arabic speaking peoples. The MEPF is an outreach ministry that teaches and ministers in the name of Jesus Christ within the Tucson area and introduces the Christian Reformed Faith within the Arabic- speaking and Middle Eastern community

Montlure Camp Montlure Camp is a ministry for all to find and grow their faith in Jesus Christ. Montlure’s primary objective is to provide a safe and memorable Christian camping experience for children and youth in Arizona. We currently hold several weeks of both Overnight and Day camps for various age groups. Each camp is led by a staff of Christian role models as they walk alongside campers on their faith journey.

Presbyterian Campus Ministry is at the University of Arizona. We are a small ministry seeking a Christian way of understanding things: that God made and loves the world; that Jesus Christ, who is also God, lived, died, and rose from the dead to free that world; that the secular world around us does not have the last word about anyone or anything. We want to understand the world, what is really wrong and what is so good, and work to heal it as best we can. Refer a student to us at: azcampus_ministry@gmail.com

Tucson Borderlands Young Adult Volunteers The PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer Program offers an opportunity for young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 to serve in communities of need, practice simple living, explore vocational discernment, and discover new things about themselves, their faith, and the world through a year of service. Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) live in intentional community together, try out spiritual practices, and go on retreat four times a year to reflect, renew, and have fun together. Next year marks our 20th anniversary (the longest running YAV program in the PCUSA). Join us for our 20th Anniversary celebrations in 2023!

Papago United Presbyterian Church is an active Native American church in Sells, Arizona
<https://www.mapquest.com/us/arizona/papago-united-presbyterian-church-411801600> 2 Topawa Rd. Sells, Az 85634
P O Box 158 Sells, AZ 85634 Phone 520-383-2249

A presentation at the Presbyterian Meeting October 22, 2023, is scheduled as a fund raiser. Bricks will be sold for \$10 for completion of their building project.

Crossroads Mission, Nogales, Arizona – Les Walter announced that we will begin to prepare and serve lunches at the Crossroads Mission this Wednesday and a week from Wednesday, October 11 and 18. Talk to Les Walter or sign up after church in Fellowship Hall if interested in helping people less fortunate. A car of 3 or 4 volunteers will leave VPC front lot at 8:15 on days we work. Return will be about 1:00.

Posada Community Services – Deb Jones reported that "It's Just Fellowship Lunch" is a proposed program to foster congregation fellowship by having lunch at Posada Live Community Service. Planning is still in progress but could include a sign-up table in Fellowship Hall after advertising by pulpit, Valley Voice, and Email. The cost of the fellowship lunch is \$3.00 per person and does require reservations. This plan will be discussed at the Fellowship Committee on October 23, 2023 at 10 a.m. in class room 3.

Deb also explained that the La Posada Community Center with its ongoing Senior Lunch program is one of the many ways La Posada Community Services continue to help the Greater Green Valley community.

Carla and Diana, the Community Center staff members handling the Senior Lunch, admit that one of their greatest joys is the ability to have a positive impact on peoples' lives each and every day. Diana greets the Senior Lunch participants by name and enjoys chatting and learning about their grandchildren or other family members.

Carla frequently calls to check on participants after medical issues have prevented them from attending lunch at the Community Center. Carla and Diana play special surprises like games and word puzzles, as well as providing birthday and holiday cards with the meals.

The Community Center hosts a variety of groups for meetings, entertainment and educational activities. Groups like La Frontera Western History Group, TOPS (Take Pounds Off), the Desert Ukes (a local ukulele group), the Green Valley Meditation Group, the Arizona Scrapbookers, and the La Posada Readers Theater meet regularly and the number of groups utilizing this spacious facility is growing. The Community Center is offering socialization, education, volunteer opportunities, health and wellness support and a chance to make friends, thus enhancing the well-being of those they serve. Exciting day trips are available, too.

The Senior Lunch program and day trips require advance registration. Call Carla or Diana at 520-393-6814. orford@casagv.org

General Mission Support – Ed Storey talked about the Presbyterian General Assembly Mission providing aid to a huge number of agencies around the world. Our VPC Mission gives is a very small portion of the total Presbyterian contribution, but it shows our interest and concern.

Hands of a Friend – Kara Fitzpatrick sent a report that several major projects have been accomplished at the Genesis House shelter in the last few months:

- A new security system and a new gate were installed.
- Both sets of washers and dryers have been replaced.
- Roof repairs and the subsequent interior ceiling repairs are complete.
- A new air-conditioning unit was installed during the summer heat. This was paid for out of their reserve funds and she sent a copy of the bill for about \$11,000. (Kara can bring a copy for the next meeting if needed.)

These projects are the result of Valley Presbyterian, other donations, and reserve funding. Hands of a Friend's next goal is focusing on funding for interior painting and 2 new refrigerators.

Alexa Delgado, Hands of a Friend Executive Director, will be speaking about Hands of a Friend's work at Green Valley Community Church, 300 W Esperanza Blvd, Green Valley, AZ 85614, on Wednesday, October 11th. In addition, Hands of a Friend will be one of the charities hosted at the Golf Luncheon at Quail Creek on November 9th.

October is Domestic Violence Month. On Friday, October 20th Hands of a Friend will hold their annual Cornhole fundraiser at Triple Play, 1570 W Duval Mine Rd. There is a \$10 entry fee. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. and bags fly at 6:30. There will be 1st & 2nd place Cash Prizes plus Raffles. Proceeds benefit those who have suffered from Domestic Violence. Call 520-399-4671 with questions.

Christmas Boxes - Ann Ball reported that E-Blasts, Sunday Bulletin announcements, and October Valley Voice articles were written, submitted to the office for publication at the appropriate dates.

Steve and Ann Ball attended the training offered by Samaritan's Purse on Sept. 9 at Community Church in Tucson. It was well done and most valuable. Additional materials were given to us free of charge. The training was offered free of charge and was about 4 hours in duration.

The enclosures that will go into the assembled shoeboxes were composed and submitted to the VPC office staff for copying. The staff also did some creative work on the offering envelopes and gave much needed help and advice. The staff are fantastic. This job could not be done without them. Ann is most grateful for their help.

Several more resources for our use were ordered and received from the Samaritan's Purse free of charge. Tables for use during the distribution of the boxes were reserved along with an easel, and set up and storage of the boxes was arranged with custodians and put on the church calendar. Steve Hart sees no problem with storage of the boxes where they were last year in CR #1 even though work on the Patio Sale will be taking place in some of our time period.

Distribution of the boxes begins October 22 before and after church. This will continue every Sunday through November 12 which is the final date any boxes can be received. Ann has made her contact information available if anyone has questions or problems in adhering to the dates Holiday. The office will also have some boxes available to distribute if someone stops in during the work week.

Online giving has been and will continue to be publicized for those who wish to make use of that option. Valley Presbyterian Church will get credit for contribution for those boxes also if the donor gives our name as their affiliated church on the form.

Ann and Steve Ball will be assembling boxes at the church on October 18 in the afternoon. We would be very appreciative of anyone wishing to stop in and help. Even doing just a few boxes is of value to us. Assembly and stuffing of the enclosures and attaching tracking labels takes 5 to 10 minutes per box depending on your engineering skills at assembly.

Mission Quilts - Patti Bright Reports that for the past two months we continue to meet once a month to cut fabric into pieces for quilt top kits. The quilts were layered and taken home by Eileen Owen. Kits have continued to be made out of these pieces and other scraps of fabric. All of the layered quilts have been sewn together, turned and machine quilted by Eileen, approximately 24 quilts. Eileen also sewed six more quilt tops together. There were a total of seven gals working during the summer at different times. Patti bought fabrics at the best sale prices she could find when she realized a need for certain colors for backings and borders.

Operation Mobilization – Dave and Pam's report must not be on the internet for safety concerns.

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for standing with us over these last months! We are amazed at how God is ark overseas and in the USA.

Nothing can hold God back seeing His plan fulfilled for all nations.

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

We have many things to celebrate and be grateful for in how God has undergirded us in this last years. Pam and I have traveled to many countries in the first half of 2023 to Asia and the Middle east which at times felt quit heavy but God gave us the strength to travel internationally to so many countries and ministries.

BACK TO AFGHANISTAN

In June 2023, we were also in Dubai for leadership training of young leaders from across Central and South Asia. We also visited Afghanistan for the first time in 17 years to encourage our staff serving under the Taliban.

While we were there, we heard of how God is braking through even under the Taliban. A local believer from Kabul went back to his home, and two other local believers decided to join him and help as they experience an earthquake that left 100's homeless.

People were so touched by their testimony and love as they came from a different ethnic group, and people asked why those of another language group would help them? It was like hearing the story of the Good Samaritan again. Through this a number have put their faith in Christ. It is a reminder that God is at work even when we hear of natural disasters and turmoil around the world.

BACK TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA

I wrote this as we are flying Oct. 1-15 to England to meet Iranian Christian leaders and then onto Turkey to meet with about 60 OM staff and young leaders for more training, coaching, praying and planning to reach the 930 million unreached peoples in Central and South Asia.

We definitely need His strength and wisdom for the trip.

BANGLADESH BREAKTHROUGH

Please pray for some of our women team members in Bangladesh as they continue to reach out to their communities with Jesus' love. The women are Christians from Muslim background and know how to reach out in sensitive ways. They are very dear people. Of course, the men need prayers but we thought we would highlight some of the ladies.

Young Adult Volunteers – Ed Story reported that our Synod has organized the current YAV program, running from September 2023 for 12 months. There are 5 YAVs, listed below. Their task is to show the hand of God to people in need. It is an opportunity for them to learn more about serving God as they work on plans for their lives. James Martin, a part-time pastor at the Douglas Presbyterian Church, is the manager of the program. Valley Presbyterian Church is paying the \$10,000 annual stipend for one YAV. James and some YAVs will speak at a future Mission breakfast.

• WHO	WHERE LOCATED	ACTIVITY
• Lesly	Agua Prieta	Help those waiting for Asylum hearings
• Nidia & Ben (from El Salvador and Kentucky)	Tucson	Work with low-income homeowners
• Zeyla	Agua Prieta	Basic migrant support
• Yadamy	Agua Prieta	School support for lagging children
•		

Presbyterian Campus Ministry – George and Karen Curtis are in the process of moving homes. We will try to find a replacement for George as soon as possible.

Bob and Kristi Rice (PCUSA missionaries) – In early August, Bob's strength and energy had returned enough that we could resume our travels in the U.S. We were very grateful for prayers and encouragement from many people and for God's grace in healing Bob's body. We headed to the West Coast for six weeks of reconnecting with family, friends, and several churches. Since Bob was still recovering his energy, we scaled back in how much we did, and we lament that there are people we missed seeing.

First stop was Whidbey Island, Washington, where Bob's family converged for some precious days together. We enjoyed walks in the woods and along the beach, making meals together, and celebrating some significant birthdays. Then off to Olympic National Park for a few days on our own to explore in a camper van! We road-tripped with Bob's parents down from Washington to the San Francisco Bay Area, with a joyful stop to see Aunt Judy and family along the way. In California we enjoyed some encouraging visits with several churches and good friends. Bob visited some old haunts, like the halls of his high school and the park where he played baseball. In Carmel-by-the-Sea, we were in awe again at the power of the waves and the steep cliffs that plunge into the ocean. We drove the windy road down the coast near Big Sur for a short but sweet personal retreat at the New Camaldoli Hermitage. The monastery is perched on a mountainside looking down on the ocean, and is a great place to disconnect from the world – no wifi, no phone coverage! We were grateful for the hours to sit in awe of our Creator, soak in God's love, and be still. Our last stop was Arizona – from the ocean to the desert! The church, Valley Presbyterian Church, where we spent the weekend, encouraged us with their great interest in South Sudan and what God is doing there. Doug and Judy brought us to their church for the Saturday morning Missions Breakfast. Tables were neatly decorated, and food was prepared and served by a group of dedicated volunteers called "Valley Galley." Sixty church members came out on a beautiful fall morning, joining us for a time of sharing and learning about South Sudan. The following morning we shared from God's Word in worship, and in the afternoon the pastor warmly welcomed us to an "Open House," a time of informal connection and

fellowship with church members in his home. This visit with Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley, Arizona, is one of many visits over the last several weeks which have taken us to central Montana, central and coastal California, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Earlier this year we were able to visit churches in the Chicago area, western Pennsylvania, and three churches in Ohio. It has been encouraging and invigorating to be with churches again, especially after we had to cancel several church visits in the summer due to health challenges. During our visit with a couple of different churches, members mentioned how they had not met in this way since the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, so it was a good opportunity for them to gather in-person as they hosted us.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic – Laura Romero, the executive director, said that about 40 children with volunteers and staff participated in the Clinic on March 2. There was a lovely snow fall that day. The children were delighted, but it made for a wet, cold clinic. Most departments provided services. More space needs to be arranged so that all departments can function well. The clinic had hoped to get more space by taking over adjacent area of the building. The county decided to let Pima Community College have that space. There is a large room at the back of the clinic which might be re-modeled to accommodate clinic service.

Donors have been very generous. One donor provided warm breakfast sandwiches from McDonalds for all the children, many volunteers and families. Juice was provided by the Clinic. Donors also contributed floor mats for the Physical Therapy department to use. The Rotary Clubs have been very supportive of the Clinic with donations. A lady who loves to bake brought cookies for everyone. She plans to continue her joy of baking for the benefit of St. Andrews' Clinic.

VPC is in the process of donating a large screen TV for the children to watch as they wait for appointments. Les Walter will get this installed whenever his ankle injury heals. A temporary kitchen is available with a large refrigerator and microwave. A more adequate kitchen is needed.

At present, Laura feels they must limit services to 50 children. The children are vulnerable and must be protected from infections and diseases. The current space is congested, so numbers must be limited for the safety of the children. In the past, the Clinic was able to serve 250 children on the first Thursdays. That number is not possible now. The clinic is proceeding slowly but surely, and safely. It will be different than it was at the St. Andrew's Church, but it will be successful to meet the needs of many children.

This committee asked if Laura's staff has considered having more Clinics. The effort and complications involved in bringing children and volunteers to this clinic probably makes that impossible. With limited space for clinic services, has she considered the possibility of asking departments to alternate months? The committee asked when/how will the name of the clinic be changed. Reed asked about how the children are being transported from the border to the clinic. Kay will talk with Laura about these items and report in April.

The need for money, prayers and support continues. VPC has been very generous and helpful. The Clinic sends us their sincere thanks for all we do.

Valley Assistance Services – Steve Larson told us that there is a large increase in needs for VAS programs since COVID. There are more chronic illnesses and diseases plus emotional and behavioral disturbances.

Lack of funds for rent and utilities has led to increased homelessness. Some victims are living in a car, van, at a friend's house or on the street. VAS has been assisting about one household a week. Without a home, many cannot live healthy, eat/cook appropriately, sleep adequately and meet other basic needs.

Steve reported that the Fund-Raising Walk for 1 or 1 ½ miles will be held on October 28 at Quail Creek Veterans Municipal Park. The walk begins at 8:15 a.m. after opening ceremonies. The theme is "One Million".

Frightfully Fun Walk

FUNDRAISER FOR VALLEY ASSISTANCE SERVICES

What: Fundraising Walk

Where: Quail Creek Veterans Municipal Park

When: Saturday, October 28, 2023

Check-in: 7:15-8:00 AM (at the park)

Welcome Ceremony: 8:00 AM

Walk Begins: 8:15 AM

REGISTRATION FEES

\$25 per adult

\$10 per student 18 & under

\$25 per virtual walker

No charge for furry friends



Register at:
 Nancy Pantz
 Posada Java
 Valley Assistance Services
 Green Valley/Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce

VAS will host a fundraising walk on October 28 with one & two mile routes. Dogs are welcome to walk along with you but must be kept on a leash at all times. Prizes for funniest, scariest & best Halloween costume, & best pet costume. Consider forming a team to walk with you. Support VAS!

Design: M.Cobarrubias

Youth on Their Own (YOTO) – Mary Horn reported:

- YOUTH on Their Own will officially move to their new location on Monday, November 6, 2023. We will look forward to doing a tour of the new facility in February/March 2024.
- YOTO is partnering with Ben’s Bells to do a special YOTO Bell that will be available during tours. A sample bell was shown to our group. Folks who make a donation of \$100 or more will have the option of receiving a bell which they can either take home or hang (with a message) in the trees in the Courtyard for a YOTO youth. Mary will be taking orders for the Ben’s Bell for 2 Sundays in October and will again take orders when we return in January. The committee approved the purchase of 5 bells to be displayed in and around the church to promote YOTO and remind everyone to “BE KIND” which is the logo on every artistic bell. Les Walter questioned if the bells can withstand winds and temperatures as they hang outside. Mary confirmed they could. Mary will write and share a story of the creation of Ben’s Bells and what they now represent.
- On October 2, Dick and Mary delivered 5 large bags food, hygiene supplies and school supplies to the YOTO MINI MALL. We also delivered 141 Cards of Inspiration. We will continue to collect Spiral notebooks (College Ruled), Composition Notebooks (College Ruled), and Peter Pan Original Creamy Peanut Butter for the 3rd Sunday in October.
- Our Women’s Ministry Gathering Luncheon for their September Presbyterian Gift collected \$45 in-kind donations for the YOTO Mini Mall and \$200. These were also delivered on October 2.
- YOTO CARD MAKING will take place Wednesday, October 25 from 1-3:30. We’ll meet in Classroom 5 from 1:00-3:30. All are welcome to come and create cards of inspiration for the students!!

Old Business

Mission Breakfast

- September 16, 2023 – Bob and Kristi Rice – 56 for breakfast raising \$3,226. \$200 for travel to the Rices and they requested the remainder be given to Nile Theological College for scholarship program.
- November 18, 2023 – Young Adult Volunteer Program – Pastor James + YAV worker – plans & advertising
- January 13, 2024 – Valley Assistance Services
- February 17, 2024 – Youth On Their Own
- **March 23, 2024** -? In House Missions

Noisy Offering – 5th Sunday of month for 2023-2024

- October 29, 2023 – Presbyterian Campus Ministry – George Curtis, now retired, will be needed for this program.
- December 31, 2023 - Compañeros en Misión – Judy Aguayo
- March 31, 2024 – YAV (Young Adult Volunteers)
- June 30, 2024 – Pam & Dave Lovett
- September 29, 2024 – Crossroads Nogales Mission
- December 29, 2024 – Hands of a Friend

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Plans and Advertising is in a report above.

Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) - Information is in a report above.

Homeless Packets Project – To be discussed later.

Financial Reports Due - Submit agency's latest report of 2023.

Mission Committee 2023-2024 Overview – Review for next meeting.

Mission Outreach Report/Mission Sunday is January 14, 2024 – Turn in to church office by Dec. 1, 2023

Valley Voice articles – 8 or more/month. We had 12 in November, 9 in December, 9 in January, 9 in February, 10 in March, 11 in April, 11 in May, 12 in June, 9 in July, 11 in August, 15 in September, 12 in October

New Business

- **Café Justo** – VPC spends \$8,000 a year to buy coffee from a mission/local farm group in Mexico. This committee voted to continue that expenditure as a mission outreach program.
- **Presbyterian Annual Peace Offering** – October 1, 2023 – Of money collected, 1/3 will go to local Peace Projects, 1/3 to Presbytery Projects and 1/3 to General Assembly Projects. Discussion will be on the November agenda.
- **Request for funding from outside individuals was rejected as not consistent with Mission Giving Guidelines.**

BRAIN STORMING: We'll put our brains "at rest".

Doug Clark gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Brouwer, standing in for Secretary Jim Fitzpatrick.

The next Mission Committee meeting will be at 8:45, November 14, 2023, in Room 1.