

**Minutes from the VPC Mission Committee Meeting at 8:45 – 10:30  
October 12, 2021 in Room 5 at the Church and at our homes via ZOOM**

**Present:** Doug Clark, Kay Brouwer, Steve Larson, Mary Horn, Mark Horton, George Curtis, Kylene Joplin, Carol Stephens, Pat Nau, Judy Aguayo and Pastor Diane Christopher.

**Absent:** Larry Craft, Patti Bright, Tom Spurlock, Parkie Copeland and Reed Olson

Doug presented our Spiritual Growth time with discussion about the Christian view of **Gentleness**. It is one of the fruits of the spirit as presented in Galatians 5:22-23 and evident in several passages of the Bible. To be gentle is the opposite of to express anger. Gentleness is a gift of God's power under His control in love to combat anger which we encounter in our lives. This fruit of the spirit gives us power. Modern and biblical use of meek was also reviewed. In the discussion following the lesson, it was mentioned that reacting with gentleness when we are confronted with anger is a powerful way to defuse strong negative emotions.

Mary Horn opened the business meeting with a responsive prayer.

**Business Begins**

**Approval of Minutes:** Done and submitted to the VPC session.

**Financial Report:** The 2021 budget is \$83,250.00 was presented and pass through giving reviewed. Committee Emergency Funds are \$609.61.

**MISSION REPORTS/COMMENTS**

**Amado-GV Food Bank** – Kylene Joplin and Carol Stephens reported that the Hunger Walk on September 11, 2021, was a big success providing donations of \$2,200 plus \$210 of pass-through giving. Kylene and Carol look forward to next year with the experience and knowledge of this year's event.

The VPC pass through giving for March through September this year was \$3791.00 for both Green Valley and Amado Food Banks. The donations for September were each receiving \$454.00. Fifty-three pounds of food and non-perishable items were given. The Food Banks are operating in a limited way because grocery stores are giving limited boxes of food and volunteers are not working because of COVID restrictions. Certainly, operation of the Food Banks has changed drastically from what it was in the past.

**Posada Community Services** – Mark Horton and Doug Clark highlighted the report from director, Bill McCreery:

The program of Adult Day Services provides support for adults with cognitive and/or physical needs and who typically live at home in the care of a family member. These services help families manage effects of Alzheimer's, stroke, Parkinson's or other issues. It provides a stimulating environment while offering respite and support to caregivers.

The program is open 5 days a week from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. There is a \$72 fee for attending. However, Posada Community Services works with families to be sure they can attend the program regardless of ability to pay. A portion of VPC's donations is "fee assistance" to help those who can't afford the fee.

**Casa Vida Nueva para Niños** – Reed Olson sent in a report that there is nothing new.

**Compañeros en Misión** – Judy Aguayo receives communication from this mission following our letter outlining goals and obligations. Jorge Pazos is on Facebook where he gives information about what he and the Ministry to Migrants are doing. For example, he had met Christina, whose source of income was selling newspapers at the border. Her daughter, Estrella, needed heart surgery and support. The girl is now recovering from that surgery and both mother and child need our prayers. Pray also for the people of Mexico.

**Crossroads Mission, Nogales, Arizona** – A letter from Crossroads explains that this is the only homeless shelter serving men, women, and children in Santa Cruz County. Along with many services, Crossroads Mission provides housing, meals, counseling, spiritual development, and life skills training for clients. There is a 6-month substance abuse recovery program, 6-month in-house probation program and chapel services. Holiday meals are prepared and served at Crossroads Mission. Noisy Offering on 10/31/21 will be used to obtain Thanksgiving turkeys. Please keep praying for the Crossroads' Mission, which is a vital part of Nogales, Arizona helping people in need.

**General Mission Support** – Tom Spurlock sent no report.

**PCUSA Seminary Support** – Larry Craft had no report.

**Hands of a Friend** – Pat Nau reported that Colleen Hanson, the former Executive Director, is no longer her contact person but continues to volunteer. Gina Dalsing, the Chairman of the Board, has taken over communications until a new E.D. can be trained lead the organization. New playground equipment has been donated which will be a joy to children who live in the shelter. A yard man cleaned up the area after the monsoon season damage.

**Mission Quilts** – Patti Bright reported that quilters met on Monday, October 4th for the beginning of the fall, winter, and spring quilting sessions. They had only four, so they layered quilts and backs that had been brought in. The group is looking forward to the purchase of another large cutting mat and have the money available to purchase it.

**Operation Mobilization** – After almost two years, Dave L. is in route back to visit senior leaders and staff in Pakistan for six days of leaders' meetings for fellowship, prayer, reporting, teaching, coaching, and more. Dave will be teaching in six different sessions and also meeting with OM leaders, board members and others. He appreciates our prayers for these days and for Pam as she is in Wisconsin working to help Afghan refugees there. Pam and Dave L. have confirmed a visit to VPC on January 22 & 23, 2022.

**Presbyterian Campus Ministry** – George Curtis reported that the PCM Board has hired Amanda Marbut as Interim Director of PCM. Amanda is not formally trained in Pastoral Care, but will have an official mentor and will also complete some professional education on Pastoral Care and role boundaries. A letter inviting Amanda to the position spelled out the goals, duties and expectations of the PCM director.

The Board also adopted a Productivity Planning Guide which Amanda has accepted.

The Campus Christian Center Board is still in discussion on the future of the building and any payouts to the organizations which are leaving. Brad Munroe believes a solution may require mediation or arbitration.

St. Mark's Church has offered office space (at no charge) for use by the Presbyterian Campus Ministry. They do encourage donations for a solar panel which they plan to install.

**Bob and Kristi Rice (PCUSA missionaries)** – Doug Clark reported that New Church Development is a top priority of the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (SSPEC). This is the area where Bob and Kristi Rice are serving. The top-ranking concerns of the SSPEC are planting new churches and spreading evangelism. The many other challenges (conflict, famine, and economic crisis) can be addressed best when the people experience the transformation, freedom and love through belief in Jesus Christ. Every donation of \$500 will establish a new church, helping to obtain land, purchase chairs or benches, and support a pastor. After discussion including potential long term additional support, Kay Brouwer moved that we agree to support a new church in South Sudan with contributions from the congregation. The motion was seconded by Judy Aguayo and unanimously accepted by the committee.

**St. Andrew's Children's Clinic** – Kay Brouwer reported that Laura Romero has announced that there will probably be a Children's Clinic on November 4th this year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Nogales, Arizona. Many adults in Mexico have received the COVID vaccine and the COVID case numbers are down from the recent past. It is now safe to bring families to the clinic. It has been a long, difficult 18 months since the Clinic could function effectively.

Andrews' Staff is excited to have seven families come to Nogales, Arizona from Mexico. The only possible problem might be that the Border Patrol must give their okay to let the families cross into the United States. In the past, they have been very cooperative. If this November 4 Clinic is a success, a December Clinic will be planned with a Christmas celebration and gifts. If anyone wants to help with this celebration or to contribute to the St. Andrew's Mission, please send a cash donation to St. Andrews' Clinic at 75 W Calle De Las Tiendas # 129B, Green Valley, AZ 85614, or sent it to Valley Presbyterian Church designating that St. Andrew's Children's Clinic to be the recipient.

At the next Mission meeting, Kay will bring information about the building that St. Andrews' hopes to build on the grounds of the St. Andrews' Episcopal Church in Nogales, AZ. A bright light is ahead as they plan for their first Clinic since the beginning of the COVID quarantine. St. Andrew's Children's Clinic continues to need our prayers and support.

**Valley Assistance Services** – Steve Larson’s report included the following:

Chris Erickson, the Executive Director and Wes Moulton are providing excellent leadership in Valley Assistance Services.

The challenges of the COVID pandemic have resulted in tremendous growth in the amount of assistance provided to clients since March of 2020. The public has become more aware of the wonderful help VAS can bring to individuals and families. Since there will probably be an escalation in the need for services, VAS will continue to grow.

Because of the rise in the amount of assistance VAS is providing, it has expanded its business and staff hours, and engaged 50% more volunteers than in the past. It is apparent that office space is no longer adequate. A plan to renovate the office and address problems is being developed. Funds are critical for VAS to continue to grow and evolve along with the needs of our community.

A major fundraiser was a Fashion Show at Quail Creek. The Empty Bowls fundraiser is a possibility for next year.

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

1. Youth On Their Own is sponsoring a Fall Event entitled: A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A YOTO STUDENT. It will be October 24 at 11 a.m. It will stream at yoto.org. It will be available “permanently” right after the showing on Sunday, October 24. It will be less than an hour in length. It will feature 4 students.
2. Nancy Storey and Mary continue sorting cards donated to our church: Christmas, Birthday and Personal Greeting cards. They recently received another donation of Christmas cards from Valley Assistance Services in exchange for birthday cards. They are packaging cards in groups of 10 to be sold for \$1.00. The first sale time will be the Patio Sale Style Show on October 19.
3. Four ladies met at church on Thursday, September 23 to make Inspirational Cards. They completed 68 cards. They welcomed a new participant, Linda Piotrowski. Linda made an additional 12 cards at home bringing our total to 80 cards. The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, October 27 in Classroom 5 from 1- 3:30 p.m.
4. On Tuesday, October 4, Dick and Mary delivered 80 cards of inspiration to Youth On Their Own. They also delivered a check for \$85.00, and spiral notebooks, many colored gel pens, glue sticks, and Sharpie roller pens – all donated by Women’s Ministries.
5. There will be a speaker for our Mission Breakfast on Saturday, November 13, 2021. It will be Bethany Neumann, Director of Development and Communications at YOTO.
  - YOTO HEADQUARTERS: 1660 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson 85712
  - YOTO MINI-MALL: 1642 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson 85712

**Old Business**

**Mission Breakfasts:**

- November 13, 2021 – YOTO - Mary Horn will plan publicity in the Valley Voice, E-blast and Sunday’s bulletin
- January 22, 2022 – Pam and Dave L. (Doug Clark) – notice the changes of date
- February 12, 2022 – Food Bank (Kylene Joplin/Carol Stephens)
- March 28, 2022 – St. Andrews’ Children’s Clinic (Kay Brouwer)

**Noisy Offering:**

- August 29, 2021 - Presbyterian Christian Ministry - George Curtis – Result was \$446.43.
- October 31, 2021 – Nogales Crossroads Mission
- January 30, 2022 – Casa Vida Nueva – Reed Olson
- May 29, 2022 – Hands of a Friend – Pat Nau
- July 31, 2022 – Food Bank – Kylene Joplin/Carol Stephens
- October 30, 2022 – St. Andrews’ Clinic – Kay Brouwer

**Operation Christmas Child** – Box-making will be on October 13 by Kay Brouwer, Parkie Copeland, and Joan Bolin. Box pick-up will Sundays, October 31 & November 7, 2021; Boxes must be returned to the church by November 14. Information will be in the Valley Voice, E-blasts and Sunday bulletins.

**Mission Sunday is January 23, 2022** – Plans for our Mission Program will include the distribution of our Mission Outlook Booklet, Sermon by Dave L, and Fellowship with Pam and Dave L. in Fellowship Hall. As always, Christian books will be available. We are invited to visit with Pam and Dave at the home of Pastor Craig, 4151 S West Cotta Dr., at an informal gathering, 2:00 Sunday afternoon.

**Mission Outlook Booklet** – The 2021 Booklet needs to be reviewed and revised where necessary.

**Financial Statements** – We need to ask our agencies to submit their 2020 Financial Statements. We need this for every agency we sponsor as a requirement for continued support. Dick Davison will compile these statements for review.

**Letter for agencies/Goals & Obligations** – Doug Clark sent a letter to the director of each agency explaining our goals, expectations, and their responsibilities. The letter was a valuable endeavor since he has received positive responses from several agencies.

**Valley Voice articles** – Our goal is at least 4 articles in the Valley Voice per month. We had 5 in July, 5 in August, 7 in September and 9 in October. Keep communicating!

**Review and Update of Mission TV Assignments** - October 31 and November 7 for both Mission Breakfast ticket sales and Operation Christmas Child shoebox distribution. The boxes will be returned 11/14/21

**From Joan Bolin** - Mary Horn received a nice email from Joan Bolin who expressed her thanks for our card to her and her joy of having served on the Mission Committee.

### New Business

**Recruitment progress** – There is still a need for a Crossroads Nogales Mission representative. Pat Nau suggested a possible person whom she will refer. Doug will interview the candidate and review the options.

**Mission Budget for 2022** – Doug suggested we ask the Finance Committee for a 15% increase in our Mission Budget. After discussion, Judy Aguayo moved that we request 15% increase in the budget. Kay Brouwer seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously accepted by the committee.

### **Brain Storming** –

Pat Nau expressed the need for kitchen help and the role our committee might have. Patio Sale funds come to the Mission Committee so we should volunteer more when help is needed. We might consider telling friends and neighbors about the sale and the opportunity to join our endeavors. There is a “Clearing House” for community volunteers lead by Mike Feinstein. This may be a place we can present our need for help.

The next Mission Committee meeting will be at 8:45, November 9, 2021, in Room 5 with a ZOOM option.

Judy Aguayo gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay Brouwer, Secretary