

October Mission Committee Minutes-2022
Valley Presbyterian Church
Mission Committee – Minutes
October 11, 2022

Present: Doug Clark, Kylene Joplin, Mary Horn, Carol Stephens, Les Walters, Ed Storey, Rev. Craig Linsey, Kay Brouwer, Ann Ball, George Curtis, Steve Larson, Kara Fitzpatrick, Jim Fitzpatrick, Judy Aguayo, and Reed Olson:
Absent: Pastor Diane Christopher, Pat Nau, Bright, Larry Craft, Rick Myers, and Debbie Myers

The Three Goals of the Mission Committee

Grow Spiritually; Take Care of the Needs of the 15 agencies we support; Communicate to the congregation the needs of those we support.

Devotional: Joy-Fruit of the Spirit

What is Joy? The Old Testament in Hebrew mirrors our modern definition of Joy, as a noun- a feeling of great pleasure and happiness or as a verb- rejoice. The New Testament in Greek according to Strong's Concordance, joy takes on a new and exciting meaning since joy is etymologically linked to grace. The word joy by being linked to grace is truly heavenly happiness. Joy is supernatural and is part of the character of God which comes to us through knowing Jesus Christ. **1 Peter 1:8 (New International Version) ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,** Having God's joy in us, we delight in the things that God delights in. Prayer, fellowship, reading His word, Bible study, practicing in His presence, and service. Because of Jesus and the cross, we have eternal Joy even in suffering. Discussion followed where members shared experiences of heavenly happiness.

Announcements-Welcome and prayer for God's guidance and health of committee members.

Financial Report- The approved budget through September 2022 was presented, with pass through giving, and income reviewed. The net committee contingency fund is currently \$98.93. With an additional \$375 available in the 4th quarter.

Mission Agencies Reports

Amado-GV food bank

Each 1st Sunday of each month is collection of donations and food for Amado-GV food bank. September's poundage is 36# with \$492 to each food bank for a total of \$984. Food bank calendars which feature winners of children's art contest will be available for the congregation in near future.

Posada Community Service

La Posada Adult Day Services...a lifeline for family caregivers. La Posada Adult Day Services, a unique program serving vulnerable older adults and their caregivers, enhances their quality of life and in many cases postpones the need for higher levels of care as they age. Without Adult Day Services, many of these individuals would spend much of their day at home watching TV while their spouse or other family member manages the home and many aspects of their loved one's care. The social times, nurse attention, and wide variety of activity choices just can't be replicated at home. With help from generous donors, we offer fee assistance to those who are unable to pay for Adult Day Services. In addition, we provide a Caregiver Support Group at no cost to the community at large, as well as informational resources. Our mission, "to maximize the well-being of seniors," is more important now than ever.

Casa Vida Nueva para-Ninos

Christmas visit has been changed to December 10th. Reed Olson will be setting up a table in the Church Nov 6, 13, and 2022, for people to sign up for the trip and sponsor a child for Christmas gifts. For the February 11, 2023, Mission Breakfast, Reed is planning on a very big surprise.

Compañeros en Mision

On Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. the board and friends of Compañeros en Mision will hold a fundraising fiesta at VPC to honor the lives of Rev. Dr. Jorge Pazos and Rev. Robert Seel who were vital to continued growth and success of this joint binational ministry of Presbyterian Borderlands Ministries. The fiesta will be hosted by VPC and provide waitstaff for an estimated 100-150 persons. The advertising is by the Presbytery and a Mexican dinner, silent auction, etc, will be provided. The money raised will be used to continue ministry including building a classroom for use for youths, migrants, and local families. VPC will sell \$10.00 tickets to our congregation on Sunday, October 16, 2022, in Fellowship Hall and also available in the Office. We will help serve and clean up on the 22nd of October, starting at 3:30. The menu will be Mexican lasagna. We will need to wear masks and gloves and ten volunteers will be needed.: Pastor Diane, Kylene Joplin, Carol Stephens, Debbie & Rick Myers, Jim Fitzpatrick, Ed Storey, Nancy Storey, Lillian Richardson, Judy Aguayo, and Doug Clark.

Crossroads Nogales Mission

Crossroads Nogales Mission strives to offer a transformative quality of life through their full range of opportunities and programs, including: Food for over 35,000 men/women/families annually, Daily Church service and meal, Four homeless shelters, Five transformative programs for men and woman, 6-month substance abuse recovery program, A domestic violence shelter for women/children, free lunches six days a week for the needy, free dinners for families of the community on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day, and Bible clubs for children. Les Walters is on the Board of Directors and has become the answer to 3 years of no maintenance with repair of the cold storage unit and is working on the dishwasher's heating unit. Credit status has improved. The Mission Breakfast from Crossroads Nogales Mission on March 25 has been confirmed. The second Sunday of each month is Crossroad Nogales Mission's Sunday where food goods and used clothing can be donated and place in the mobile collection cart in Fellowship Hall.

General Mission Support

Ed Storey is the new liaison for General Mission Support. General Mission Support is presenting a change from individual missionary fund- raising to Global mission Agency fundraising responsibility for all missionaries. Funding for our Synod is under review as endowments are very large compared to per capita funds. Indian School scholarships were highlighted as was an upcoming woman's retreat. Pastor Craig is one of two men who have been given the title of "Honorary Woman".

Hand of a Friend

Pat Nau and Kara Fitzpatrick are co-chairs and will arrange a meeting and possible tour with report next meeting.

Mission Quilts

We meet for our 2022-23 fall season on Oct. 3 with just five of us being present. Those able to attend this summer met three times for lunch to keep in touch. During the summer months donated fabric scraps were processed and added to our stash. Twenty-five quilt kits were made this summer to use starting this fall season. Randy and Patti changed out the hanging quilts in fellowship hall.

Operation Mobilisation- Pam and Dave Lovett

Heavy monsoon rainfall and floods have affected some 2.3 million people in Pakistan since mid-June, destroying around 95,000 houses and damaging some 220,000 more. Sindh and Baluchistan are the two most affected provinces in terms of human and infrastructural impact. According to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), around 700 people have died including over 300 children. More than 1,010 individuals have been injured. Houses and Agriculture are most effected in this flooding. Mostly houses in rural are made by mud and woods and these kinds of houses do not hold well in these rains and many house have collapsed. Thousands have no shelter and food due to this "humanitarian disaster," Thousands are homeless without shelter and without food. More than 504,000 livestock have been killed, nearly all of them in Baluchistan, while nearly 3,000 kilometers (1,864 miles) of roads and 129 bridges have been damaged,

blocking access to flood-affected areas, OCHA writes. OM is active in 5 Districts and the human suffering is unbelievable. We are grateful for the \$500 from the VPC mission committee for the need is great. Personal note- Dave is recovering from Covid and needs our prayers. He has been attending meetings by Zoom. Pam and Dave Lovett

Presbyterian Campus Ministry- Gas light Theater on December 8th for the 5p.m. show. The cost is \$40 per ticket. 26 tickets have been sold and more tickets will be arranged for sale on 10/16, and 23, /2022. Another fund raiser will be a \$20 5:30 dinner at St Marks Church on October 15, 2022.

PCUSA missionaries to South Sudan- Bob and Kristi Rice

Ministry to the Children of the Streets in Juba- Zechariah Zechariah Adam, my former student is now working with children who lived on the street. I had had the vision that Zechariah would excel working with children, especially those living on the margins. Zechariah's gentleness, humility, deep spirituality, and strong commitment would make him an excellent candidate for such work.

Some weeks later, Zechariah would tell me that it was during the evangelism class I taught at Nile Theological College whereby God had inspired him along these lines. We learned that every Saturday vulnerable children are welcomed off the street to have their wounds cleaned, to participate in an energetic worship service, to receive a hot meal and be given a bar of soap to wash their bodies and clothes before leaving. This ministry is a drop-in-center, whereby the children can also visit during the week and receive help for various needs.

These children knew that they had a need and they opened themselves up to me and my friend Albino like flowers open to the sun. As we worshiped in song, we all danced to the beat and sang, jumping back and forth, patting each other on the hands. The atmosphere felt simple and innocent, but it was also electric with the power and presence and love of God. Truly, how can one not be a conduit of God's love and care in such a place? These children crave attention and affection despite the hardened exterior which life on the streets had foisted upon them. In this enclosed and safe environment, these children could express a dimension of themselves which was seldom seen or known to suspicious shop keepers and annoyed pedestrians. As a visitor, I could feel the level of intentional care and dignity being given to these children by Pastor Zechariah and members of the ministry staff. My heart was also touched to see two Egyptian men quietly doing "behind the scenes" work to support the ministry. They sought no accolades or commendation; they were simply supporting Zechariah and his staff who were doing direct ministry with these children.

Thank you for your prayers as Kristi and I seek to serve amongst marginalized persons and communities here in South Sudan.

PCUSA Seminary Support- no report

Samaritan Purse- Christmas Children Boxes

As of 10/9/2022, 125 boxes have been assembled and made ready for distribution with "how to pack a box" brochures, donation envelopes pre-labeled with "Shoebox Shipping" special donation, and a letter of explanation of how to accomplish all the other details of getting the box ready to return to church by no later than Nov. 6. Currently, it is of concern that fewer people than in the past are picking up boxes. A donation jar is available on the Operation Child tables on Sundays for those who did not wish to pack a box and shop for contents. No expenses have been incurred in administering the Operation Children Boxes. Brochures, boxes, training, stickers, pictures, etc, have all been provided free of charge by Samaritan Purse.

The office staff was great in printing letters, sticky donation labels, misc. in a timely manner including E-blasts and Valley Voice articles. The Christian nature of the project is primary in that we encouraged prayer for the child receiving the box, all the people in the processing, training, delivery, education and so many other areas of this wide-reaching Samaritan project. The giving of a gift to someone and the giver asks nothing in return is a message that multiplies and spreads. The story of the inspirational speaker from Samaritan Purse's informational meeting was presented.

PCUSA Seminary Support- no report

St. Andrews' Children's Clinic

Laura Romero announced the Clinic has a 1-year lease of space at a shopping mall in Nogales. It is in a former K-Mart store, at the corner of Mariposa and Grand. There will be no charge for rent and or utilities for this year. We are all thrilled that the Clinic has a place to provide services for their children. At present, the 3000-foot space is empty, but has 3 bathrooms and a kitchen. The clinic staff will be working long hours to make the new facility adequate for serving as a medical clinic for children with specific needs. Ideas for donations were presented: A television for children, kitchen supplies & equipment, a large coffer maker, electric blenders, Christmas lights, to name a few. Patio sale donations were offered by Les Walters for some of these needs. Fifty-three children had cleft lip/cleft palate surgeries in Hermosillo at the end of September. Next year's surgeries have been scheduled for September 22 – 26, 2023. On October 6, 2022, twenty-nine families were served at the Children's Clinic in Knights of Pythias Center in Nogales, Arizona. They are looking forward to having a Christmas Clinic in their new facility in December 2022. It will be a special event that has been put off for the last 2 years. St. Andrews' Clinic will initiate a new "mobile" mission to serve children and families in an impoverished area near Hermosillo. Surgeons and volunteers are being recruited to attend to the needs of migrant families there. On October 23, Yadelle Valencia, a representative from St. Andrews's, will speak to our congregation as we prepare for our Noisy Offering on October 30. Laura Romero and St. Andrews' Children's Clinic express sincere thanks to the Valley Presbyterian Church congregation for prayers and support, helping to overcoming the challenges of the past 2 years.

Valley Assistance Services

SASS- Socialization And Support for Seniors group will begin in October as will a Grief Support Program. VAS'S construction is almost complete creating more office space, improve the privacy for patient confidentiality, and create spaces for educational and public use. Thank you to Freeport McMoRan Foundation (mines) and generous individual donors for their support. Volunteers strengthen each program at VAS and are greatly needed and appreciated as programs have almost doubled in the last two years.

Youth On Their Own

The Presbyterian Women brought school supplies and monies for Youth On Their Own's Mini Mall for their Gathering Luncheon in September. In Kind total for supplies was \$164.50. Monies collected totaled \$185. These gifts plus 158 cards of inspiration were delivered to YOTO on Monday, October 3.

Inspirational Card Makers will be able to pick up supplies stored at the church office to craft cards at home for October, November, and December as Mary Horn will be caring for family out of town. The third Sunday of each month is YOTO's Sunday when food goods for the mini mart can be donated and place in the mobile collection cart in Fellowship Hall. Needed are non-refrigerated milk and dehydrated potatoes products.

Old Business

Mission Breakfast Mission/ missionaries for 2022-2023 Programs

November 12, 2022-Posada Community Service- Regina Ford- Sign up/plan presented

January 14,2023- Hands of a Friend

February 11/2023-Rise/Casa Vida Nueva

March 25, 2023- Nogales Crossroads Mission

Noisy Offering- 2022 5th Sunday of month for 2022-2023

October 30,2022-St Andrews Clinic- Kay Brouwer- Volunteers needed to sort coins 11/1/22 at 9:30 in office (Kylene Joplin, Carol Stephens, Kara Fitzpatrick, Jim Fitzpatrick, and Doug Clark)

January 29,2023- Rise/Casa Vida Nueva-Reed Olson

May 30,2023 Youth On Their Own-Mary Horn

July 30,2023 Posada Life Community Services- Debbie Myers

October 29,2023 Presbyterian Campus Ministry-George Curtis

Compañeros en Misión Fundraising Fiesta-4:00-6:30 p.m. on10/22/22- 49 tickets sold from VPC (Need Servers for dinner at 3:30 p.m.: Pastor Diane, Kylene Joplin, Carol Stephens, Debbie & Rick Myers, Jim Fitzpatrick, Ed Storey, Nancy Storey, Lillian Richardson, Judy Aguayo, and Doug Clark.)

Presbyterian Giving-Christmas Joy (December 18, 2022), One Great Hour of Sharing (April 3,2023)- Pastor Christopher and Ed Storey will arrange publicity.

Resuming Lunches at Crossroad Nogales on hold

Financial Report for all agencies due (most recent)

Voice articles- 4 or more / month- May (11) June (7) July/August (6) September (11) October (12)- (new record)

Review and Update of Mission TV Assignments-

New Business

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance- The E-blast and Valley Voice will be used to demonstrate need for donations. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support this hurricane season. In the wake of catastrophic impacts from Hurricane Ian, recovery is ongoing in places hit by Hurricane Fiona, including Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Cuba. Storms are becoming more frequent and more severe, and this early in the hurricane season we must prepare for these broad and anticipated catastrophes that have not yet formed. The needs for the response will be great. God's people are called on to stand in the GAP — Give. Act. Pray.

Café Justo- 20 Year Anniversary of Café Justo- November 4 and 5 in Douglas AZ. Judy Aguayo plans to attend.

Café Justo- Kara Fitzpatrick, and Jim Fitzpatrick have volunteered to help Tom and Lee Ann Calhoun in selling coffee in Fellowship Hall after training.

Volunteer for Recording Secretary- Jim Fitzpatrick

Prayer/ Adjourn-----Next meeting is 11/8/22, at 8:45 a.m. Room 5 with Zoom