**VPC Mission Committee – Minutes of April 10, 2018 Meeting**

Present: Doug Clark, Reed Olson, Kay Brouwer, Betty Kiesle-Yoder, Mary Horn, Janice Potter, Steve Larson, Charlie Ashton, Mark Horton, George Curtis, Doris Steffy, Pastor Diane Christopher

Absent: Judy Clark, Patti Bright

The committee welcomes new member Pat Nau

Doug Clark presented Bible Study entitled “Leprosy – Everyone’s Disease”. It was noted that modern day Leprosy (Hansen’s Disease) is totally unrelated to the disease of biblical times. That doesn’t matter, the important point is that Jesus has power over all human afflictions. Jesus heals us from our spiritual disease, sin.

The formal meeting was then opened with a prayer by Doug Clark.

**Financial report/Comments:**

Reporting for the YTD through March was provided in a new format making it difficult to know **sources** and uses of funds. Doug Clark will follow up to see if we can a better breakdown going forward. It was noted that the completion of the recent “Great Hour of Sharing” by VPC for 2018 brought in $4,100 vs. $1,200 last year. This year’s Patio Sale is expected to reach a total gross of $80,000, including E-Bay sales.

**Mission Reports/Comments:**

**Casa Vida Nueva para Ninos** – Reed Olson mentioned that he was able to secure several unsold pieces of furniture left over at the close of the recent Patio Sale. The furniture has been donated to Casa. He is planning the next trip to Casa on June 2nd.

**Posada Life Community Services** – Doris Steffy updated the group on upcoming activities. The outdoor classroom, to which VPC donated $2,000 last year, is expected to be finished by the end of this month. A birthday party is planned for 90 year old members of GV and on June 9th they will hold a party for members turning 100. A May graduation ceremony will be held for five year olds leaving the Los NInos program to enter Kindergarten in the fall. An enrichment program is planned for Los Ninos children over the summer.

Mary Horn reported on the fundraiser held for **Youth on Their Own (YOTO**) March 28th at the Tucson Convention Center. Approximately 400 attendees paid $45 each to attend the event (40 tables of 10, with a student or former student at each table). The speaker for the event was a YOTO alumni who has gone on to become the owner of their own business.

**Crossroads Nogales Mission** – Janice Potter updated the committee on the health concerns of the Founder and Director of the Mission, Ben Wenke, who suffered a stroke and is now going through rehabilitation. He is attempting to work at the Mission a few hours each day. Janice has VPC members scheduled to prepare the noon meal at the Mission (two Wednesdays a month) through mid –May but is looking for volunteers to help during the summer.

**Amado-Green Valley Food Bank** – Betty Kiesle-Yoder reported VPC contributions of $2,014 and 211 pounds for the months of January and February. Easter Sunday was big with $1,810 contributed by people attending Easter services.

**Presbyterian Campus Ministry (PCM**) - George Curtis and Mark Horton updated the committee on activities at PCM. The next Gaslight Theatre fundraiser will be held in the Oct/Nov timeframe. George plans to request 50 tickets for sale to VPC members (100 total tickets expected to be available). PCM continues to have budget issues, with a drop in the level of individual donations. PCM’s new campus minister remains enthusiastic but still asking a lot of questions. Mark Horton is on a committee to look at ways of publicizing PCM and increasing student attendance at PCM dinners and other events.

**St. Andrew’s Clinic** – Kay Brouwer, mission committee representative for St. Andrew’s, took 13 VPC members on a very enlightening tour of the clinic on April 5th. The clinic was very busy but all tour participants were impressed with what they saw. After the tour they were invited to join volunteers and staff for lunch.

**Valley Assistance Services (VAS**) – Doug Clark read a report to the committee from Chris Kang, Executive Director. A few highlights from that report: (1) the 12th annual Empty Bowls included many volunteers from VPC who contributed to make this a fun event for the 473 tickets holders. Next year’s 13th annual Empty Bowls event is scheduled for February 16th at VPC; VAS would like to provide tickets and rides to the event for up to 20 VPC members who normally would be unable to attend; (2)Neighbors Aim is a new program VAS is developing for those with memory loss. The program is currently being piloted with in-home seniors served by VAS. The more that can be learned about how to dialogue and care for those with memory loss, the better able caregivers and loved ones can help; (3) the SHIM program aimed at preventing falls that was held last year at VPC drew 125 participants, with four medical professionals speaking. VAS is currently planning to offer the event again in September at VPC; 4)the VAS Board is working on fundraising to add a part-time RN so it can serve more individuals in its SHIM, Going Home With Care (hospital to home transitions) and Neighbors Aim programs.

**Mission Quilts** - Doug Clark read a report from Patti Bright. A delivery was made in March of five bunk bed quilts to Church on the Street (COTS). The VPC Quilting team is trying to get several quilts completed before many of the team leaves for the summer. A record twelve quilts were made by team member Joan Bolin before leaving for the summer.

**Kristi and Bob Rice, PCUSA Missionaries** – In last month’s minutes we noted that Kristi participated in three weeks of training in Rwanda called “Healing the Wounds of Conflict”. Through the training participants learned to facilitate workshops in the community to help survivors find healing through Christ from the internal wounds of the genocide. Kristi says “Can you imagine losing several members of your family in a brutal war, and then, even 20 years later, forgiving the murderer? We celebrate that with God this kind of radical forgiveness can and does happen, and that these little acts of forgiveness are what can bring healing to the many places ravaged by war and conflict”.

**Old Business:**

**Mission Breakfasts for 2018-2019** – November 10, Hands of A Friend; January 19, Pam and Dave L, missionaries for Operation Mobilization; February 9, Casa Vida Nueva Ninos; March 30, Posada Life Community Services.

**Noisy Offering**s - April 29th will be Crossroads Nogales Mission; July 29thwill be the Food Bank.

**Homeless packet program** – the committee agreed to assemble 50 bags full of various food items, with bags then available for distribution to the homeless. Ten committee members have each agreed to bring 50 of a food item to the May 8th committee meeting and we will assemble the 50 bags.

**New Business**:

**Mission TV** – future dates are still available for agency assignment.

**Future Mission Committee meeting** will be held the second Tuesday of each month, September through May.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Pastor Diane.

Nest meeting is May 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Larson, Secretary