

Annual Report of Mission Interpretation Commission for 2011

Members of the commission during 2011: Jane Douglass, chair, Carolyn Kingshill, secretary, Ruth Currie, Octavio Guerrero, John Hill, Sue Likens, Carol Sittig, Delight Slotemaker de Bruine, Rocky Supinger, staff.

The commission's task is to oversee and interpret to the congregation the use of several funds furthering the church's mission. These are described below.

1) National and presbytery mission partnerships: CPC contributed \$61,981. from the church budget to support the mission programs of our national church and of San Gabriel Presbytery.

We purchased PC(USA) Mission Yearbooks for distribution to the congregation to help every family hear the stories of mission worldwide.

In conjunction with our ongoing engagement with the churches of the Middle East, we hosted the PC(USA) regional liaison, the Rev. Nuhad Tomeh, in June to help us think about how we could be most helpful as a partner to the Presbyterian churches in Iraq . He met with the commission and some other groups and was with us at worship on Sunday. We hosted Marilyn Borst from the Outreach Foundation in September. She led a Sunday morning adult education class on the Iraqi churches and was with us at worship.

We are fully committed to the San Gabriel Presbytery's Living Waters for the World program, which is a partnership with the Presbytery of Ayacucho in Peru. Octavio Guerrero has been a CPC participant from the beginning. Roger Denton, Sam Atwood, and Will Kohlen from CPC, now fully trained, have traveled to Peru with presbytery teams this year; two clean-water systems were installed in Presbyterian churches in November, and plans were made for a third installation. Special funds to help defray our team-members' expenses were raised by a benefit barbeque after church on Kick-off Sunday. CPC members also helped raise funds to cover the presbytery's portion of project expenses. On World Communion Sunday we hosted as our preacher Sara Armstrong, a PC(USA) mission co-worker in Peru who has been assisting the presbytery teams as they work with the Peruvian congregations. Plans are under way to send a work team of young people from our congregation along with others from the presbytery to visit these Peruvian churches next summer.

2) Special offerings designated by PC(USA) and overseen by the commission: One Great Hour of Sharing, \$5885.19 this year, to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Hunger Program; Pentecost Offering, with our locally designated portion divided between Vacation Bible School and CLASP; Christmas Joy Offering, to support the Board of Pensions' program for retired church workers with special needs and Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic educational institutions.

3) Locally designated giving from the CPC budget (\$15,495) The following mission partners of our congregation received financial support designated by the commission from our church budget:

Angel Interfaith Network \$500.

CLASP \$500.

Crossroads \$500.

Foothill AIDS Project \$500.

House of Ruth \$500.

Prison Library Project \$500.

Uncommon Good \$500.

Inland Valley Hope Partners \$6,000. (Includes Beta Center)

St. Ambrose Thanksgiving

Community Meal \$1,000.

CPC Vacation Bible School \$500.
CPC PYG Work Trip \$1500.
Special gift: City of Claremont Family
Emergency Fund \$200.

Many members of our congregation also offer significant leadership and service as volunteers in the work of these and other agencies serving the wider community.

4) The Alternative Christmas Market, organized by Julie Lee, raised funds for 22 agencies we recognize as our mission partners, local and worldwide. Members of the congregation visited the agencies' displays, made contributions in varying amounts for projects described, and received cards to offer their families and friends at Christmas. The total amount contributed was \$6650.50.

5) The Claremont Community Meal Program: The commission receives and disburses contributions as needed to support the Community Meal program, a Claremont ecumenical effort to see that local families do not go hungry at the end of the month. Sue Likens is the CPC coordinator.

6) Living Waters for the World: In 2011 almost \$1600. was contributed to cover one-third of travel costs for three CPC team members going to Peru.

7) Memorial Fund for Harry Brunger: Gifts in the amount of \$465. were offered in memory of Harry Brunger by his friends, to be used by the commission. The commission contributed from its own funds to bring the total to \$1000. Then two memorial gifts of \$500. each were given: one to the World YMCA, for which Harry worked for many years in China and Lebanon; and one to the Near East School of Theology, where Harry was well known, to be used as scholarships for Iraqi Presbyterians to attend a leadership training event in January of 2012.

The commission wishes to express its deep appreciation for the congregation's tradition of generous giving to extend our congregation's witness through partnership with churches and humanitarian service agencies around the world. Even in these years of financial stress, mission programs have grown, and our vision of our mission has widened.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane D. Douglass, chair