



*Merry Christmas as you celebrate
Jesus' birth - the Reason for the
Season! And Happy New Year!*

NEW OFFICE! Christmas greetings from the NEW H*VMI office on our Akron Ministry Center property! That's right – it's done and we've moved in! What a blessing to see the completed building (pictured above with our JOY greeting), to have new offices and ministry happening here, too. We had a two-day move into the office (Sept 8 & 11). It took a few more days to complete the move of our phone system and to get email up and working. We then did a lot of unpacking and settling in over the next weeks. It's feeling like home now that we've been here 3+ months.

FALL EVENTS Our fall special events were a blessing to many. We had an outdoor 50th Birthday Party for H*VMI on Sept 30 on our new basketball court. A good number of ministry friends came – many bringing gifts from our Wish Lists and enjoying food, fellowship and special music from the THIS WAY UP BAND. What a beautiful day!



This Way Up Band with their Boomwhackers



Kyle recognizing H*VMI family – staffers and board members – at luncheon

Then on Oct 14 – a 50th Anniversary Luncheon at Yoder's (with a look back through the decades at the history of our ministry – celebrating God's Faithfulness) followed by an Open House of the office (with lots of folks braving the rain for tours) – just a year after we had our Ground-breaking Ceremony after last October's luncheon.

AND – a special bonus – God blessed in the first-ever Faithful Give fundraising event for a total of 54 local "Kingdom Causes." Donations to H*VMI totaled \$40,938 (4th on the organization leaderboard). We

received \$1000 in prizes and over \$5000 of the "Shared Fund" donated by sponsors to this Oct 15-17 giving event (minus some processing fees) – grand total of \$46,110.82. Giving exceeded expectations of the organizers – what a blessing to all of us!

MINISTRY UPDATES We finished month 3 of our schedule of Bible Clubs and Support Groups on Dec 21. I'm helping with the 3rd Thursday club that meets at a nearby church – a return of a large club like we had pre-Covid. We have a total of three clubs (1st Mon, 1st Tues, 1st Thurs) and a Bible study (2nd Thurs) meeting monthly in our large Conference Room in our office. AND – three support groups meeting in our new Lunchroom (PIP, 2nd Mon; BASIS, 3rd Tues evening and a new group 3rd Thurs morning for those who don't like night driving). Another club meets at a church in the southern end of the county (2nd Tues) – for folks in that area. We have new participants coming this fall in most of these ministries – so they are growing. It's great to see the office being used for ministry each month.

The teaching theme for clubs this year is **"FAITH – It All ADDS UP!"** Using 2 Peter 1: 3-7 as a guide, we start with **FAITH** and then the seven lessons are 1.ADD GOODNESS, 2.ADD KNOWLEDGE, 3.ADD SELF-CONTROL, 4.ADD the ability to HOLD ON, 5.ADD SERVICE FOR GOD, 6.ADD KINDNESS, 7.ADD LOVE. **Pray for Tara and Meghan as they teach lessons each month.**



Meghan teaching Conquerors club in Conference Room

FUNDRAISING Our latest SPOTLIGHT newsletter is on our website (<https://www.hvmi.org/increase-newsletters>) as a recap to our 50th Anniversary year. It includes "50 THANK YOUs" to the Lord for all the blessings over those years (written by Tara). And two articles by Kyle, "50 YEARS!" and "FINANCES," a challenge to H*VMI's many friends and partners to give so we can pay off the line of credit for the excavating costs and the office building and then towards the costs of the two remaining buildings and other features to fully complete the development of our Ministry Center. **Pray with us for God's people to INVEST in our ministry.** Check out giving info on our website (<https://www.hvmi.org/onlinegiving>). We're excited to see how God answers!

LOOKING AHEAD

- March 22-24 – Bible Conference retreat at Traber Center. **Pray for planning for this weekend and for guests to sign up.**
- Day Camp 2024 – Our planning team has a schedule set for summer (May 31 – July 10) – orientation and NINE, three-day sessions of camp over 5½ weeks (three weeks will have Mon-Wed AND Thurs-Sat sessions back to back). **Pray for good planning (activities, curriculum, etc.), for needed staffers (Chris's recruiting trips will start in the new year), for host homes and supper meals, for the start of registration and all the other details kicking off in January and moving ahead.**

Thanks so much for your love, prayers, encouragement and support. Again - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mail a note, give a call, send an email. Friend me on Facebook – www.facebook.com/brian.robinson.315213