



# Increase

WINTER  
2019-2020

“So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.” I Corinthians 3:7

## TIMING

by Kyle Robinson, Executive Director



Many of the struggles we see in the Bible relate to *timing*. God is not bound by time; but, as humans, we are. As we serve Him, we need to respect that our view of time needs to be subject to God’s plan. Galatians 4:4 begins with the phrase, “*But when the time had fully come...*” These simple words imply that whatever was about

to happen was happening at that time for a reason. We can further extrapolate that, if that event happened at a different time, it would not have been as beneficial. What was the event that Paul was writing about in this section of his letter to the Galatians? Something minor perhaps? No, it was the most major event in human history outside of creation: the coming of Jesus Christ into the world.

God carefully planned the coming of Christ. He paid very special attention to the timing of His arrival on earth. Jesus could have done this great thing at any time in history, but God chose that specific time. God knew that, at that moment in history, Jesus could make the most impact on the world.

I have been guilty of having very human time expectations for the H\*VMI Property Project. If I ran the universe and wrote a letter to the supporters of H\*VMI like the one Paul wrote to the Galatians, I would start it by saying, “The time has fully come... for the H\*VMI property to be up and running, hosting camping programs, training events, Bible clubs and other outreaches.” I would write that the time has fully come to serve more people than ever, shining the light of the Gospel to our community. In my human understanding, I can see no reason that

these things should not be happening right now, or a year ago, or two years ago. But, thank the Lord, for the sake of all humanity, that I am not God. I do not have the big picture. I am very simply a piece of God’s puzzle. God is all knowing, loving and more wonderful than we can imagine and He has a plan. We simply need to trust Him in it and be sure that, at every turn, in every step of the process, we are glorifying Him. We also need to be sure that we are striving toward what we believe God’s will is for our lives and our ministry.

At the beginning of the summer, my human timeline was the following: finish preparing for submission of the Land

**“...our view of time needs to be subject to God’s plan.”**

Development Plan by mid to late summer, secure that approval by fall, begin fundraising, begin site

work and construction by winter, continue raising funds; and, we’re off to the races! God had a different plan. Through our final stages of the engineering and planning process, we discovered that the topography and building design made it necessary to move the location of the new driveway entrance. We could not have been aware of this prior to the detailed level of planning that takes place in this near final approval phase. Unfortunately, this caused a discrepancy between the nearly completed Land Development Plan and one of the conditions from the Conditional Use Hearing. As a result, we must go back and change/remove that condition. There is no undo button, no legal eraser, even for something as simple as a

Continued on page 2

driveway re-location. We must go through a Conditional Use Hearing once more to request that the condition that pertains to moving our driveway be changed or removed. This impacts our timeline and increases it by at least three to four months.

This is, obviously, disappointing news to all of us. I should say all of us—except for God. Why? Why isn't He disappointed that we are delayed in the process of actively serving Him on the new property in Akron? For the same reason He wasn't disappointed that Jesus didn't come to earth in Noah's time or when Moses was born or when Esther was approaching the king or at the time of the judges. Because the time had not and has not yet fully come. We can't see or understand the reasoning; but God is not thrown off or disappointed by this and we should not be either. We need to continue to look to Him for guidance and strength through the times when we struggle because the future is not here yet. And, we need to seek to serve Him as best we can in our current positions and with our current resources.

In 1 Corinthians and 2 Timothy, Paul references the Christian life, comparing it to a race. Trusting in God's timing isn't simply sitting back and watching the world go by. We need to run! We need to strive toward what God has for us. For those of you following the H\*VMI Property Project, you may have hoped that this race would be a sprint; but it is turning out to be a marathon. If we're being transparent and hold to the metaphor, we would say it's a marathon with hurdles and some surprise left turns! However, the length of the race should not negatively affect our perception of the outcome. When we think about the different types of runners, who do you think desires the finish line more: a sprinter who runs 100 yards in 10–11 seconds or the marathon runner who has been on his or her feet for 2-3 hours? That finish line is far sweeter for the long distance runner who has had all that time through the struggle and pain to imagine what completing the long journey will be like.

We are all in this long distance race together. Keep looking with me to the finish line. God is there, and He knows how sweet it will be.



Editor's note: BE ON THE LOOKOUT! We will send you a prayer reminder when we know the date of the necessary second Conditional Use Hearing. Your prayers

for all previous hearings have been answered with a resounding "YES!" Let's do it again!



## 2019-2020 H\*VMI CALENDAR

Contact us or visit our website for additional information about any of these ministry programs OR to RSVP for upcoming events!

717.859.4777

[hvmi.org](http://hvmi.org)

- October 17** H\*VMI at Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community Wellness Fair  
Quarryville PA
- October 22** Disability Training Seminar at Lancaster Bible College  
Lancaster PA
- November 16** North Jersey Area Ministry Fundraising Luncheon  
River View Banquet Center  
Berkeley Heights NJ
- November 22** The Extraordinary Give Event
- April 18, 2020** South Jersey Area Ministry Fundraising Luncheon  
The Grove  
Pittsgrove Township NJ

### MONTHLY MINISTRIES (see article on page 6)

- **Support groups for bereaved parents** currently meeting in Harrington DE; and Akron, Aldan, Lavelle, Lebanon, Paradise and Quarryville PA.
- **Support groups for parents of children with disabilities**, Collingswood NJ and Akron PA.
- **Bible clubs** for children, teens and adults with developmental disabilities, Collingswood NJ and Akron PA.

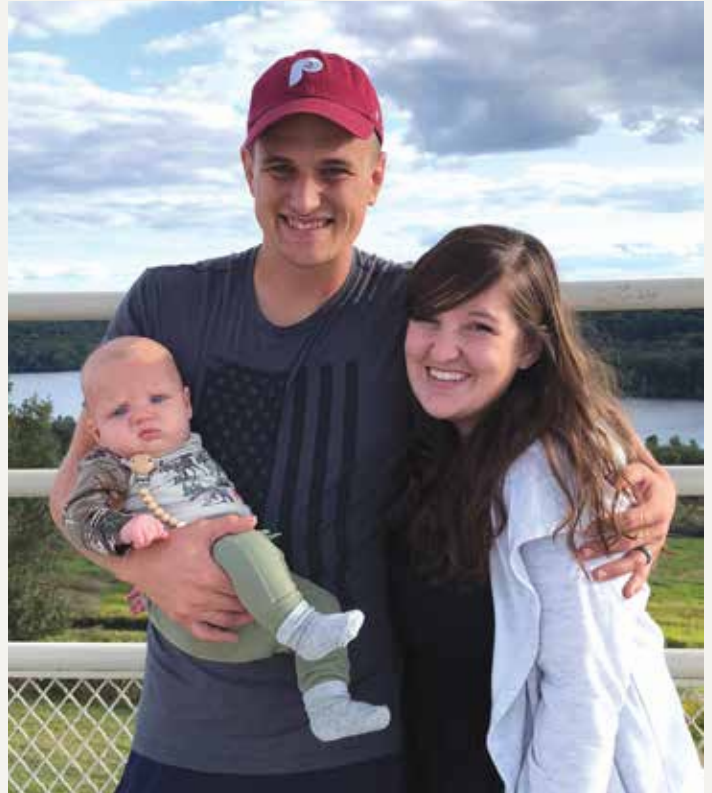
### NEW this year in the Lancaster County area:

- **After-school Bible club** group for younger children with developmental disabilities; and
- **Adult Bible Study** for individuals with physical disabilities. Both at the H\*VMI Office, Ephrata PA.

# Welcome to Our New H\*VMI Missionary

*Meghan Martin*

For those of you who have been following my Associate Missionary adventure, it has been quite a journey! With every step forward, I seemed to take two steps back; but it was all for my good and His glory. To take you down memory lane: I started the Associate Missionary process in August of 2016. The setback at that point was that I was still living and teaching special education in central PA. I served there for two years waiting on the Lord for the next step. The Lord then led me a step closer when I married my husband, Devin Martin, and I moved to the Lancaster County area (20 minutes from the H\*VMI office). With minimal financial support at the time, I was not able to jump right into H\*VMI like I had hoped, so I found a teaching job and continued to serve in my Associate Missionary role. We, once again, waited on the Lord for the next step; but it seemed that we were only taking steps back. I started teaching at Solanco, an hour commute from home; and one month later we found out we were also pregnant with our first child. I remember crying on the way to work many mornings asking God how He was going to make this work. We were newly married, working far away from home with a baby on the way. H\*VMI seemed like an even more distant dream. But God worked in ways we never imagined. Kyle (Robinson, H\*VMI's new Executive Director) approached Devin and me in the spring with a plan that was created by the H\*VMI Board. It would provide temporary financial support so I would be able to step into ministry earlier than any of us expected. Devin and I spent the spring and summer praying and felt the Lord's calling to follow this plan for our lives. In May, we welcomed our first child, Wesson Cole Martin, and I am pleased to announce that, as of August 12, 2019, I am a fulltime missionary with H\*VMI. As we look back on the steps that brought us here we can see the Lord's



Hand in every step and setback. If I didn't work an hour from home, it would have been difficult to say "yes" to this new step. If we didn't have a new baby at home, it would have been difficult to say "yes" to this new step. The Lord had a greater plan than we could have ever imagined and we continue to praise Him for His work in bringing me to H\*VMI today. I am being welcomed in as a Disability Ministries Assistant. With my teaching background, I will be planning for and teaching Bible clubs as well as visiting female campers/guests, writing devotions and helping with all things Handi\*Camp. I am blessed to be part of this ministry family!

*Meghan Martin*

## Serve Christ - Serve Others - Serve With H\*VMI!

Visit our website and click on the GET INVOLVED tab.

Go to [humi.org](http://humi.org) and keep up with:

- Blogs
- Resources
- Ministry Events and Dates
- Missionary Information
- Property Updates

Make a donation online for H\*VMI or for the ministry of a designated missionary. Shop by going through links on our site and H\*VMI will get a percentage from your purchases. Look for the *AmazonSmile*, *eBay* and *iGive* links.



# A Productive Summer



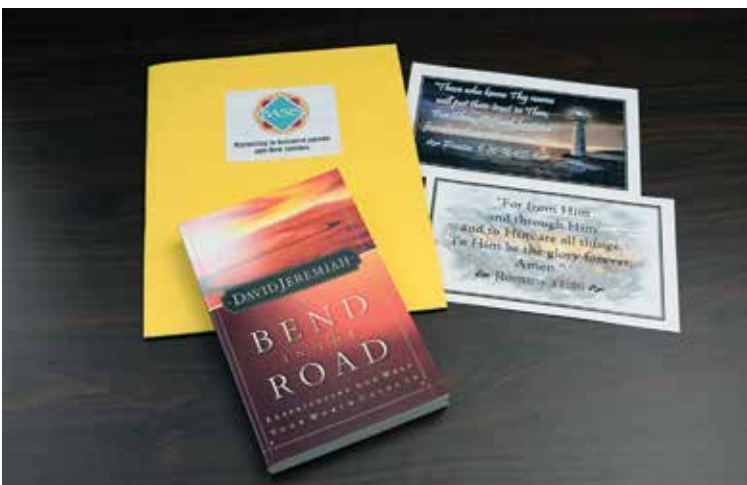
## HANDI\*CAMP May 27-July 11

*"The way I saw the staff serve campers' physical and emotional needs was something I haven't seen before. It was refreshing and challenged me in how I would love others."*



## YARD SALE July 26-27

One small picture showing some of the many items sold. We also had several opportunities to share about the ministries of H\*VMI and to especially talk about the development of our new property.



## BASIS LEADERS' TRAINING DAY September 7

*"A great day to fellowship with other leaders, to hear what's happening in their groups, pray for each other and to learn more about the Sovereignty of God in our profound hurt."*  
—A BASIS leader



## GOLF OUTING September 12

Our 2019 Golf Outing was a great success. We are thankful for all who sponsored, donated and golfed.

# er and Fall at H\*VMI



## BASIS PICNIC August 10

*"So good to talk, laugh and play games with others who know the pain of losing a child." "I appreciate the BASIS ministry so much! I don't know how I would have survived those first few years after Stephen was killed if I didn't have a BASIS support group."*



## DISABILITY MINISTRIES PICNIC August 17

More than 100 people attended! It was a great day in spite of thirty minutes of torrential rain about midway through the picnic.



## PA BANQUET October 5

Milt Stoltzfus, Coordinator of Spiritual Nurture and Community Life, Friendship Community, Lancaster PA was our banquet speaker. The following is excerpted from his presentation:

*"You may have heard the expression 'wearing many hats.' I call the folks at H\*VMI the wearers of many hats. Their ministries (hats) of counseling, teaching, consoling, guiding, encouraging, preparing, stretching, sharing, giving and so many more "ings" are powerful and needed ministries. Romans 12:6-8 tells us 'We have different gifts (hats), according to the grace given to each of us...' I am grateful that my friends at H\*VMI wear their hats and use their gifts faithfully and to the glory of God: at summer camp, Bible Club, while meeting with parents, teaching lessons at nursing homes, etc.. They share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the love of God. I see these gifts shared specifically with a number of my Friendship Community friends who participate in summer camp and Bible Club. The lessons my friends learn and the friendships they enjoy cause them much excitement for each event. The H\*VMI 'hats' have an impact on many lives and I am grateful that the H\*VMI team and supporters wear their hats well—to the glory of God!"*

# We're Busy – and Very Happy About It!

H\*VMI Missionaries, Ministry Staff and Volunteers are busy about our Father's work in many ways. As you read the calendar published in each issue of *Increase*, you read about many H\*VMI events. Of course, there's Handi\*Camp. Preparation begins for that right after camp ends each summer. And, this issue of *Increase* mentions the H\*VMI Yard Sale, two ministry picnics, our Golf Outing, one of our many seminars and training events, our Annual PA Banquet and now two Annual Luncheons (one in North Jersey and one in South Jersey). We also write our own curriculum for camp, Bible clubs and

seminars; and, with the assistance of our own outstanding graphic artist, we publish ministry brochures, events flyers and three newsletters: the General Ministry Newsletter, *Increase*; the BASIS Newsletter, *Renew*; and a newsletter for parents of children with disabilities, *Heart to Heart*. You can find lots going on every week day at the H\*VMI office, preparing for all the above—but also preparing for our regular *monthly* ministry opportunities (below).

***We can't do this without prayer support. Will you pray, please?***

H*VMI'S MONTHLY MINISTRIES					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	<b>Family Day</b> H*VMI Staff Meeting  <b>Bible Club</b> Melmark	<b>BASIS Support Group</b> Lebanon PA		<b>BASIS Support Group</b> Harrington DE  <b>Bible Club</b> Lancaster PA	<b>NOTE:</b> BASIS is H*VMI's ministry for bereaved parents. PIP is H*VMI's ministry for parents of children with a disability.  Melmark, Inglis House, Maple Farm, Elwyn and Voorhees are private residential facilities.
WEEK 2	<b>PIP Support Group</b> Lancaster PA	<b>BASIS Support Group</b> Paradise PA  <b>Bible Study</b> Inglis House  <b>Bible Club</b> Lancaster PA Kids		<b>PIP Support Group</b> Collingswood NJ  <b>Bible Club</b> Collingswood NJ	
WEEK 3	<b>BASIS Support Group</b> Quarryville PA  <b>Bible Study</b> Sunny Crest	<b>BASIS Support Group</b> Akron PA  <b>BASIS Support Group</b> Aldan PA	<b>Bible Study</b> Maple Farm Nursing Home	<b>Bible Club</b> Elwyn  <b>Bible Study</b> Lancaster PA Adult	
WEEK 4		<b>Visitation</b> Inglis House			
					<b>Last Friday of the Month</b>  <b>Bible Study</b> Voorhees NJ Nursing Home

We're ready, willing and very hopeful to have more missionaries, ministry staff and volunteers join the H\*VMI team. There's plenty for everyone to do! Contact us for details. If God isn't leading you to join us and actually DO these ministries, please—please—please PRAY. That's even more important.

# The Changeless One

By Tim Sheetz, Founder and Ministry Ambassador



Seasons change. We've just said "good-bye" to Summer. Here, on the east coast, we're now enjoying the incredible beauty of the Fall landscape. We're also dodging school buses on the highways and setting the timers on the lights in our home to turn on earlier. For most of us,

vacation is now just a fond memory. Some of us welcome one extra hour of sleep because of Daylight Saving Time. We're moving the rake to the forefront of our shed in preparation for falling leaves. And, we're moving closer to the time when we watch the weather report more intently because another change is on the horizon: Winter—with its dangerous, icy roads!

There is one thing in life that we can count on—one thing that's certain. Throughout our lives we will face CHANGE! Health, location, job, relationships, income... I'm sure you can add to this list. Some changes allow for easy adjustment. Some changes are life-altering, challenging, even daunting. Some changes are good such as God changing us into the image of His Son. Some changes break our hearts as when we have to say "good-bye" to someone we love. Frankly, I don't know many people who like—change!

However, Believers in Jesus can also rejoice that the God of ALL seasons, the God Who is Sovereign over ALL of life's changes, never Himself changes. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that "**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.**" Malachi 3:6 comforts us to know that "**I, the LORD do not change.**"

Think of what it means to belong to a God Who never changes, especially in your ever-changing life:

***His love for us is always constant. Romans 8:38, 39***

***He'll never leave nor forsake you or me. Hebrews 13:5***

***His comfort and aid is available to us 24/7. John 14:16***

***We can be certain that whatever changes He directs or allows in our lives will be for our good and His glory.***

***Isaiah 43:19***

These are but a few of the many promises that God will always make available to us. These things will never change. We can count on these promises. We can count on Him. Embracing the truth of this should bring peace and encouragement as we face the minor and significant changes in our lives; and give us the ability to respond to change with gratitude, trust and, yes, even thanksgiving!

## change-less

/CHänjiles/

adjective: **changeless**

remaining the same.

"changeless truths"

synonyms: unchanging, unvarying, timelss, static, standing, fixed, permanent, constant, unchanged, fast, consistent, uniform, undeviating; stable steady, unchangeable, unaltrable, invariable, immutable; lasting, long-lasting, abiding, enduring, persistent, indefinite, continuing, perpetual, everlasting, perennial, unending, endless, never-ending

THE **EXTRA**<sup>TM</sup>  
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THE  
DATE

NOVEMBER 22, 2019  
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24 HOURS  
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(midnight to  
midnight)

**H\*VMI  
needs your  
help!**

See enclosed  
flyer for  
more details.



# Handi\*Vangelism Ministries International™

A Ministry of Compassion since 1973

Executive Director: Kyle Robinson

## Mission Statement

H\*VMI exists to share the compassion of Christ by walking alongside individuals facing life's challenges and equipping others to do the same.

## Vision Statement

H\*VMI provides support, programs, resources and training so the people we serve may be included as growing and serving members of the Body of Christ.

For more information, contact us at:

**H\*VMI**

**PO Box 122 • Akron PA 17501-0122**

Phone: 717.859.4777

Email: [info@hvmi.org](mailto:info@hvmi.org)

Website: [hvmi.org](http://hvmi.org)



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Enhancing Trust

*Increase* is published quarterly.

Editor: Kathy Sheetz

Graphic Design: Claire Krout

## Ministry Departments

### BASIS

Ministering to bereaved parents and their families through a support system of personal contact, newsletters, support groups and other activities.

### Disability Ministries

Discipleship • Handi\*Camp • PIP • Training

Providing encouragement, Biblical instruction and recreational opportunities for people with disabilities through year-round programs and summer camp; supporting parents of children with disabilities through resources, special events and group meetings; and training individuals and churches to better understand and meet the needs of people with disabilities and their families through seminars and awareness events.

### International

Training national workers throughout the world as they develop ministry outreaches to people with special needs and life challenges.

### Minds Renewed

Helping people address mental health issues personally or with a loved one.

### REST Ministries

Offering hope to the hurting, abused and addicted, in the church and in the community.

### Seminars

Helping people facing life challenges; and training Christian workers on topics such as grief and loss, mental health, abuse, divorce and disability.

### Twilight Senior Ministries

Serving senior citizens and their families.



**I want to help H\*VMI's General Ministry Fund.** These funds enable ALL H\*VMI programs to operate and grow.

Please print your contact information below.

Please accept my/our gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .

All financial gifts are tax-deductible. **Thank you!**

**Method of Payment:**  Cash  Check (Please make checks payable to H\*VMI.)

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AmExpress

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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▲ City \_\_\_\_\_

▲ State \_\_\_\_\_ ▲ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

▲ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ ▲ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send me information about:**

- Automatic withdrawal from my bank account (EFT)  Gifts of Stock
- Planned Giving Opportunities



# Mark Your Calendar Now!

## Friday, November 22, 2019

Extraordinary Give, Lancaster County's Largest Day of Giving and **H\*VMI's largest fundraiser for our General Ministry Fund. In SIX years of GIVE involvement, we've received a total of \$279,226.19** in donations, stretch pool and prizes—WOW! Thanks to so many ministry friends for supporting us in this giving event.



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*A Ministry of Compassion since 1973*

PO Box 122, Akron PA 17501

717.859.4777 • hvmi.org

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Serving senior citizens and their families.

Support Our Organization During

# THE EXTRA ORDINARY GIVE™

NOVEMBER 22, 2019

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## WE NEED YOUR HELP



## Hand\*Vangelism Ministries International™

*A Ministry of Compassion since 1973*

On November 22, **donate to H\*VMI at ExtraGive.org** and your generous gift will be stretched by more than a HALF MILLION DOLLARS in stretch pool and prizes from the Lancaster County Community Foundation and sponsors.



## Please prayerfully consider how you can help H\*VMI in 2019!

**For 24-hours only** (midnight to midnight), visit [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org), make an online credit card donation designated to H\*VMI (*new \$10 minimum this year—to encourage more first-time donors to give*). Your gift will be stretched by a percentage of the **\$500,000+** stretch pool provided by event sponsors. ANYONE can give—you don't have to live in Lancaster County.

### Ways to Give Your Donation to H\*VMI an Extra Boost

- Give during **"Midnight Madness."** *The first 20 organizations receiving gifts from 50 unique donors will receive a \$500 prize. ("A unique donor is defined as one instance of a name and one instance of a credit card number. Each must be unique.")* Please consider staying up late Thursday night to give **right at midnight**—or contact Brian Robinson, H\*VMI Office Manager (cell phone 717-475-5864). We are willing to use your credit card info and instructions to make a donation on your behalf to help us win this prize.
- Give during **"Magic Minute"**—a new prize opportunity. During the exact minute between 11:22:00 a.m. and 11:22:59 a.m., the first 100 organizations that receive a unique donation will each receive a prize of \$100!
- Give during **Golden Ticket Timeslots**. Four donations will be randomly picked during each of 11 different timeslots and a \$500 prize will be added to those donations. So time your gift during one of these slots—maybe it will be a prize-winner: **12-2 am, 5-6 am, 6-8 am, 9-11 am, 12-2 pm, 3-4 pm, 5-7 pm, 7-9 pm, 9-10 pm, 10-11 pm, 11 pm-12 am.**
- **Consider including the 4.99% processing fee as part of your donation.** This was first offered as an option in 2018. *This year, the giving page's DEFAULT setting is that the fee will be included. You can "un-check" it if you don't want to include the fee in your donation.*

### Recruit Friends to Donate to H\*VMI

More gifts will mean more dollars—and maybe another prize—**"Donor Rush"**—*To encourage overall donor growth, 45 organizations will each receive a prize for growing their number of unique donors in 2019 compared to their number of unique donors in 2018. Organizations will be divided into 3 categories based on their number of unique donors from 2018: 1-49, 50-99, 100+ (H\*VMI's category). In each category, the 15 organizations with the greatest net increase in the number of unique donors in 2019 vs. 2018 will each receive a \$500 prize!*

#### How can you recruit donors?

- Pass this flyer to a friend who doesn't know much about H\*VMI (contact Brian to request more flyers if needed).
- Become a "Fundraising Champion" for H\*VMI. You'll then get email and online resources to encourage friends to donate. Email Brian ([brobinson@hvmi.org](mailto:brobinson@hvmi.org)) to get signed up.
- Talk up H\*VMI and tell people WHY YOU DONATE—in person or via social media. Use #IGiveExtra in any communications you make.

All donors will receive a tax-deductible receipt from the Lancaster County Community Foundation by email immediately after an online gift is made. H\*VMI will receive a list of donors so we can say a big THANK YOU!

## Check list for November 22

### MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT

- Go to **ExtraGive.org**
-  Select (in the search field): **Handi\*Vangelism Ministries International**
- Have your credit card information ready. *Minimum of \$10 per transaction, give as many times as you are able.*

### Give during the following Prize Timeslots and keep track of your giving.

#### Midnight Madness

- 12:00 am \_\_\_\_\_

#### Golden Ticket Timeslots

- 12-2 am \_\_\_\_\_
- 5-6 am \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-8 am \_\_\_\_\_
- 9-11 am \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-2 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-4 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 5-7 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-9 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 9-10 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-11 pm \_\_\_\_\_
- 11pm-12 am \_\_\_\_\_

#### Magic Minute

- 11:22:00 am-11:22:59 am \_\_\_\_\_

**When You Give Extra, Extraordinary Things Happen!**  
**Mark your Calendars—Nov. 22! [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org)**



Pass the word along. Cut off this panel and give the remaining brochure to a friend.