



Handi*Vangelism Ministries International™

A Ministry of Compassion since 1973



April 2023

H*VMI Ministry Center Construction

by Kyle Robinson, Executive Director



On February 14th B.R. Kreider began excavating on the H*VMI Ministry Center Site! God answered our prayers: the weather cleared up and God gave us access to free fill dirt and stone to use.

Anticipated Construction Schedule for Step One (Site Excavation and Office):

- **March:** major grading completed on east side of site
- **April:** office and parking lot pads completed
- **May:** office up and under roof
- **June:** exterior of office completed
- **July:** office interior electrical, plumbing and mechanical completed; parking lot and sidewalk paving
- **August:** office interior finished and inspected
- **August/September:** office move!

As we complete this first Step by August/September 2023, the H*VMI Office will be finished as well as the site excavation for the entire property. Steps two, three and four will be the other buildings and features planned for

the H*VMI Ministry Center. We are confident that God will provide as He has in the past for this project, Step by Step.

In order to complete this first Step, we still need about 2.1 million dollars. That number has gone up slightly since late last year due to rising construction costs and some additional necessary components for this part of the project.



In addition to the obvious benefits of H*VMI having our own office, here are some ways we will be able to use this first building after we move in:

- Bible clubs/studies for people with disabilities.
- Support groups for parents of children with disabilities.
- Support groups for parents who have lost a child.
- Seminars for churches seeking to better serve those facing life's challenges in their congregation.

Each one reading this, and H*VMI's other updates, are a part of what God is doing through this ministry. H*VMI is striving to build a home of our own. A permanent home where we can touch the lives of those who have disabilities, those who are journeying through grief and their families, and equip others to do the



same. Would you help us by making this part of your LEGACY by investing in this project with us, through a monthly donation or one-time gift? God has already used people like you to provide each Step along the way. We are confident in His continued provision and are excited for what's ahead.



ONE NAME-JESUS

by Tara Kelley, Director of Disability Ministries / Training & Equipping

Please read the following Name: **JESUS**.

When you see, hear or read that Name, what does it evoke in your heart, mind and spirit? For many these days, that Name is nothing more than an off-handed word used in frustration or anger. But for those of us who know the PERSON the Name represents, there is so much more: the Name that is the source of peace, comfort, power, redemption and hope we all long for. An old hymn contains the line, "There's just something about that Name..."—and in the lives of those H*VMI serves, from the youngest to the oldest, that has proven oh so true!

This summer, someone donated a giant six-foot plus stuffed "Jesus" to the ministry. When "Jesus" first made an appearance at Handi*Camp, the children flocked to Him! They stroked His face. Fixed His tunic. Pushed their way in to be the next one in line to give Him a hug. They even took turns climbing onto His lap! (No wonder God's Word says, "Let the little children come...") ***Their passionate desire to be close to "Jesus" could not be quenched.***

During the off-camp season, "giant Jesus" stays in our office. Honestly, it is not the easiest thing to find a place to keep Him!



At first "Jesus" rotated through the office sitting in vacant chairs, but He kept startling those who walked around the corner and saw "someone" sitting at the desk! So, giant Jesus eventually made His way into our playroom. One day, an almost two year old who was visiting saw "Jesus" and instantly became enamored with Him. During rest time, instead of sleeping, little Ben cried for more than 45 minutes because he wanted "Jesus" to be in his

pack-n-play so they could nap together! The only intelligible word we could understand Ben saying that entire time was His NAME: JESUS! Later, after giving up on naptime, little Ben and giant Jesus moved to the playroom floor. Immediately, Ben got down and curled up in Jesus' arms. His dream came true—he got to be with Jesus! Ben gave a big smile and let out a relieved, "Ahhhh!" Ben's encounter with "Jesus" was a precious, tangible picture of the TRUTHS of His NAME (Who He is) that we share with those we serve:

- In our BASIS Support groups, parents who have lost a child to miscarriage or stillbirth find comfort and hope through devotionals reminding them of His NAME. These parents may never have been able to hold or get to know their precious little one, but that child is Home—"cuddled up" and safe in the arms of the real Jesus! WOW! Why? His NAME holds PROMISE!
- In our Bible clubs, we often revisit the song many of us learned when we were younger: *Jesus Loves Me*. At the sound of His Name through a familiar song, the challenging behaviors of a child with Autism still. The room gets quiet. Through a sign, a vocalization, wide eyes or a big smile, Bible clubbers communicate their delight in Him. In His Name. Why? His NAME has POWER!
- In our ministry in residential facilities among seniors with Alzheimer's or dementia, at the mention of His Name, furled brows soften. The disengaged suddenly lift their heads and make eye-contact as if to say, "I know that Name—and oh the comfort it brings to my soul!" Why? His NAME brings PEACE!

One NAME: JESUS! The Name above every other name. The Name at which someday every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. The Name we train and equip others to spread among those who are grieving or impacted by disability. Why? Because His NAME is the only one with the POWER to SAVE (Acts 4:12)... from the youngest in our playroom to the oldest in a nursing home. Because His NAME has the POWER to defeat the greatest of enemies and yet the TENDERNESS to quiet the youngest of souls. May His Name be sacred on our lips, and may we, by His grace, continue to proclaim it to this lost and hurting world! Indeed, *THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT THAT NAME!*





Prayer

Follow prayer needs at: hvmi.org/pray

- **PRAISE** for each step of progress on the Ministry Center Project. PRAY for safety for the workers and His provision for all that is needed to finish the work.
- **PRAY** for sensitivity as the BASIS team ministers to bereaved parents, especially when first meeting new people who have been referred to us.
- **PRAY** that the information shared through H*VMI's training seminars will help attendees to better minister to people who are grieving and/or affected by disability.
- **PRAY** for provision of all the needs for Handi*Camp: creativity in planning Bible curriculum, lessons and activities; summer staff; supplies; staff housing; and meals.



H*VMI Upcoming Events

Visit hvmi.org/upcoming-events

or call our office at 717.859.4777 for details or to RSVP.

- Monthly** **Bible Clubs and Support Groups**
Check our website for locations and times.
- April 29** **BASIS Breakfast**
(for bereaved parents and those who want to support them)
Yoder's Banquet Center, New Holland PA
- June–July** **Handi*Camp**
Ephrata PA
- Thursdays in August** **Lessons on the Lawn**
(location TBA)
- August 5** **Handi*Camp, PIP and Bible Club Picnic**
Akron PA
- September 14** **Annual Charity Golf Outing**
Tanglewood Manor Golf Club, Quarryville PA
- September** **All-Family 50th Birthday Party for H*VMI**
(date and location TBA)
- October 14** **50th Anniversary Celebration at the Lancaster County Area Ministry Luncheon**
Yoder's Banquet Center, New Holland PA

Watch for special Anniversary events and surprises throughout the year as we celebrate God's faithfulness through 50 years of ministry!

Help Us—Help Others

YES! I/We want to partner with H*VMI in proclaiming His NAME and equipping others to proclaim His NAME among those who are grieving or impacted by disability:

\$ _____ one time monthly

I/We want to help with a special gift toward construction of the Ministry Center: \$ _____ one time monthly

Method of Payment

Make your gift securely online at: hvmi.org/donate

Text **GIVE** to **717.210.4759**, on your phone

Scan this QR code with your phone.

My check payable to H*VMI is enclosed.

Please bill my credit card: Visa MasterCard Discover AmEx



▲ Credit Card No.

▲ Exp. Date (MM/YY)

▲ Security Code

▲ Signature

▲ Date

▲ Name *(if giving by credit card, please print your name as shown on the card.)*

▲ Street or PO Box

▲ City

▲ State

▲ Zip

▲ Phone

▲ Email

Please complete information above, cut off and return to address below.

We need your name for receipting purposes.

Thank you for providing an envelope.



Enhancing Trust

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