

***“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.”***

Matthew 7 : 15—16a (NASB)

I was watching TV the other evening, when a particular commercial caught my eye ... and ears. It was an advertisement for a “Disney on Ice” production that is coming to a particular city. The theme for the show is entitled “Mickey & Friends.” Now, I must admit, my initial reaction to this, or any, ice skating production was, “What a waste of a hockey rink.” I’m simply not a fan of figure skating or musical productions or the like. I know that causes the hair to stand up on the backs of some folks’ necks. And if you’re offended, I apologize. But that isn’t what I wanted to address.

During the commercial, the announcer made the comment, “*Come and find out what the true meaning of family is.*” That statement hit me like a ton of bricks. I wondered to myself, “Did he really just say that?” Since when did the Disney Company gain the right to define for the world what a *true family* might look like? I realize that for many years, Walt Disney Productions and Disney, Inc. have been in the business of providing family entertainment. I remember watching the Disney show on television on Sunday evenings when I was a kid, and how good many of those presentations were. I went to my share of Disney movies at theaters, too. Now, I have to be honest. Many of them bored me. But, I do remember that a couple of them, “The Scarecrow of Romney Marsh” and “Song of the South” captivated me. And, I am definitely aware that many of your children and grandchildren have grown up with all the Disney princesses, heroes/heroines, stories and songs. I have no problem with any of that.

What bothers me is that God invented the concept of family, and only **He** has the right to define for us what that truly is. In the Garden of Eden, God brought forth Adam and Eve, established them as husband and wife, commanded them to be fruitful and multiply – to raise children, and to establish the concept of family for all of us. Throughout the Scriptures, God’s Word gives us examples of what



*... be on the lookout for the likes of these “false prophets.”*

family is, and shows us both the good and bad sides of family. God did not hold back when it came to the uglier side of family situations. Noah’s family were spared from the flood, but his son, Ham had issues which affected the whole family. David was a man after God’s heart, but he **and** his children exhibited behaviors that brought calamity upon themselves. Even Jesus’ own brothers and sisters thought Jesus was crazy, and that he should be dealt with accordingly.

The Apostle Paul addressed the issues of family many times in his writings. He spends a great deal of time talking about marriage and family matters in I Corinthians 7 & 11, Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3. As a matter of fact, we just concluded our Wednesday night study of the Book of Colossians, and we spent a good amount of time examining that Chapter 3 passage. I truly believe that God inspired Paul to write so much about family, because family is the Church in miniature. Discipleship is supposed to take place in the realm of family. What we learn about Christ from our parents, grandparents, and others is to be reinforced in the Church, and taken to the world.



It is not the responsibility of entertainers, corporations, or public figures to usurp the authority of God, and try to tell us what God has already clearly and succinctly determined. Jesus warned His followers to be on the lookout for the likes of these “false prophets.” He said that we will know them by their fruit. Let’s remember that Disney, and other such entities, are in the business of making money. Is it OK for them to put on shows? Absolutely. Let them bring their skaters, production crew, costumes, music, and special effects. Let them charge admission and provide entertainment for those who want to see it. The same goes for sports teams, musicians, actors/actresses, artists and so on. If they can take our minds off of our troubles for a couple of hours, while producing a wholesome show, more power to them. But please be cautious when they, or others, begin to overstep their bounds and try to take on the role of God. Only He has that right. What was said in the commercial was subtle, but scary. Don’t be taken in by anyone in sheep’s clothing.





## Church Committee Meetings

It's important that all committee members be present at scheduled meetings. Be sure to contact the Chairperson if you are unable to attend.

### Staff/Parish Relations Committee

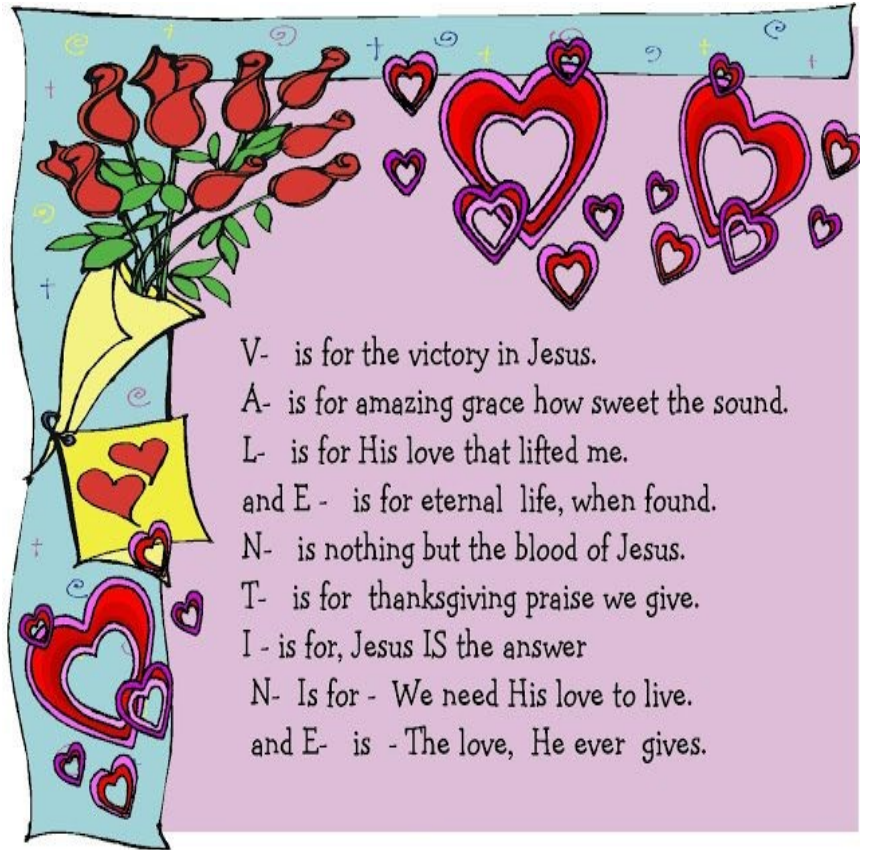
Monday, February 7 @ 7:00 PM  
CHAIR:

### Administrative Board

Monday, February 14 @ 6:30 PM  
CHAIR: Tim Renn

### Trustees

Monday, February 28 @ 6:00 PM  
CHAIR: Roger Cunningham



V- is for the victory in Jesus.  
A- is for amazing grace how sweet the sound.  
L- is for His love that lifted me.  
and E - is for eternal life, when found.  
N- is nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
T- is for thanksgiving praise we give.  
I - is for, Jesus IS the answer  
N- Is for - We need His love to live.  
and E- is - The love, He ever gives.

**Baby Shower for Joe & Kristen (Holsinger) Bernard – Gender is a surprise!!**



**Haiti Mission Society  
3179 Macedonia Road  
Bethel, OH 45106**

*And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.*  
—Daniel 12:3

January 5, 2022

**Greetings in the name of Jesus to our many faithful sponsors**

We appreciate all of you who have stood by us, by God's help, in a stressful year for House of Faith Orphanage and our mountain ministries. We did not go to Haiti again this year, but communicated with Haiti through Facebook, phone, and text.

The year 2021 was a quick year for HOF Orphanage. Some good and some bad things happened. We had no damage when the August 14th 7.2 magnitude earthquake happened. Over 2,000 people were killed in Haiti and over 12,000 injured. At least 137,500 buildings were damaged or destroyed.

The violent gangs with kidnappings, murder, threats to our director, Bato, and injustice has been in the minds of many Haitian people who have suffered so much.

We had 18 boys at the beginning of 2021, but 7 of them aged out at the rented house in October. Two other boys left on their own. We found 2 new boys, Garryson, (10 years old), and Angelo (5 years old), brothers to join us. They came to our gate every day and Bato fed them. They would leave and go back to their father each night, but one night they decided to just sleep in the back of our truck. In the morning, Bato asked them how they got back in and they said they had never left. So, Bato asked if we could keep them since we had the extra beds. Their mom had left, and their father was too poor to help them in school or to feed them.

We do have one of the older boys, Kiki, that will stay on and help Bato with the boys, and Rodelin who started in the university, thanks to a couple in Texas who are paying his way.

Our Evangelism and Bible with Pastor Jn. Wilso (Bato) cost \$600, plus the evangelism money spent in the mountains of Da Bois Rouge and Lascacaos with Pastor Drix. We have two school and a clinic there.

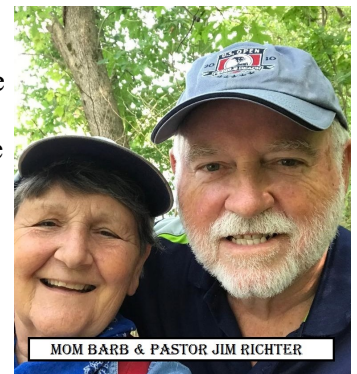
We installed more security bars on the upper porch to keep everyone safe at House of Faith Orphanage.


Food for the orphanage for the year was \$11,700. We thank God that the boys always had food twice a day. God is our provider. We did not have any major sickness with any of the boys.

We look forward to see what God will do for House of Faith in the New Year 2022.

In His Name, *Rev. Jim & "Mom" Barb Richter*

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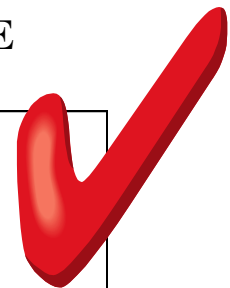


**OFFERINGS**

January 2	\$2,611.00
January 9	\$1,989.00
January 16	\$2,661.00
January 23	\$3,086.00

**ATTENDANCE**

January 2	51
January 9	34
January 16	38
January 23	46




*With Thanks*

Thanks for your support for House of Faith Orphanage each month. We are down to 12 boys in the orphanage since 5 of the older ones have aged out and left us. I miss all of them. I have not seen any of the boys in person in 3 years because of the pandemic and violence in Haiti.

We were able to give all the boys one \$25 gift and a nice meal for Christmas and New Year's celebration. There is a special meal everyone in Haiti tries to make for New Year's Day.

Things are still bad in Haiti. Kidnapping, murder, vandalism, etc. We are trusting God's protection over House of Faith Orphanage and the boys and our director, Bato and his family. Food prices are three times higher and gasoline is \$20 a gallon.

May God continue to bless you in the New Year 2022. We appreciate all of you. Love, "Mom" Barb Richter

Thank you for your thoughtfulness, generosity, Christmas cards, prayers, support, and love. It has been difficult being out of church for so long, but the Lord is with me and I find comfort in His presence and encouragement listening to Pastor Pete's messages. Love and prayers to all, *Connie Snyder*



- 6 Jim Richter
- 9 Ruth Mershon
- 10 Denise Book
- 12 Laura Lyon
- 13 Dan Artis
- 17 Amy Ballengee
- 18 Joy Ballengee
- 23 Richard Phillips
- 23 Josh Saunders
- 23 Dan Peeles
- 24 Teresa Book
- 24 Gloria Riddle
- 27 Kathy Davis



- 4 Steve & Bev Mignerey
- 11 Kenny & Christy Irwin
- 17 David & Mary Maple
- 26 Dick & Gloria Riddle
- 27 Donnie & Pam Richards

**Administrative Board Highlights for  
Monday, November 8, 2021**

**Attendance: (5), Pastor Pete Shaffer, Paul & Sondi Conley, Linda Horner, and Rhonda Hammond.** Pastor Pete opened the meeting and said the prayer.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

Beginning Balance	\$26,581.17
Offerings	\$26,449.06
Expenses	<u>\$17,355.80</u>
Ending Balance	\$35,674.43

**PASTOR'S SCHEDULE**

- Wednesday Jan 12<sup>th</sup> Bible Study resumes
- Thursday Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Painting Party
- Conference was going to have a training meeting in Jan. but it has been postponed to late February

**TRUSTEE** did not meet in December

**PPRC**

- Discussed Pete's schedule and the holiday season.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Christmas Eve service—was very good

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Lenten Services—Ash Wednesday is March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor Pete and his clergy cluster group discussed the community Lenten services. It was decided that each church would ask and see who wants to have services with No refreshments after the service. Pete said that S. Webster Grace and Valley both said yes they would like to host a service. Paul and Linda both said yes for Nauvoo to host. Still waiting on Burg and Oldtown/Friendship to answer.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Songfest—we are going to try this beginning January 30<sup>th</sup>. A sign-up sheet will be put out 2 weeks before for people to write down their favorite hymns from our church hymnal. They will then be song during the morning worship time.
- Easter Egg Hunt—Fire Dept said yes to having the Egg Hunt there on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and to supplying the help needed. Need to talk to Leichia to see if she agrees.

Pastor Pete closed the meeting.

**Next meeting will be February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.**

Minutes submitted by Rhonda Hammond



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

