

Trailblazer

Keeping in touch, seeking your prayer and involvement.

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Enjoying the Ride

"Are we almost there yet?" a little voice squeaks from the back seat.

"About 350 miles left," Dad answers. There is silence for about two full minutes.

"Now are we almost there?"

Mom pipes in, "Just sit back and enjoy the ride." Every parent has answered an impatient young rider at some time or another. The anticipation of arrival causes minutes to drag by. But that's not just the case for kids; it is true for us adults as well. We all want to get there now. In our longings for destina-

tions, however, we can tend to miss out on the enjoyment of the ride.

Since our kids are growing up fast, we don't often have to answer the "Are we almost there yet?" question. But in our ministry, we have frequently found ourselves answering a similar one: "When is West Branch going to open?" It is a question that we are not only trying to answer, but we have found ourselves asking God from time to time as well. While He has not shown us a precise answer to that question, He has said, "Sit back and enjoy



the ride!"

And we sure have been! We have seen ministry opportunities that we would not have seen if the campground were already completed. Our second annual **Men on the Move Conference** in Fort Collins, Colorado, is just one example. Throughout these past several years, we have met new friends, established contact with more churches, and ministered in new locations like Northern Colorado. (continued on back)

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A ministry of the
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Upcoming Ministry

- *First Baptist,*
Miami, AZ Nov. 15

We are gearing up for a new year of ministry with six events scheduled and others potentially in the works. Between now and then, if we could be a blessing to you and your church, please let us know.

Please pray for:

1. *Wisdom and provision in the continued infrastructure development.*
2. *God's direction and enabling for upcoming services and 2010 **West Branch on the Move** scheduling.*
3. *Additional financial support. (Current level for Carlsons—19.5%)*

Property Development: Surveying & Work Projects

Needed surveying on the West Branch site was completed in October. This information will be helping our engineer as he continues to work on the water system plans. We also thank the Lord for seven local men and two boys, mostly from Northland Baptist Church in

Flagstaff, who recently spent time working on some projects around the site. Downed trees were cut up, guttering was put in place, dirt and gravel were moved, and many screws were driven in a cabin maintenance project.

While most of the recent development work has been behind the scenes, it was refreshing to have some work take place on site. Other small projects could be done. We would love to talk with anyone about scheduling a future work day here at West Branch.



What Is A Trailblazer?

Trailblazers are churches that have been a **special blessing** to West Branch over the past year specifically through one or more of the following (accomplished in 2009):

1. Attending multiple events,
2. Attending 1+ event and having a WB evangelist preach in their church,
3. Supporting WB (or Carlsons) regularly, or
4. Hosting an event.

West Branch on the Move Schedule

- **Families on the Move Conference**, Phoenix, AZ Feb. 26-27, 2010
- **Men on the Move Conference**, Williams, AZ Mar. 19-20, 2010
- **Ladies on the Move Conference**, Flagstaff, AZ Apr. 24, 2010
- **Regional Youth Conference**, Phoenix, AZ Sept. 11, 2010
- **Families on the Move Conference**, Santa Maria, CA Sept. 26-28, 2010
- **Men on the Move Conference**, Fort Collins, CO Oct. 22-23, 2010



Recent West Branch work day

A Time of Thanksgiving!

At the **Men on the Move Conference** in Colorado, I was privileged to present a session entitled, "The Spiritual Discipline of Being Thankful." I was greatly blessed to study what the Bible says about giving thanks. We certainly have much to be thankful for! Yet, many times we don't feel thankful. It's a shame, but it *is* a problem that has an answer. The answer is...give thanks! As we do what God has commanded us to do, God can change our way of thinking. Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established." One application of that verse is that if I will give thanks, it will help me be thankful. That makes giving thanks a spiritual discipline...a discipline which will pay off.

We really do have much for which to give thanks! God has blessed us with thousands of safe travel miles this year. God has used us in the lives of people, and God has used many people...many of you...to be an encouragement to us. God has begun moving us forward on the new West Branch site development. God has brought us new friends and contacts and given us new avenues of ministry. God is very good to us!

"Let the people praise thee O God; let all the people praise thee," Psalm 67:3.

Enjoying the Ride, cont.

Developing opportunities for ministry is what **West Branch on the Move** is all about. As we continue the building of the new site, we want God to use us now to be a

blessing to churches around the West.

As we have been riding along, another huge blessing has been the development of the **Trailblazer** program. Being a **Trailblazer** is about being in contact. It is about supporting West Branch so we can support you. While we are grateful for every church that participates at all, we are especially grateful for you **Trailblazers** who have provided extra support through increased involvement.

In every case you have been a blessing to us while we have

asked the Lord to help us be a blessing to you.

Thank you! I am thrilled to know that the number of churches qualifying to be **Trailblazers** has grown from 27 last year to 35 this year.

As we traveled to churches and eventually the men's conference in Colorado, we drove through territory that was new to us. We enjoyed each destination, but we also enjoyed the ride. Thank you for helping us enjoy the ride in our ministry vehicle, **West Branch on the Move**.

God bless you! And please, keep in touch!



Men on the Move Conference