

# Trailblazer

*Keeping in touch, seeking your prayer and involvement.*

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## Providing Help

What a spirit! It was just a few days ago that we welcomed ladies from ten churches and one family group to our Ladies Spring Getaway in Flagstaff. Hosted by Northland Baptist Church, our home church, the conference reached maximum capacity with 110 in attendance.

The Ladies Spring Getaway is a day of relaxation and help for ladies. The ladies enjoyed a delicious continental breakfast with home-made items and a great lunch—fresh and filling!

I had to reprimand some of the ladies, though—they were laughing and carrying on. And we

hadn't even started yet! That is always the spirit of the day. The ladies come ready to enjoy everything. We provided them some things to laugh at—

Sara Carlson—Ladies Spring Getaway



games and skits—and gave them time to just enjoy one another's fellowship.

The services were a help for sure. The singing was outstanding, and the comments on the lessons from my wife Sara and Mrs. April

Downs were very positive. We had been praying for the Lord to work in hearts, and we believe He did.

Back in March, we held our annual Southwest Regional **Men on the Move** Conference in Williams. Renting the local middle school auditorium and cafeteria, we hosted men from around the region. Praise the Lord for a record attendance of 165!

We cannot really express how much we appreciate those who came to be a part of these two events. We know it requires an investment of time and money. Our prayer is...  
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A ministry of the Bill Rice Ranch  
[www.westbranchAZ.org](http://www.westbranchAZ.org)

## Upcoming Ministry

- Bethany Baptist Church  
Altona, IL May 29
- Summer Camps  
Bill Rice Ranch June-July
- Arizona Youth Challenge  
July 3—September 3

Our family will be involved in many ways at the Ranch this summer. I will be preaching in teen and junior camps as well as a special evangelistic local outreach in June—Day Camp. It is a special treat to have several western churches coming to teen and junior camps in Tennessee this summer!

## Arizona Youth Challenge

Do you think 264 visitors brought to church is a significant thing? That is just one of the accomplishments of teenagers participating in the Arizona Youth Challenge over the past two summers. The teens have also memorized over 4,300 Bible verses and

distributed nearly 11,000 gospel tracts.

The Arizona Youth Challenge is a contest among fundamental church youth groups in Arizona this summer. For nine weeks, teenagers will serve the Lord in their own churches and

report to us on their efforts. Points are earned and tabulated with the winner receiving a private retreat at West Branch and a Mountain of Dew!

The deadline for registration is June 10. Check our website for more info.

## Please pray for:

1. *Effective ministry in summer camps*
2. *Significant help to local churches through the Arizona Youth Challenge*
3. *Safety in travel*
4. *Sale of a home by a family in western Tennessee wanting to serve at West Branch. This would free us up for more travel*
5. *Work on our site plan and decisions about development details*

## What's A 2011 Trailblazer?

2011 **Trailblazers** are churches that have been a **special blessing** to West Branch in 2010 specifically through one or more of the following:

1. Attending 2+ events
2. Attending 1+ event and having a WB evangelist preach in their church
3. Supporting WB (or Carlsons specifically) regularly
4. Hosting an event (2010 or 2011)

## West Branch on the Move Schedule

- **Arizona Youth Challenge**  
various churches in Arizona July 3-September 3
- **Arizona Regional Youth Conference**  
Peoria, AZ September 10
- **Rocky Mountain Men on the Move Conference**  
Fort Collins, CO October 21-22
- **Arizona Regional Conference on Marriage & the Home**  
Phoenix, AZ February 24-25, 2012
- **Southwest Regional Men on the Move Conference**  
Williams, AZ March 16-17, 2012

Dale Stover presenting a development update at **Men on the Move**



## Contacts in the Rockies?

One blessing of **West Branch on the Move** has been the broadening of our ministry into new locations where we had little contact before. One such area is the Northern Rockies. In October we will hold the fourth annual Rocky Mountain Regional **Men on the Move** Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado. We have drawn men in-state as well as from Wyoming, Nebraska, and New Mexico. Do you have friends in that area (or western Kansas) that we could inform about this year's event? Whether you know of individual men or pastors and churches, we would love to get them some information on this event. Please email us at [westbranch@billriceranch.org](mailto:westbranch@billriceranch.org) with any contact suggestions.

*Thanks!*

## Providing Help... continued from front

always that the events will provide tangible help to people.

One time during summer camp, an adult leader approached me. He mentioned that he had heard a lot of words used in connection with preaching over the years. In our ministry, he had heard us use a word that is not used so much—"help." No doubt many people do help through the preaching of the Bible, but I wonder if we forget that helping indeed is the goal.

Preaching the gospel *helps* people. Proclaiming revival truths *helps* people. Sharing God's promises and encouraging others

to take God at His Word *helps* people. That is certainly our goal.

Now we are preparing for the fall. Between now and then, we sponsor the Arizona Youth Challenge from July 3– September

**Men on the Move Dinner**



April Downs speaking at the Ladies Spring Getaway

3. We also will be helping out in summer camps in Tennessee. This fall we have a regional youth

conference in the Phoenix area and a men's conference in northern Colorado. We pray these will be a help!

We also continue to recognize that we cannot help without *your* help. Thank you for participating and praying. And thank you for several special financial gifts that you have given this spring to be a help to us!