

Trailblazer

Keeping in touch, seeking your prayer and involvement.

West Branch on the Move, 2501 E. Pinetree Dr., Williams, AZ 86046

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Building and Battling

The famous phrase represented in our title refers back to the work of Nehemiah and the Jewish former-exiles as they fought off opposition to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. The phrase has often been used by pastors in building programs to keep people dedicated to the manual work at hand while remembering why they are doing it. Building can also refer to the spiritual work we are doing to build lives for Jesus Christ.

We at West Branch have been focused on the spiritual building for quite some time. It's hard to believe, but we are now in our third decade of

ministry. In fact, we just held our 24th men's conference in Northern Arizona. With praise to the Lord, one long-time attending pastor said he thought it was the best spirit we have ever had at one of these meetings. I couldn't disagree.

The Southwest Regional **Men on the Move** Conference involved men from twenty-five churches from four states. We thank the Lord for how he worked in hearts.

This was our second event of the spring. Back in February we held our annual Marriage and the Home Conference in the Phoenix Valley. Though our attendance took a hit with a large



Men on the Move Conference in Williams, Arizona

amount of sickness in the area, we still enjoyed serving 250 people who gathered from around the state. One special blessing was the thirty teenagers who attended the event with their parents.

We were also able to take our ministry team to nine Arizona churches before and after the conference to serve through preaching, singing, and children's ministry. Brother Troy and Evangelist Isaac Edwards preached in six other

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West Branch Ministry Team

Help Us Reach Goal #1

Sometime back, a generous donor challenged us to raise funds to match his \$35,000 gift for development. At this writing, we are at \$24,978.59. We have been really blessed to see just who the Lord has used to match this gift. Now as we begin to spend this money, we recognize

just how significant every gift is. For instance, our initial city permitting fee is \$500. That can be taken care of by one gift! Or perhaps someone else could provide the \$3,000 Coconino County permitting fee. Every dollar raised for specific costs like these will

allow us to save more money toward future costs. Would you prayerfully consider helping us with these needs?

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A ministry of the Bill Rice Ranch
www.westbranchAZ.org

Upcoming Ministry:

The Carlsons will serve for four months in Tennessee this late spring and summer. Brother Troy will temporarily assist new Bill Rice Ranch Camps Coordinator, Matt Downs, with his responsibilities. Brother Troy will also be preaching in local churches and at several Bill Rice Ranch events: Conference on Marriage and the Home, Junior Camp, Youth Camp, Day Camp, and a special week where we host young people from The Republic of Korea. The Carlsons will return to Arizona in August.

Please pray for:

1. Bill & Barb Bach as they begin day to day work on the West Branch development.
2. The permitting process for sanitation and water with Coconino County and the City of Williams
3. Sale of Dennis and Lynda Duncan's home in western Tennessee as they want to serve at West Branch in the area of maintenance.

2013 Trailblazers

2013 **Trailblazers** are churches that have been a **special blessing** to West Branch in 2012, specifically through attending events, hosting events or West Branch evangelists, or supporting our ministry. There are now

47 Trailblazer churches across the West! That is an increase for the sixth year in a row!



Children enjoying the Kids' Konference at the Marriage and the Home Conference

West Branch on the Move Schedule

- **ARIZONA YOUTH CHALLENGE**
various churches in Arizona June 30-September 1
- **Arizona Regional Youth Conference**
Phoenix, AZ September 7
- **Rocky Mountain Regional *Men on the Move* Conference**
Fort Collins, CO October 4-5
- **Arizona Marriage and the Home Conference**
Phoenix, AZ February 7-8, 2014
- **Southwest Regional *Men on the Move* Conference**
Williams, AZ March 21-22, 2014

We also have tentatively scheduled a Ladies Spring Getaway in Flagstaff, Arizona, in the spring of 2014 and a Marriage and the Home Conference in Gallup, New Mexico, in the fall of 2014.

Could You Help on the West Branch Property?

Last fall we hosted groups of volunteer workers from churches in central and southern Arizona, as well as the bay area of California. This summer we have one work group scheduled to come from southern Florida. While we appreciate those who come from so far, we would also love to see others come from our region. Recently, several local men volunteered to provide specific help later this spring or summer. In light of this, we may be able to host a group of men for an all-day Saturday of projects or perhaps a several-day stay.

Would you pray about coming this year to help on the West Branch project? Brother Bill can organize work days or weeks to help multiply his efforts. Let us know how you may be able to help!



Building and Battling (continued from front)

churches this spring. Two other Bill Rice Ranch evangelists, including our president, Wil Rice, also held meetings in Arizona.

While the spiritual building has continued to be preeminent in our schedules, we are also beginning to turn more attention to actual physical building. Bill and Barb Bach moved here to Williams this spring. Brother Bill has volunteered to guide us through the remaining stages of the development of the camp facility. While he has only just begun getting his feet wet in West Branch details, he has already proven to be a real asset.

We are also right at the beginning stages of the permitting process for the rest of the infrastructure development. Our volunteer engineer has completed the plans which are being presented to Coconino County and the City of Williams. Both of these government offices have been very favorable toward us. Please pray that this favor continues.

Our goal is to take the next year to work through Phase One of the remaining work: primarily infrastructure. To accomplish this, we need God to provide daily wisdom for Bro. Troy and Bro. Bach. We also need the Lord to continue providing the



Marriage and the Home Conference
Phoenix, Arizona

funds to keep us busy in the work. We have seen the Lord continue to use people across America to help with this need.

So we too have a double focus right now: building a campsite in Williams, Arizona, and battling for the Lord to see people saved and lives changed. And we pray as Nehemiah did, "Now therefore, O God, strengthen [our] hands." (Nehemiah 6:9)