

Trailblazer

Keeping in touch, seeking your prayer and involvement.

West Branch of the Bill Rice Ranch, 2501 E. Pinetree Dr., Williams, AZ 86046

Building for Tomorrow in Northern Arizona

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Coordinating Projects

Forget the chicken and the egg, which comes first: water lines, sanitation lines, or electrical lines? We are facing these questions as we work to have six cabins and our first aid station online for June camps. Thankfully, the Lord has continued to put people in our path to help us with these questions.

As we approach our goal of two 90-camper weeks of camp this summer, it has become clear that we need to have these seven buildings fully functional; or they would not be usable at all. In conjunction with this, our sanitation contractor suggested a simplified approach to our sewer

system which would allow us to install the system incrementally rather than all at once. As this newsletter is being produced, our contractor and new local engineer are ironing out details with the county to move forward. By simplifying the system and installing only a portion of it now, we should be able to lower our upfront sanitation funding need significantly from the initial \$280,000 bid. We have \$75,000 on hand.

Along with this angle, we have also received a water system bid for supplying the cabins. This involves two steel 5,000



gallon tanks and submerged pumps. The cost is \$23,000 plus trenching supplied by our sanitation contractor.

The third major area is electrical. For \$10,000 we can install the primary side from our main line to a pad-mount transformer near the first aid station. From there we will trench and lay lines to the first aid building and then to the two clusters of cabins. This would be another \$10,000 without volunteer labor or donated materials. (continued on back)

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Upcoming Ministry:

Late February—Couples retreat in San Diego followed by a Sunday at the host church (Yuma, AZ).

March—Sundays in Flagstaff, Marana, and Camp Verde, Arizona. Our 26th men's conference in Northern Arizona (Williams).

April/May—Work groups on site. Ladies Spring Get-away in Flagstaff. Missions conference in Casper, WY.

Please pray for:

1. Complete funding for 2015 spring goal projects (see back for details)
2. Workers for spring projects
3. Having seven buildings completely functional by June
4. Planning for our 2015 spring and summer events

Marriage & the Home Conference

Joined by churches from around Arizona, we held our ninth Marriage and the Home Conference in Phoenix. We changed our format this year to include more breakout sessions with topics such as "Making Decisions as a Couple,"

"Disciplining Children Ages Three and Under," and "Getting Out of Debt" among others. In general sessions, our keynote speaker, Pastor Aaron Denson of Lubbock, Texas, brought two messages related to service in marriage. We appreciated

the encouragement of attending pastors who said that they were glad they came and that they brought other families. Our conference team also conducted a Kids' Conference for children ages three through 6th grade.

Evangelist Troy Carlson speaking on "Prioritizing Your Family Schedule"



2015 Trailblazers

Thank you to each and every one of the **forty-nine churches** that qualified to be 2015 **Trailblazers**, our highest number ever! Your consistent involvement is a great blessing to us! Any church that has ever hosted an event qualifies. Others qualify through participation, giving, or using West Branch evangelists.



West Branch Schedule—2015

- Southwest Regional **Men on the Move** Conference
Williams, AZ March 20-21
- Ladies Spring Getaway
Flagstaff, AZ April 25
- Arizona Youth Challenge
across Arizona June 7-August 1
- Youth Camp Event
West Branch June 22-26
- Junior Camp Event
West Branch June 28-July 2
- Arizona Regional Youth Conference
Peoria, AZ September 12
- Rocky Mountain Regional **Men on the Move** Conference
Fort Collins, CO October 16-17



Pastor Kurt Kramer speaking on "Making Decisions as a Couple"

Development Projects Needing Funds and/or Workers

- * Sanitation system installation *\$75,000 of \$280,000 raised*
- * Electrical distribution hookup *\$7,000 of \$20,000 raised. Cost could decrease with donated materials.*
- * Water system *\$2,300 of \$25,000 raised. Cost could decrease with donated materials.*
- * Completion of the interior of the cabins and first aid buildings *The money is raised; volunteers are needed (carpentry, light plumbing, heat installation).*
- * Development of the activity facilities *Basketball court sealing, softball backstop, covered bleachers.*

For additional project updates, please visit the development page at westbranchAZ.org.

Coordinating Projects continued from front

Thankfully, we already have a volunteer electrician here in Arizona who is guiding us through this phase. He also hopes to volunteer his time later this spring during installation along other volunteers. If you have a contact in electrical or water supply materials, especially



This lean-to will be extended to accommodate our temporary auditorium this June.

here in the Southwest, please let us know.

Since the last newsletter, we have had volunteers from Iowa who have done additional finish work on the first aid building and cabins. There is still carpentry, minor plumbing, and heat installation to do in various cabins. Most of the buildings are very close to being fully completed inside and out. One of these same volunteers has returned to help us put up the extension of a workshop lean-to which will serve as our temporary



New door and window trim in the first aid building.

auditorium this summer and provide additional storage for the future. Things are coming together, but we still need the Lord to provide finances, volunteers, and materials. Please pray with us about these things!