



West Branch Trailblazer

Keeping in Touch, Seeking Your Prayer and Involvement

West Branch is a ministry of the Bill Rice Ranch

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Prayer Requests

2018 summer staff recruiting

Finances to begin the expansion of fire protection required for the dining hall

Dining hall project management, plans, engineering, and contacts

Contacts and campership funds for our first Deaf Camp at the Williams campground

Project Status

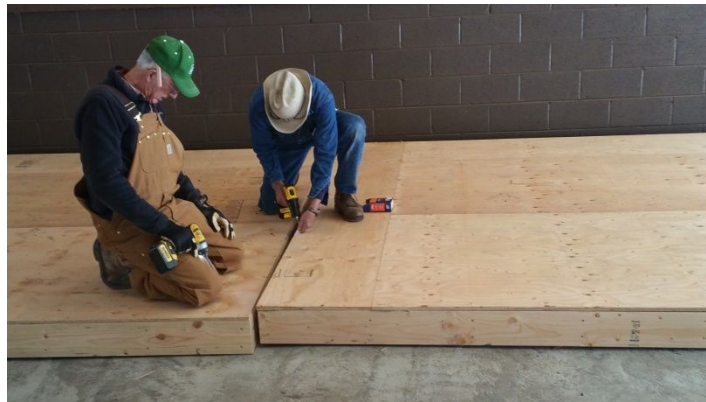
Dining Hall- Over \$103,000 has been given for preliminary projects toward our \$250,000 goal. The electrical expansion is complete. The next phase is fire suppression expansion.

Campground Enhancing-

Ongoing work with water runoff, roads, and sidewalks; we have started work on 2018 improvements

Winter Volunteers

Winter can be long when you live at 7,000 feet elevation. Usually we are blasted with snow during weeks of short daylight. Actually this winter, we have had it easy. While the rest of the country seems to be enduring extra snow and cold, we have only had a few snowfalls along with mild temperatures. Regardless, winter is always a great time for extra encouragement. This winter, that has come in the form of volunteers.



Open Air Auditorium Platform Being Built

In January, two men from San Diego spent a day with us installing a gutter on one boys' cabin. We have an ongoing effort to direct water where we want it to go. It was a blessing to see this project completed in one afternoon.

One week later a couple from Iowa arrived, making their fourth trip to help out. During their stay, they completed two upgrades on our temporary auditorium: the addition of a small platform and more guttering to control water flow around the auditorium. Among other projects, they also completed a new torpedo ball game table for camp.



New Torpedo Ball Table Built by Volunteers

These visits mean a lot to us. Without them, we would not make nearly as much progress on the development of the campground as we would

2018 West Branch Events

- 3.16-17 Men on the Move
Williams, AZ
- 4.2-21 Senior Trip Retreats
- 4.28 Ladies Spring
Getaway
Flagstaff, AZ
- 6.10-7.21 Southwest Youth
Challenge
- 6.25-29 Junior Camp
- 7.5-7 Family Camp
- 7.9-13 Youth Camp 1
- 7.16-20 Youth Camp 2
- 9.8 Arizona Regional
Youth Conference,
Peoria, AZ
- 9.14-15 Ladies & Girls'
Night in the Pines
- 10.5-6 Men & Boys'
Campout
- 10.12-13 Southwest Youth
Challenge Retreat

Special Needs

- 12' x 20' carpet remnant for our new platform
- Compact Utility Tractor
- Woods finishing mower
- Heavy duty weed whacker
- New queen size bed
- 6' & 8' Lifetime Tables
- 6' green collapsible Lifetime picnic tables

Stay Connected

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like. We pray that the Lord will direct more volunteers our way to help with projects later this spring. We have both chain link and smooth wire fencing to install among other projects before summer camp.

Summer Staff Needs

Our early registration deadline is at the end of this month. Churches save \$15 per person by registering before this cutoff date. This turns up the excitement as we continue to prepare for the summer camp season. It also accentuates the need for the Lord to provide the remaining people for our summer staff team.

More than half our summer staff team is secured. We still need three counselors (one lady, two men), two Ranch Hands, and one program staff member. Know anyone interested?



2017 Summer Staff

Counselors need to complete at least two semesters of Christian college by the summer to qualify. Ranch Hands are fifteen years old or older young men who help with food service and other camp needs.

Camp runs from June 15 through July 21. Contact us for application information, and please pray for us that the Lord will provide the needed staff.

Deaf Camp 2019!



Signs of Life Baptist Church deaf teens and counselors attending our 2017 Youth Conference

The Bill Rice Ranch was founded largely for the purpose of reaching the deaf with the gospel. Because of this, West Branch has had many deaf camps and outreaches throughout the years. Lately, we have not been able to do as much as we would like. That is about to change.

We are preparing for our first week of deaf camp at the Williams facility. Needing time to build contacts and momentum, we have targeted July 15-19, 2019. The week will run in conjunction with a hearing teen camp to maximize the camp experience for the deaf who attend.

Please pray for us as we make contacts and raise campership funds to support this endeavor. All deaf young people come free to our camps (since 1953). We are excited to see how the Lord will use our ministry to reach the deaf and encourage deaf ministries once again in the West.