

Trailblazer

Keeping in touch, seeking your prayer and involvement.

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It's Good to Be Home

There is a lot of satisfaction in having been a part of an effort that saw over 220 young people come to Christ and thousands more make important spiritual decisions. We thank the Lord that we could spend the summer at the Bill Rice Ranch helping in both organization and preaching. It certainly gave us a fresh taste of what we are trying to accomplish out here in the West by building this new camp site.

Having said all that, I have to admit, it's good to be home. I certainly appreciate our own bed in our own home under the ponderosa pines in Williams. But when I say

"home," I really mean the Southwest in general. We really missed it.

It has been good to be in our own home church, Northland Baptist of Flagstaff, which finished a renovation project while we were gone. It has been great to preach in three other churches around Arizona since we returned. One of these was for revival meetings. Thank you, Pastors Henry, Bulawa, and Wheeland for the chance to work with you in that way!

We were also thrilled to hold our annual Arizona Regional Youth Conference in Peoria this month. Maranatha Baptist has hosted this for us

Arizona Regional Youth Conference



for the past three years. We had nearly two hundred in attendance with one teenage girl saved and many other decisions made for the Lord.

We finished off our fifth annual Arizona Youth Challenge. Northland Baptist of Flagstaff was able to dethrone our previous two-time champion. Five area churches received prizes of cokes, snacks, and *candy*. The winning church is having their own private retreat at our current facilities in Williams.

(continued on back)

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

Upcoming Ministry:

September

27-28 Arizona Youth Challenge Winners Retreat
Williams, AZ

October

1 BRR Board Meeting
Murfreesboro, TN

4-5 **Men on the Move** Conf.
Fort Collins, CO

6 New Testament BC
Magna, UT

18-20 Pocatello BC
Pocatello, ID

27-11/2 Broadway BC
Paducah, KY

Development Update

As we continue inching closer to our sanitation permits, we praise the Lord for good additional soil testing! We did more testing because of the size of the proposed system. All additional holes revealed adequate soil for the system. We also requested the first

of three bids for installing the system.

Phase one of the bunkhouse renovation is nearly complete. We are restoring the 1920s building on site in order to continue housing work groups and to make it suitable for future summer staff housing.



Restoring the 1920s bunkhouse:
new roof complete

With a new roof, we can move on to siding and windows before winter. During the winter, we plan to redo the interior walls, ceilings, and perhaps flooring.

Please pray for:

1. *Effective ministry through church meetings and West Branch events*
2. *That the submitted plans for sanitation will soon be approved by Coconino County*
3. *Financial provision to put in the sanitation system*
4. *Sale of Dennis and Lynda Duncan's home in western Tennessee as they want to serve at West Branch in the area of maintenance*

2014 Trailblazers

With our event schedule soon coming to a close, we will be figuring which western churches qualify to be 2014 **Trailblazers**. Any church that has ever hosted an event qualifies. Others qualify through participation, giving, or through using West Branch evangelists. We are so thankful for all the churches that are involved with our ministry!



West Branch on the Move Schedule

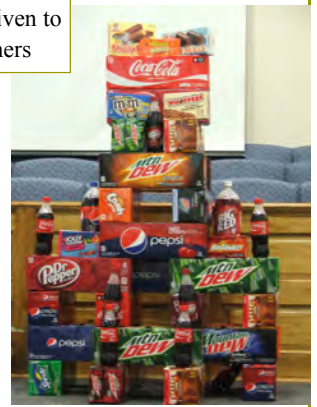
- **Arizona Youth Challenge Winners' Retreat**
Williams, AZ September 27-28
- **Rocky Mountain Regional *Men on the Move* Conference**
Fort Collins, CO October 4-5
- **Arizona Marriage and the Home Conference**
Phoenix, AZ February 7-8, 2014
- **Southwest Regional *Men on the Move* Conference**
Williams, AZ March 21-22, 2014
- **Ladies Spring Getaway**
Flagstaff, AZ April 26, 2014

We have also tentatively scheduled a Marriage and the Home Conference in Gallup, New Mexico, in the fall of 2014.

Have you been to our website?

Visiting www.westbranchAZ.org will give you a lot of additional information on our ministry. You'll find details about our history, staff, and purpose. You'll be able to read regular updates on our development and fundraising progress. We also post reports from each event along with free sample sermon downloads. For instance, go to the youth conference page, and you'll hear about the attendance and results from our day in Peoria, Arizona. You'll also see which churches won trophies in the fun church competition that day. You can even download Evangelist Matt Downs's messages about the love of Christ and how to avoid being foolish. Check it out!

Mountains of prizes given to Youth Challenge winners



It's Good to Be Home (continued from front)

Fifteen churches were enrolled in the Youth Challenge. Together they brought 274 visitors to church, distributed nearly 12,000 gospel tracts, and memorized 5,700 Bible verses in nine weeks! They did all the work; we just tried to provide some extra incentives for them to stay faithful during the summer.

There is still more to do this fall. We will be in Fort Collins, Colorado, for our annual Rocky Mountain men's conference. I will also be preaching in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Pocatello, Idaho, next month. Plus we have already be-

gun planning our spring events around the state of Arizona.

The property development is getting a lot of our attention as well. We feel we are really on the verge of taking

some major steps forward (see "Development News"). We have even begun exploring how we might be able to hold some initial camps by the summer of 2015. That date is not set in stone. But we have reasons to believe we could offer some events in Williams that summer.

We appreciate your prayers and your involvement in this ministry. Please continue to pray that the Lord opens the doors we need for effective ministry and development progress here at home in the West.



Fun at the Youth Conference