



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

Effective fall events

Financial provision to begin the expansion of fire protection components required for the dining hall

Dining hall project management, plans, engineering, and contacts

The beginning of 2018 summer staff recruiting

Project Status

Dining Hall- Over \$68,000 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; priorities are being set for 2018 improvements

Summer Report

We praise the Lord for eighteen young people who trusted Christ as their Savior during one of four weeks of camp in June and July! Campers attended from around the state of Arizona, neighboring New Mexico, and as far away as the Bay Area of California. Our attendance was up 50% led by one week in which we were so full that we only had a handful of available mattresses left over after everyone arrived.



Auditorium in use during Youth Camp 2

We were grateful to have several new campsite features for the campers including lights at the basketball court, a concrete floor for our temporary auditorium, additional games, and cover for a portion of our outdoor dining. We were even able to incorporate a horse into our program for the first time since we moved to Williams. All of these upgrades were made possible by friends who gave funds and donated their time to enhance our camp ground. Rest assured, the campers enjoyed each one!



Our horse, Kish, on the move during Junior Camp

2017 West Branch Events

- 8.24-26 Private Men's Retreat
- 9.9 Arizona Regional Youth Conference, Peoria, AZ
- 9.15-16 Ladies & Girls' Night in the Pines
- 10.6-7 Men & Boys' Campout

Special Needs

- 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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One Big Project Accomplished

With the help of a Christian electrical contractor and a number of volunteers, we have been able to expand our electrical capacity on site with a new transformer and switching cabinet to service the future dining hall. Also, thanks to many generous donations, this work is entirely paid for! As an immediate benefit, this work also supported our brand new lights for our basketball court.



Teens Using the New Lit Basketball Court

This work is just part of a larger goal to build our 10,000 square-foot dining hall. A donor has promised funds for the building if we can raise the money for the infrastructure to support it. So far, we have raised over \$68,000 which paid for the electrical expansion and gives us a start toward the fire protection expansion which includes six additional 25,000-gallon water tanks.

New Events This Fall



Enjoying the Beauty of West Branch

In just a few days, we will be holding our annual Arizona Regional Youth Conference in Peoria. We work together with Maranatha Baptist Church to host churches from around the state for a day of preaching, fun, and church competition.

The following week we will have our first Ladies and Girls' Night in the Pines. This event is open to ladies and young ladies to come enjoy a fun time in the great outdoors while also enjoying comfortable cabins. This event is our second retreat onsite this fall. We just completed a private men's retreat with another independent Baptist church in the state.

During the first weekend of October, we will also have our first Men and Boys' Camp Out.

As is the case with each of our events, the priority is the preaching of the Bible. It is our goal to make the most of Bible preaching for churches and those they seek to reach. By God's grace, we hope to accomplish that this fall.

Please pray for us as we run these events and also travel a great deal beginning to recruit volunteers for our 2018 summer staff.