



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

Facilities manager

Effective local church, event, and camp ministry in 2019

Reaching our \$250,000 dining hall infrastructure goal

Fire suppression expansion

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

Filling summer staff counselor and operational staff positions

Project Status

Dining Hall- Over \$112,000 has been given for infrastructure projects (goal is \$250,000). The electrical expansion is complete. The fire suppression expansion is in design.

Campground Enhancing-

We are planning additional improvements to our open-air auditorium as well as landscaping and activity improvements.

A Year of Blessing

It is easy to see the Lord's blessings on our ministry in the past year. We are so very grateful for the many churches and individuals the Lord has brought our way that we could serve in camps, retreats, and regional events. Back in the spring, we had great attendance at our men's and ladies' conferences here in Northern Arizona. During our summer camps, we saw twenty young people saved and scores of other decisions for the Lord. We had new groups from places like Long Beach and San Diego, California, as well as Yuma and Wikieup, Arizona. All told, we have served forty-eight churches from the Southwest in 2018.



Teenagers listening to preaching during Youth Camp

This fall we held three retreats on site and also held our annual youth conference in Peoria, Arizona, with over 185 in attendance. It was obvious at each of these events that the Lord worked in hearts, though we do not always know the full results. For instance, just two weeks ago, we were told about a man saved at our men's conference four years ago. This week we learned about a Bible college student who gave his life to the Lord a few years ago at our youth conference. We were not aware of either of these decisions at the time they happened.



Morning Challenge during Junior Camp



Youth Conference-Peoria, Arizona

Regardless of the stage of ministry we have been in, even whether or not

Upcoming Events

- 3.16 Deaf Rally
Phoenix, AZ
- 3.22-23 Men on the Move
Williams, AZ
- April/May Senior Trip
Retreats
- 4.27 Ladies Spring
Getaway
Flagstaff, AZ
- 5.18 & 6.8 Work Days
- 6.9-7.20 Southwest Youth
Challenge
- 6.24-28 Junior Camp
- 7.4-6 Family Camp
- 7.8-12 Youth Camp 1
- 7.15-19 Youth Camp 2/
Deaf Camp

Visit westbranchAZ.org for Fall 2019 Retreat & Event dates.

Special Needs

- New queen size bed
- 6' & 8' Lifetime® Tables
- 6' green collapsible Lifetime® picnic table
- Compact Utility Tractor (e.g. John Deere, Kubota)

We thank the Lord for a Polaris® Ranger and a push mower recently donated!

Stay Connected

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Additional itineraries, schedules, & reports are online.

we have had a campground of our own, the Lord has provided us people to work with. That is a great blessing!

Adding Staff

There are many blessings to serving the Lord in full-time ministry. Some hear those words "full-time ministry" and think of preaching. While preaching is important at camp, we are currently looking for a new staff member who is *not* a preacher but rather is good with his hands in maintenance. Our greatest areas of need are in electrical, plumbing, and auto mechanics. We also have a great number of small projects on the docket that would require carpentry or fence building skill. Our facilities manager would also keep up with our fresh water, sanitation, and fire suppression systems.



One of three fresh water systems on site

If you know of someone ministry-minded that could help us manage our growing facilities, please have him contact us. We envision a full-time facilities manager with a part-time spouse helping in food service and housekeeping, though we are open to other paradigms.

Moving Forward in Development



Current 30,000 gallon water storage

For some time now we have been raising funds toward the building of our dining hall. A donor has promised 4-to-1 matching funds, meaning that if we can raise the estimated \$250,000 needed for dining hall infrastructure, then he will donate the funds for the estimated \$1,000,000 building.

To date, we have raised over \$112,000 toward this goal (45%), and have used some of the funds toward the completed electrical expansion. We have employed a fire suppression system engineer to design the expansion of the fire system. This includes increasing from 30,000 to 180,000 gallons of water on site and adding additional fire lines and hydrants. We hope to install this expansion by next summer.

The addition of the dining hall (which will include an upgraded auditorium) will enable us to have more people on site and extend our camping season into colder months. In the meantime, we have added a platform to our open-air auditorium, and we are planning a heavier duty screen to protect from the elements.

The dining hall project also accentuates our need for a facilities manager to care for our expanding campground maintenance needs.