



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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In This Issue

- No Explanation but God
- Opportunities to Serve
- Summer's Not *That* Far Away

Prayer Requests

County remodel permit to facilitate the Crossing bathrooms project

Recruiting summer staff for 2024

Project Status

Rasmussen Crossing – Our county has given an initial positive reaction to our permit application. We are waiting for full approval so that we may begin getting estimates on the work and equipment. We would like to have restrooms completed for next summer.

Upcoming Events:

now-Jan 31 Fast Track open at \$150 per week

Apr 26-27, 2024 Men on the Move

westbranchAZ.org

No Explanation but God

In the last newsletter, we mentioned the need to purchase a new work truck and plow before winter comes. Our strategy was to find the right truck, then to purchase a plow to go on it. After searching in two different states for an answer, we narrowed down our possibilities to a couple different trucks in Tennessee. Then, just before choosing one of the two, we learned about a new option all the way in Ohio...and this one already had a plow on it!

Besides the remarkable timing, this new option had several other benefits, most notably that it was the exact kind of truck we wanted—it has a standard cab and an 8-foot bed. We were about to settle for something else. The plow was unexpected too, and we believe it is a significant upgrade over what we used in the past. Next, you should know that the price of the truck *and* plow was less than we were expecting to pay for a truck alone. There is no explanation but God.

After about five total days of travel, the truck has made it to West Branch! It has now made multiple voyages for water which we haul to camp. We haven't used the plow yet, but it is just a matter of time. And with the savings made from this purchase, we have also been able to fix a couple more things around camp that were on a wait list.



God used such a variety of financial sources (including a VBS offering!) so that we could have this truck from 2,000+ miles away in time for winter. It reminds me of how God sent wise men all the way from the East to present gifts that the family of Baby Jesus probably needed to finance their sudden trip to Egypt. What a joy when you know that your need's provision has no explanation but God!

Special Needs

- Newer model pickup truck, 4x4 with towing and hauling capability (e.g. F250)- **PROVIDED!!**
- Snowplow for use with a newer truck **PROVIDED!!**
- Commercial beverage/merchandise cooler
- Utility dump trailer
- Lefthanded softball gloves
- Compact Utility Tractor (e.g. John Deere, Kubota)
- We are always trying to enhance our activity selection. If you have a gently used ping pong, Foosball, or other similar game table that you would be willing to donate, please let us know, especially if you would have the ability to transport it to us!

Thanks to all who have donated items through our Amazon Wish List!!

Stay Connected

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Additional itineraries, schedules, & reports are online.

Opportunities to Serve

Our 2023 retreat schedule came to a close in early October with the Men & Boys' Adventure. We sincerely believe the Lord used the fellowship and the Bible preaching to encourage each person who attended. While we have turned our attention here to winterizing buildings and completing other projects while the weather permits, we have also had opportunities away from camp to serve others.



We held a men's meeting in October near Window Rock on the Navajo Nation

We take opportunities to preach out in area churches as much as we can. In these past two months, we held services in Flagstaff, Peach Springs, and St. Michaels, Arizona, as well as Winter Haven, California. Each opportunity was special and included an outreach day, a men's meeting, and even a last-minute fill in. These churches have all been to camp many times. This relationship makes each time we minister in their locations even more special.

Summer's Not *That* Far Away

It might seem odd to think about summer at this time of year, but when summer camp is your busiest ministry of the year, you think about it all year long. We are currently working with churches to lock in the dates they want to come to camp. This is done through our Fast Track program. We are also completing advertising tools to promote camp to new churches.

Summer staff recruiting is a huge part of each off season. We work to get a number of volunteers to return while also visiting Bible colleges to find new summer workers. Praise the Lord, we have the vast majority of our positions already filled! Please pray with us as we look for a few additional workers.

We also spend a lot of time preparing schedules and activities for the camps. We also plan small building projects to accommodate new games, etc. Our biggest project is to get restrooms added in the Rasmussen Crossing for the hopes of avoiding the need to have a rented restroom trailer again this summer. Please pray with us for county approval, the funds for the projects, and the many logistics to see the work completed.



Teen Camp Sing Language Class



Junior Campers enjoying a service in the Crossing