



# 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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Evangelist Troy Carlson, Director

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## Prayer Requests

Facilities manager

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

Effective local church, event, and camp ministry in 2019

Reaching our \$250,000 dining hall infrastructure goal

Fire suppression expansion to get underway this spring

## Project Status

**Dining Hall-** Over \$134,000 has been given for infrastructure projects (54% toward the goal - \$250,000). The electrical expansion is complete. The fire suppression expansion has been designed and is being scheduled.

## Campground Enhancing-

The open-air auditorium was upgraded by adding a half-exterior wall and stronger screen for durability and enabling us to use winterize for use in the fall also.

## Back-to-back Weekend Conferences

After two weeks of travel promoting Deaf Camp in Williams this summer, Outreach and Deaf Camp Director of our headquarters in Tennessee, Tyler Thornton, and his wife Rebekah (who is deaf herself), joined us in Phoenix for a Deaf Rally March 16. The event was hosted by long-time friends from Signs of Life Baptist Church in central Phoenix. Friends from two other deaf ministries in Arizona, along with several individuals, joined us for the days of preaching and fellowship. We look forward to seeing how the Lord blesses this effort and those of the Thorntons to let people know about our camp for the deaf this summer.



**Deaf Rally – Phoenix, AZ – March 2019**

Deaf ages 9-19 come free to this summer camp in July. We thank the Lord that 95% of our original fund raising goal has been met. About \$300 would bring us to 100% to cover the costs for deaf camp and promotion of it this summer.



**Men's group from Arizona**



**Men on the Move - Williams, Arizona**

One week after holding the Deaf Rally, we were closer to home with our annual Southwest Regional Men on the Move Conference in Williams. It was our largest men's conference in our thirty-year history with men coming from around Arizona, Nevada, Utah, and New Mexico. We welcomed Dr. Mike Edwards, Pastor Emeritus of Heritage Baptist Church, Woodbridge, Virginia, (a church he planted and pastored for 37 years)

## Upcoming Events

- April/May Senior Trip Retreats
- 4.27 Ladies Spring Getaway Flagstaff, AZ
- 5.25 & 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](http://westbranchAZ.org) for Fall 2019 Retreat & Event dates.

## Special Needs

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

## Stay Connected

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Additional itineraries, schedules, & reports are online.

and Evangelist Wil Rice IV to preach. There was a very clear indication of the Lord's working in hearts as we heard messages on Biblical manhood, marriage, purity, and other important issues.

In just a few days we will welcome the first of three Christian schools coming to West Branch for their senior trip retreats. Along with seeing Grand Canyon and other sites of Northern Arizona, they will enjoy services at West Branch. We look forward to investing in these teenagers!

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## Getting Work Done, More Help Needed

We are still praying the Lord provides a full-time facilities manager soon. Our greatest maintenance needs are electrical, plumbing, and auto mechanics. We also want to do many small projects that would require carpentry or fence building skill. Our facilities manager would also keep up with our fresh water, sanitation, and fire suppression systems.

This is a great opportunity for someone who wants to make a difference in a growing ministry. Perhaps a full-time facilities manager would have a part-time spouse helping in food service and housekeeping.



[New auditorium screening](#)

We are also grateful for volunteers who fill in the gaps. In February, in between 15" and 37" snows, volunteers from Iowa installed heavier duty screening for our open air auditorium. The new design will also allow us to board up the walls for use in cooler weather. We have two work days planned in May and June. Let us know if you can help!

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## Development Answer to Prayer



[Current 30,000 gallon water storage](#)

As we continue to raise funds toward the infrastructure needed for a new dining hall, we have been focused on completing the plans for our fire suppression expansion. We had been told we needed to increase our water storage on site from 30,000 to 180,000 gallons of water.

However, our engineer discovered code that he believed would not require nearly that much water. We were skeptical, but we allowed him to continue work on a smaller design to present the City. With praise to the Lord, the City agreed with our engineer and has approved a system which only requires one more 10,000 gallon tank like those seen in the photo above! This reduction will save us at least \$50,000!

Please pray for us as we receive the final engineering and try to schedule the work to be done. Besides adding the tank, we will have to add additional concrete, a pump, pump house, fire hydrant, and more water line in the ground. We would like to get started when the weather clears better if we can get the contractors and volunteers in place.