



# West Branch Trailblazer

Keeping in Touch, Seeking Your Prayer and Involvement

West Branch is a ministry of the Bill Rice Ranch

February 9, 2021

Evangelist Troy Carlson, Director

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## Prayer Requests

New building construction progress

Occupancy for summer camp

Filling summer staff positions

## Project Status

**New building-** We could use some help in these areas: spreading cinders and dirt, installing wall insulation, moving a piano, building steps and a porch, and general cleanup.

## Upcoming Events: 2021

- 3.19-20 Men on the Move Conference
- 3.29-5.8 Senior Trip Retreats
- 4.30-5.1 Youth Retreat
- 6.4-5 Ladies Summer Getaway
- 6.10-20 Staff Training
- 6.21-25 Junior Camp
- 6.28-7.2 Youth Camp 1/ Deaf Camp
- 7.7-9 Family Camp

## Pressing toward the Goal

Building a large building during a time of uncertainty is not exactly a "textbook good decision"! However, when the Lord opens the door, you should go through it. When the offer of a generous \$1,000,000 donation for the building aligned with an available contractor to oversee the project, it was clear that it was time to move forward.

Over the past year, we have been able to put that donation to good use. Even when we were limited with service opportunities, we were able to move forward with development because the money was available. The goal right now is to have a multi-purpose building to use this summer for services, games, and storage. We will transition this into a dining hall eventually.

In December, the Bill Rice Ranch leadership sent out an update letter appealing for additional funds to enable us to get over the hump and complete this phase. Part of the need centers on a \$50,000+ water pump that must be installed to service the new building's fire sprinkler system. The letter stated our goal of \$150,000 to finish this scope of the project. As I write this update, just over \$108,000 of that has come in or been promised! That's an amazing response to a lofty goal. And the timing could not be better. We will need to order this pump within the next couple of weeks to have the chance of getting it installed in time. That is the most time-sensitive part of the project.



Plenty of space for an auditorium



Stonework and siding on a metal building

As has been true with all of our building projects, the real goal is enhancing our ability to work with people at camp. Whether that involves hearing or deaf, children or adults, our real goal is to help people with the gospel and Christian growth. Please pray for us as we continue to push toward another goal for the purpose of advancing the cause of Christ.

**Able to help? Send your gift marked "West Branch building" to: Bill Rice Ranch, 627 Bill Rice Ranch Rd., Murfreesboro, TN 37128.**

- 7.12-16 Youth Camp 2
- 8.12-14 Private Men's Retreat
- 8.26-27 Christian School/ Home School Retreat
- 9.11 Arizona Regional Youth Conference
- 9.17-18 Ladies & Girls' Night in the Pines
- 10.8-9 Men & Boys' Camp Out
- 10.15-16 Church Family Retreat

Visit [westbranchAZ.org](http://westbranchAZ.org) for more details.

### Special Needs

- New sound system for auditorium  
Donated in January. Thank you!!
- Utility dump trailer
- Newer model pickup truck, 4x4 with towing and hauling capability (e.g. F150-250), probably 2010-newer.
- Compact Utility Tractor (e.g. John Deere, Kubota)

### Stay Connected

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Additional itineraries, schedules, & reports are online.

## First Event in the New Building

We have held the Southwest Regional Men on the Move Conference at a local school facility in Williams for over a decade. This year, we are on track to move this event to our new building under construction. Though the building is far from completed, we believe temporary use for the purpose of this event March 19-20, will be a great way to show men from around the region what the Lord has provided. Some of those planning to attend have already expressed interest in volunteering to help on future projects in this building.



2019 Men on the Move Service

Evangelists Wil Rice IV and Bill Rice III will both be joining us to preach for the event. The primary donor of funds for the building is also planning to attend. **During the event, we will also unveil the name of the building.**

Every year, our men's event is a real highlight due to the fellowship and revival preaching for men. We look forward to seeing many folks there for the historic first event in this new building.

## Recruiting Summer Staff



Some of our 2020 Summer Staff

February brings our early registration cutoff giving churches the opportunity to save some money by registering for camp early. Some churches have already reserved space in their preferred weeks through our *Fast Track* program. Registering at the February 28 cutoff can save any church \$15 per person when summer camp rolls around.

As we get ready for camp, we are continuing to prepare for new program elements and other facility upgrades. Our biggest endeavor is finding the summer staff members that God would have serve with us in June and July.

While most of our operational staff, program staff, and Ranch Hand positions are filled, we still need several young people to serve as counselors. We look for those who have completed at least two semesters in a West Branch-approved Christian college to fill these spots. Our summer is about a five-week commitment and is a lot of fun. Serving with our summer staff is like building a family, and we look forward every year to seeing how the Lord provides.

We have recruiting trips to two Christian colleges planned over the next four weeks. We pray these efforts will result in some new prospects.

If you know of someone that may be interested in serving with us next summer, please let us know!