Four days before our RVICS (Roving Volunteers in Christ’s Service) started work, I went to the Riverside County Building Department to get a permit to re-roof the First Aide cabin. While I was waiting, I ordered the shingles for delivery the following Tuesday. When I met with the building department representative, he said he could not give me a permit without tying the permit to other permits, and since he didn’t know which permits to tie it to, he couldn’t issue a permit. His supervisor told me that there were multiple permits on the property that were never “final-ed” and were expired. They would do a records search and get back to me in a week or so. I couldn’t believe it. Worse yet, if the permits were indeed expired, the county could force us to bring any such building up to current codes, forcing us to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars. I did not have a good weekend. I cancelled the material delivery and prayed for wisdom. Larry Ramseyer assured me that he remembered walking around the buildings with an inspector in 1982 for the final inspections. I finally told God, “This is your camp; you will need to work this out.”

Monday morning, Kristi had a volunteer start going through files. In the search, she came across the signed final inspection card for First Aide! I raced into town, made two copies of our Master Plan, took the original “job card” and a copy, and drove to Riverside. The two “less than helpful” employees were at lunch, and I was assigned to a very helpful person who within a matter of minutes issued a permit. Due to the delivery delay and rain, the roofing project was set back two weeks, but praise the Lord, it was completed before our volunteers left.

**Singspirations**

Our next few Sunday evening Singspirations will be held at:

- Cal. Heights Baptist, Long Beach (March 10 – 8:00 p.m.)
- Bethel Baptist Church, Torrance (April 28 – 8:00 p.m.)
- Faith Calvary Baptist Church, L.A. (June 9 – 7:30 p.m.)

Our Sings typically conclude with a time of food and fellowship starting at 9:00 p.m. Invite a friend and join us for a good time of singing and praising the Lord.

**Visitors from the Past**

A recent guest group introduced us to a number of members and descendants of the Cornel family. Mr. and Mrs. Cornel purchased this property in the 1950s and attended First Baptist Church in Hemet. Their goal was to set up a home where they could continue to minister to children without parents. However, when they realized that they were facing an almost impossible uphill battle with Riverside County and heard that our association of churches was looking for property, they reached an agreement with our churches that led to the formation of Camp Victory, now Victory Ranch. It was neat to see pictures from the past as well as hear stories from some family members who were actually on the property as children. Before leaving, the Hagstrom family volunteered their time to set-up four donated Frisbee golf goals.

**Roving Volunteers in Christ’s Service (RVICS)**

We were blessed to be joined by four couples from the RVICS organization for a January project. These volunteer couples came from all across the country. The ladies un-decorated our Christmas tree and put away ornaments before painting boards to be used by the men in various projects. The men rebuilt the swamp cooler stands on Trail Master and Stagecoach, repaired the damaged ceiling in the staff dining room, re-roofed the First Aide cabin, installed an attic fan, and replaced some bad shingles. The ladies also painted the trim on First Aide, Trail Master, and the Recreation Room. It was such a blessing to have these volunteers all month!
Spring Ladies’ Retreat

First Baptist Church of Hesperia will be co-hosting our Spring Ladies’ Retreat on March 8-9, 2019. Anne Iorg will be speaking on the theme “Be Still” from Psalm 46:10. The Spanish-speaking ministry of their church will be joining us, and they have asked Caroll Stephenson to hold a simultaneous chapel service in Spanish. The ladies will enjoy music, crafts, horseback riding, archery, the shooting range, a silent auction, and much more. Attendees may arrive Thursday evening for no additional charge. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 8 with the first meal being lunch that day. The retreat will conclude Saturday afternoon. To register, use the enclosed registration form or register online.

Spring Men’s Retreat

Our Spring Men’s Retreat will be held on March 22-23, 2019. Evangelist Monte Leavell will be speaking on the theme “Compelled to Walk with God.” Those wishing to drive out Thursday evening may stay over-night at no additional charge; however, the first meal served will be Friday evening’s steak dinner at 6:30 p.m. We will be holding competitions in a number of sports activities (check our webpage at www.vranch.org for details) that may be of interest to you and your friends, so invite someone to join you. Use the enclosed registration form or register online.

Summer Camp

“The Incredible He” will be the theme for this year’s summer camp program. It is an increasing challenge to schedule our weeks of camp so they don’t conflict with sports practices and the always changing school district calendars here in Southern California. We are holding one Junior Camp this summer and moving it a week earlier in July. It will start on Sunday, July 14. Teen Camp will become Senior High Camp and is scheduled for July 21-27, 2019. Our final week will be a Middle school week for 6th through 8th graders starting on Sunday the 28th of July. Please keep our summer camp program in your prayers.

Family Fun Day

April 6 is the day we’ve scheduled for our 2019 Family Fun Day. All activities and games will be designed so that all ages can participate together as families. We will have “life sized” versions of smaller table games on a course utilizing the recreation field and the center of the camp. Lunch will be provided, so we need an accurate count of all participants. The cost is $6 per person. There will be egg hunts for various ages of youth. Those youth wishing to participate in an egg hunt need to bring 12 plastic eggs that our volunteers will place candy in and hide. Some participants may wish to ride horses in the corral, go to the archery range, or take rides on the 4x4 firetruck before making their own ice cream sundae and heading home.