From the Director’s Desk

A year ago, one of our volunteers, Bob Wisherd, was diagnosed with MDS, a form of blood cancer. After receiving a number of chemo therapy treatments, his doctors decided the day after his 80th birthday that the treatments weren’t working. It has been a difficult six months for the Wisherds. Bob was accepted into a clinical trial program at the City of Hope; however, the desired results are not visible yet. Please keep Bob and Joanne in your prayers. Joanne has been sorely missed in the office. Kristi Carter, our new Office Manager, has been keeping everything moving forward.

Former employees/volunteers Larry & Janiece Ramseyer, who normally travel from spring through the summer, stayed in town due to one granddaughter’s marriage, another granddaughter’s graduation, and a third granddaughter’s first baby. What a blessing to have their help for an extra month.

The parking area at the Rifle/Pistol Range has left a lot to be desired. Through the years I have had a few loads of dirt dumped there, but not enough to make a difference. As I was heading to the Imperial Valley to distribute Summer Camp brochures, I saw a couple construction workers near Highway 79. It turned out the man I spoke with was the superintendent for a job starting the following week which involved widening the interchange. The company ended up donating the excess dirt, which allowed us to greatly improve our parking area. The majority of the dirt was donated during our staff training week, which gave me time to make sure it was deposited where it needed to go. If it had been a week before or a week after, it would not have worked with my schedule.

On Monday, July 26, during our afternoon Horsemanship Camp classes, a car went off Highway 79, just over a mile north of our property, sparking the 6,300 acre Manzanita Fire. Kevin Gott sat outside monitoring the fire and taking pictures of the air tanker and helicopters dropping retardant and water. A little while later, the husband of one of our former campers who works for CalFire called to say the fire was moving in an easterly direction and we were in no danger. Praise the Lord for His watching over us.

W.E.S.T. Week

We had a great turn-out for Work Experience Staff Training Week. On the week of June 19, there were 27 eager young people “trying out” for positions on staff. The young people participated in the Work Experience part of the week each morning as they prepared the camp for campers by weeding, cleaning, etc. They spent the afternoons in classes preparing for the Riverside County Food Safety test, learning how to saddle a horse, how to use archery equipment properly, how to fold a pleated sheet and do housekeeping, how to make change in the General Store and Snack Shoppe, etc. On Friday morning, they helped pour concrete. We received a genuine compliment from the concrete truck driver. He said, “I’m used to working with a bunch of dirty, foul mouthed workers. This is so neat to be with a group of Christian young people.” Saturday morning the young people got to put into practice what they learned as we hosted a high school youth group for their weekend retreat. It was great to have so many candidates for staff positions, but difficult to tell some of the young people we didn’t have a spot for them.

Horsemanship Camp

We hosted our third annual basic Horsemanship Camp on June 25. This camp is limited in size due to the number of horses we have and the classes we teach. Our instructors were Sarah Arden, a Vet Tech major at Mt. San Antonio College; Paul Cayot, former Wrangler and CHA certified instructor; Bill Goehring, Ranch Foreman;
Kevin & Kathy Gott, our Archery Instructors; David Hackley, a teacher for Perris Unified with 20 years’ experience in the classroom; and Amber Wagner, our Head Wrangler. Pastor Chris Engel spoke each night for Chapel and shared on “Faith, Hope, and Love.” Of the 15 participants in the camp, 6 young people said they placed their faith and trust in Jesus Christ on Tuesday night.

Summer Camp

The Justified League was the theme for this year’s summer camp program. Pastor Mark Smith from Bible Tracts Incorporated spoke to the Juniors. He did a great job explaining justification in a way that children could understand. For our second Junior week, Mark started out with the basics of the Christian faith when he discovered we had a number of “un-churched” young people. A former camper had suggested we ask Pastor Nathan Osborne III of Faith Baptist Church of Winterhaven, Florida, to be our Teen Camp speaker. I sent off a request, and God laid it on his heart to come out to California and speak to our teens. What a tremendous blessing to sit under his teaching of the Word. His preaching style was so captivating and engaging that the young people lost track of time. One young man who has grown up coming to camp told me, “This is the best speaker we’ve ever had!” God used our speakers to have a number of campers place their faith and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Campers also sought counseling for assurance of salvation, to rededicate their life to Christ, and to live a Christian lifestyle.

Our Junior Camp numbers were down this year with only 89 campers, but Teen Camp was almost full with 140. With Horsemanship Camp and W.E.S.T. Week, we ended up with 271 campers for the summer. There were 38 salvation decisions, 7 rededications, and 22 other decisions made for Christ.

Ladies’ Retreat

Our Fall Ladies’ Retreat will be hosted by the ladies from Thousand Oaks Baptist Church on October 7-8, 2017. A lot of time and effort has gone into making this retreat “a retreat you won’t want to miss.” Their theme is “Growing a Tree of Trust from a Seed of Faith” and the speaker is Mrs. Sue Miller. Sue and her husband Phil have 4 children and 18 grandchildren and live in Ohio, where they have been active in Christian ministry through the years. Sue has spoken at ladies’ retreats in a number of states and is highly sought after as a speaker. The retreat will feature a boutique, crafts, and other activities designed to encourage each attendee. This retreat will start with registration Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. Those wishing to come the night before are welcome to come without an additional fee as long as you mark it on your registration form.

Men’s Retreat

The theme for our Fall Men’s Retreat on October 20-21, 2017, will be “Living as a Christian in an Immoral World” and will tentatively feature Pastor Herb Rogers, author and GARBC Southern California State Representative; Pastor Jesher Lubaton, pastor of Calvary Baptist Tabernacle of Gardena; and Pastor Geno Lubaton of Faith Calvary Baptist Church of Los Angeles as our speakers. The men’s trio Solid Ground will be bringing the music and favor us with a mini concert Friday night. Plan to join us for this informative time. Take this opportunity to invite a friend to attend with you. We will have the usual sports competitions, good music, and food. The retreat will start with a steak dinner at 6:30 p.m. Friday evening. Participants wishing to come out Thursday evening to beat the traffic are welcome to arrive early at no additional charge.

Round-up

This year our Regular Baptist Round-up will be held on Saturday, November 4, here at the Ranch. The day includes the annual meetings for the Regular Baptist Conference of Southern California and the Association of Regular Baptist Churches of Southern California. The day is designed with the whole church family in mind. Participants are encouraged to spend the day enjoying all the Ranch has to offer. Youngsters will have special activities and programs designed for them during the main session with Steven Butler, Administrator of North American Ministries for Baptist Mid Missions. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!

Singspirations

Our next few Sunday evening Singspirations will be held at First Baptist Church of Wilmington (October 15); First Baptist Walteria, Torrance (November 12); and South Vermont Avenue Baptist, Gardena (December 3). Our Sings typically start at 8:00 p.m. and conclude with a time of food and fellowship starting at 9:00 p.m. Invite a friend and plan to join us for a good time of singing and praising the Lord.

Bonfire Bonanza

The annual Bonfire Bonanza will be held at Huntington State Beach on Saturday, September 9, 2017. This is a time for like-minded young people to gather and fellowship together after camp. We will have beach volleyball, a BBQ (you bring your own food . . . we’ll provide the firewood and marshmallows), singing, and a challenge from God’s Word. Pastor Jesher Lubaton will lead the singing, and Austin DeHusson will be bringing the message from God’s Word. The State Beach closes at 10:00 p.m.
VICTORY RANCH
18080 Gilman Springs Road
Moreno Valley, CA 92555

Or Current Resident

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VICTORY RANCH

Fall Ladies’ Retreat
October 6-7, 2017
Cost: $65.00
($60 if paid in full by September 29)

Growing a Tree of Trust from a Seed of Faith

Fall Men’s Retreat
October 20-21, 2017
Cost: $65.00
($60 if paid in full by October 13)

Living as a Christian in an Immoral World

Featuring music by Solid Ground

Additional Information Inside!!!
### Fall Ladies' Retreat

- **October 6-7**
- **Speaker:** Sue Miller
- **Cost:** $65
  - $60 if paid in full by September 29
- **Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on Friday.** Beat the traffic and arrive on Thursday for no additional cost.
- **Activities:** Featuring a Craft Boutique. Bring your homemade crafts to sell!
- **Food:** Steak dinner begins at 6:30. Come early to enjoy the Ranch or play golf.
- **Sports Competitions:** Include archery, basketball, carpetball, golf driving, horseshoes, ping-pong, pistol, rifle, shotgun, skeet, and volleyball.

### Fall Men's Retreat

- **October 20-21**
- **Speakers:** Pastor Herb Rogers, Pastor Jesher Lubaton, Pastor Geno Lubaton
- **Music:** Solid Ground (featuring a mini concert Friday night)
- **Cost:** $65
  - $60 if paid in full by October 13
- **Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. on Friday.**
- **Activities:** Include archery, basketball, carpetball, golf driving, horseshoes, ping-pong, pistol, rifle, shotgun, skeet, & volleyball.
- **Food:** Steak dinner begins at 6:30. Come early to enjoy the Ranch or play golf.
- **Sports Competitions:** Include archery, basketball, carpetball, golf driving, horseshoes, ping-pong, pistol, rifle, shotgun, skeet, and volleyball.

### Registration Information

- **Location:** Victory Ranch
  - 18080 Gilman Springs Rd.
  - Moreno Valley, CA 92555
- **Contact:** Send to: Victory Ranch
- **Deadline:** Postmark Registration Form and Deposit by the Monday before your retreat.
- **Non-refundable Deposit:** $10.00
- **Full Amount:** $65.00
- **Save $5:** When you pay in full by the Monday before your retreat.
- **Office Use Only:** EPR REG

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**Officiating Ministers:**  
- Pastor Herb Rogers
- Pastor Jesher Lubaton
- Pastor Geno Lubaton

**Music:** Solid Ground

**Sports Competitions:** Include archery, basketball, carpetball, golf driving, horseshoes, ping-pong, pistol, rifle, shotgun, skeet, and volleyball.

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