



VICTORY RANCH

18080 Gilman Springs Road
Moreno Valley, CA 92555



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www.vranch.org



Victory Ranch Moreno Valley



2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring Ladies' Retreat.....March 8-9
Spring Men's Retreat.....March 22-23
Family Fun Day.....March 30
CARBC Conference.....April 2-4
W.E.S.T. Week.....June 17-22
Horsemanship Camp.....June 30-July 3
Junior Camp.....July 8-13
Senior High Camp.....July 15-20
Middle School Camp.....July 22-27
Bonfire Bonanza.....September 7
Fall Ladies' Retreat.....October 4-5
Fall Men's Retreat.....October 18-19
Round-up.....November 2
Visit www.vranch.org for additional information
about these events throughout the year.

Singspirations

- January 21 @ 7:30pm
Calvary Baptist Tabernacle, Gardena
- February 18 @ 3:00pm
Calvary Baptist Church, Compton
- March 10 @ 8:00pm
California Heights Baptist Church, Long Beach
- April 14 @ 7:30pm
Bethel Baptist Church, Torrance
- May 19 @ 3:00pm
Trinity Baptist Church, Pasadena
- June 9 @ 3:00pm
Bible Baptist Church, Santa Monica
- July 7 @ 7:30pm
Faith Calvary Baptist Church, Los Angeles
- August 18 @ 7:00pm
First Baptist Church, El Monte
- September 15 @ 7:30pm
Bible Baptist Church, Huntington Park

VICTORY RANCH

Newsletter

WINTER '23-'24



From the Director's Desk:
By Paul Cayot



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Over the last few days, I've gotten to do one of my favorite tasks of the year: pass out Christmas cookies. However, let me give you some background. God has blessed the Ranch with some strong leaders through the years. When Gordon Nicholson hired me in 1986, he was a stickler about paying all the bills on time and maintaining a good reputation with all our vendors. In my early years at the Ranch, I remember several occasions of forgetting to take a form of payment or stopping by a merchant where we didn't have an account. The merchant would give me the item(s) I needed and say, "You can mail me a check." What a reputation Gordon had established!

Once we had the opportunity to bring Laraine on staff as a full-time employee, I realized she didn't have a lot to do in December. I suggested making Christmas cookies for our vendors. She loved the idea, went out and bought tins, and started making cookies. For the next number of months, as I would go to town, merchants would say, "You're the one

who brought us the wonderful cookies!" Some would even give the tin back and ask if they could get a refill.

Last week, it suddenly dawned on me that I may have forgotten to tell our new Food Services Director that I was going to need close to 50 cookie tins . . . full of cookies. I reached out to Tiffany and . . . yes, I had forgotten to tell her what I expected regarding the Christmas cookies. However, the following weekend, she came out and filled the cookie tins with fresh cookies, which brings me to why this is my favorite task. One vendor was almost in tears as he told me, "No one does anything like this anymore." Another vendor exclaimed, "You are the only customer we have that has ever done something so nice for us!" Another vendor said, "We wait all year for you to bring us your wonderful cookies." I've also gotten to have some meaningful conversations with these people. I thank the Lord for the opportunity to brighten these people's lives and spread a little cheer in the season we celebrate the birth of our Savior.



MERRY CHRISTMAS from the VICTORY RANCH STAFF

Kristi Carter; Jasmine Cayot; John Paul (not pictured) & Julia Cayot; Paul Cayot; Tim, Tiffany, & Jeremy Farr;
Bryan & Joni Gott; Kevin & Kathy Gott; Seth, Holly, Zach, Hannah, Gideon, Titus, Havilah, & Hachilah Gott





ORCHESTRATED MUSIC WANTED

In July of 2022, I (Paul) was invited to play a trombone duet with Ryan Burris at First Baptist Church of Waleria, Torrance. The following month, I invited Abe Ortiz from First Baptist Church of El Monte to join us in a trombone trio. Pastor Kim Gaston from South Vermont Avenue Baptist Church joined us on the trumpet, along with Jerome Roy from California Heights Baptist Church in Long Beach. Over the past year and a half, we have had others join us as we rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of El Monte. Each month, we play several song selections at the Sings.

Pastor Jonathan Sibayan from Faith Calvary Baptist Church in Los Angeles invited us to present a Christmas concert at their church on December 9. We were joined by my brother and sister (we grew up attending Bethel Baptist Church in Torrance), as well as five instrumentalists from Faith Calvary Baptist Church. It was a lot of fun to play our first



concert as a group, but especially because I was joined by my siblings. If you've laid aside a musical instrument, dust it off and come join us as we praise the Lord with several numbers at the monthly Sings.

Currently, we are using *500 Hymns for Instruments* published by Lillianas, which is still in print. However, to broaden our repertoire, we would love to have some of the orchestrated *Great Hymns of the Faith* published by Zondervan/Singspiration or the orchestrated version of *Praise, our Songs and Hymn*, also published by Zondervan/Singspiration. If you have one of these books that you are not using, or find one in a used bookstore, we would love for you to donate them.

NEW CABIN PROJECT

The new Geotech company hired by our contractor completed their investigation and report. Once we paid and had the report in hand, it was discovered that they did not address two of the concerns the county had. When they were contacted, they explained that the company was no longer in business and we would need to now find a new company to address those concerns. On the positive side, they said they did not charge us for the missing items in the report. The saga continues. Please keep this project in your prayers.

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN



On October 21, 2023, seventeen-year-old Jacob Parish was ushered into the presence of his Lord and Savior following a tragic automobile accident. Jacob grew up attending our annual summer camps along with his brother Joseph, and they both worked on staff each summer. His father, Geoff, also attended camp here when he was young, has served as camp dad, counselor, and volunteer. Jacob's mother, Joyce, has been our Crafts Director for several years now and has been referred to as the "best Crafts Director ever!" Please keep Geoff, Joyce, and Joseph in your prayers as they adjust to the loss of their son/brother. A memorial fund has been established in his honor and can be accessed on the camp's website.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Former employee Erica Bowlin and her parents, Brad and Debbie Bowlin, carried on a family tradition again this year. When they go to the tree lot to pick out their living Christmas tree, they pick out an extra one and donate it to the Ranch. We placed this year's tree donation in the main dining room for guests and staff to enjoy. Joni Gott and the Gott kids decorated the beautiful 10' tree. After the new year, the tree will be planted somewhere on the camp grounds. Thank you, Bowlins!



SING SCHEDULE

On **January 21**, we will join **Calvary Baptist Tabernacle of Gardena** for the first Sing of the new year at **7:30 p.m.** On **February 18**, we will be at **Calvary Baptist Church of Compton** for a **3:00 p.m.** Sing. On **March 10**, we will be at **California Heights Baptist Church in Long Beach** for an **8:00 p.m.** Sing. On **April 14**, we will be gathering at **Bethel Baptist Church in Torrance** for a **7:30 p.m.** Sing. There is typically a time of refreshments after the Sings. Mark your calendar and plan to join us.

RETREAT UPDATE

We are praising the Lord for a good turnout for our Ladies' and Men's Retreats in October, as we saw 95 ladies and 79 men over the course of the two weekends. A number of people shared how they were blessed by the fellowship and teaching from God's Word. Our prayer for each participant is that they went home refreshed and ready to become more involved in their local church. Mark your calendar for our **Spring Ladies' Retreat** scheduled for **March 8-9** and our **Men's Retreat** scheduled for **March 22-23**.



FAMILY FUN DAY

With Easter coming early next year, our annual Family Fun Day is scheduled for **Saturday, March 30, 2024**. This is a low-cost event (\$6 per person) designed with the whole family in mind. The morning will be spent playing larger-than-life games that a grandparent as well as someone as young as two years of age could play. Following lunch, there will be egg hunts for the young people based on their age. Those wishing to participate are asked to bring a dozen plastic eggs, which volunteers at the Ranch will be filling with candy before hiding them for the egg hunts. The remainder of the afternoon, families can continue to play games, ride horses, shoot targets at archery, ride the fire engine, and enjoy ice cream sundaes.



WINTER CAMP

Our teen Winter Camp is just days away on **December 27-29**. The program is designed for young people in middle and high school (grades 6-12). Dr. Linn Carothers will be speaking. Dr. Carothers and his wife Carol have spoken multiple times through the years, and currently Dr. Carothers is a professor at California Baptist University. An exciting recreation program is planned and, of course, a great food menu. Don't be left out. Sign up today!



SUMMER CAMP

Our theme for summer camp this year is *Known* from Psalm 139. Have you noticed how many people have been diagnosed with anxiety over the last few years? People struggle with their identity and their purpose. Without God, this may be true; but as believers, we have an identity in Christ, we have a purpose, and we are known and loved by our Maker. Come join us as we examine the assurance we can have knowing that we are "Known" by God. All the dates, prices, what to bring, and how to sign up, along with all the other information about summer camp, can be found on our website at www.vranch.com.

