

"Life Letter"

Mission News, Events, & Prayer Requests of the River Valley Baptist Association Fall 2008



"Where we're bringing life to the desert!"

- **"Relevancy"**- Offering people in our churches the opportunity to be personally involved in the Great Commission!
- **"Resourcing"**- Giving back to our churches as much resources as possible to see their vision for ministry become a reality!
- **"Restoration"**- Building "healthy" churches that will not only survive, but thrive!
- **"Reproduction"**- Being strategic in starting new churches and helping our existing churches reproduce and multiply!
- **"Results"**- Closely evaluating the results of our efforts together and maximizing our opportunities for the future!

From Our Missionary...

I read about a church recently who was thanking God for the price of gas. Why? . . . because more people are staying home and the church is seeing more ministry opportunities than ever before! Maybe it's time for us to ask some tough questions in tough times. . .

- **Will we do as the church has always done.** . . . rise above the circumstances and bring hope in the midst of hopelessness?
- **Will we see these times as an opportunity to show who we are really trusting in.** . . . Will our churches have the integrity to be faithful in giving the "first fruits" to kingdom work while expecting people to be faithful in giving their first fruits to the local church? Are we trusting God to speak to the hearts of people who may be in position to greatly bless the church in a time of need?
- **Will we be focused on "surviving" or THRIVING.** . . . Will the church of the Lord Jesus Christ have an opportunistic, and strategic mind set about the economic crisis? Will we develop innovative and bold approaches to ministry? We may be missing some of the greatest opportunities yet!

Tommy

River Valley Churches...

- **First Southern, Kingman** - Nursing home ministry continues to grow with a new bible study and continued salvations. Church is having a special prayer emphasis to make progress as a praying church! Seeing great results through FAITH.
- **First Baptist, Parker** - The church is preparing for their Harvest Party on Oct 31st, participating in the "Shoebbox Ministry" in November and Angel Tree Ministry in December.
- **First Baptist, Lake Havasu** - Little Lambs Preschool opened the end of August with 30 children after much planning and prayer. Radio program, "Strengthening America's Churches" continues to air each Saturday at 10 am on KNLB 91.1 FM with Pastor Bob Greene. Trunk 'N Treat planned for Oct 31st.
- **College Park, Kingman** - Operation His Heart saw lots of donations of school supplies, shoes, shirts, and backpacks for children in the Kingman area. The church has also just launched AWANA and are gearing up for a Harvest Carnival.
- **Golden Valley Baptist Church** - Continuing to search for a new pastor. Pastor Jeff McDermott will also be leaving soon for a new ministry in Oklahoma. We appreciate Jeff & Cindy's ministry in Golden Valley for all these years. They will be missed!
- **Golden Shores Community Baptist Church** - Experiencing new growth and baptisms. Starting a new members class & 2nd semester of FAITH. Pastor Chris and wife, Tara, are very active in the Topock School and community. Annual Harvest Festival planned for Oct 24th.
- **Dolan Springs Baptist Church** - Several bibles studies during the week as well as AWANA each week. The ladies of the church recently honored their pastor for Pastor Appreciation Month with a luncheon.
- **First Southern, Ft. Mojave** - Sent Mission VBS team to Mexico this past summer and are preparing to take another team next summer.
- **Meadview Baptist Church** - Have started a new deaf ministry and making plans for a new building.
- **Calvary Baptist Church** - Leading mission team to China in 2009.

Missing information on your church?.. Send us your church newsletter, call us, write us, or e-mail us at rvba@citlink.net. Let us know what's happening!

Learn how you can be involved in bringing life to the desert! Check out our website at [www.rvba.net!](http://www.rvba.net)

New Work News...

- **Christian Community Church, Mesquite** - We welcome this church as the newest member of River Valley Baptist Association. A special welcome to new pastor Lee Eddy who moved on the field in November. The church is still meeting at the Falcon Ridge Hotel and has strong hopes of securing a new building soon. The future is bright for establishing a 2nd strong church in this growing area of Nevada and northwest Arizona. Please pray for their new pastor and future vision.
- **Yucca Community Church** - Experiencing stable growth and continuing to search for land. While future growth and development in the Yucca area is uncertain the opportunities for ministry remain strong! Please pray for Pastor Byron Reiner and wife, Linda.
- **Bouse Baptist Church** - We are thanking God for a new house in Bouse! A "house" for the Lord's work that is. This new church is still searching for a permanent pastor, and also searching for land. Snowbirds will be returning soon. A special thanks to Carl Rapp for his service as interim. Please pray for unity and continued direction for the future.
- **Beaver Dam** - What a blessing to see God growing this work as they reach out to the needs of Beaver Dam. Several new members, and some baptisms. God is breathing new life into this church and the Christian Community Church of Mesquite has been a tremendous help to this ministry.
- **Prison Ministry** - We are seeing great results in the Celebrate Recovery ministry at Arizona State prison south of Kingman. Over 140 men were baptized last year and many salvation decisions this year as well. We are needing many more volunteers for this ministry. Our volunteers participated in a recent horse shoe tournament at the prison and yes we lost badly!



**CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP® INC.**

Did you know?.. After school Good News Clubs are among the most fruitful ministries in our area. Clubs are now sponsored by College Park, 1st Bullhead City, Desert Shores, Mohave Valley, and 1st Lake Havasu City. We still have requests for new clubs in Lake Havasu City. For more information call Sheri Syverson at (928) 768-9924 or Chuck Otto at (928) 692-8352.

Petro Truckstop Chapel
I-40 & Blake Ranch Rd
Each Sunday at 8:30 am

Pray! Visit! Volunteer!



Coming Up In River Valley & Around Our State...



Arizona State Convention
"Opportunities for the
Harvest"
Friday, November 14th
1:30 pm - 10 pm

More details at www.azsobaptist.org

Be watching for more details on these River Valley events...

- **Friday, December 5th** - Pastor & Wives Christmas Banquet
- **January 19th - 25th** - "Project Quartzsite" community outreach to one million snowbirds, old fashioned gospel revival, and many ministry opportunities.
- **Saturday, February 21st** - Association Strategy Team Retreat
- **Saturday, March 21st** - River Valley Leadership Conference for church leaders, Sunday School teachers, and Vacation Bible School teams.
- **April 17th - 19th** - River Valley Women's Retreat at Lost Canyon, Williams.
- **May 15th - 17th** - River Valley Men's Retreat at Lost Canyon, Williams.

Prayer Requests...



Our pastorless churches: Golden Valley, Oak Street, Bouse, Beaver Dam, & Mohave Valley.



For the 1st Baptist Church of Needles as they adopt a new ministry strategy and restructure under the name of "Harvest Community Church".



For our churches to expect great things from God!