

## "Life Letter"

Mission News, & Events for the  
River Valley Mission Network  
Winter 2011



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

### *Coming Up In River Valley...*

- **Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>** – Our Missionary at Associational Director of Mission & Church Planting Forum, North American Mission Board, Atlanta
- **Brotherhood Group Meeting, Thursday, Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>**, 10 am – Calvary Baptist, LHC
- **"Setting the Journey" Strategy Retreat, Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** – Desert Shores
- **Pastor Installation Service, Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, 10 am – 1<sup>st</sup> Southern Baptist Church, Yucca
- **River Valley Prayer Outreach Event, Saturday, Mar 26<sup>th</sup>** – Be watching for more details.
- **River Valley State Women's Retreat, April 8 - 10** – Lost Canyon, Williams

### **Start Spreading the News!**



**Regional VBS Clinic**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Southern Baptist Church, LHC**  
**Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 am - 1:30 pm**

- Quality equipping by one of the best Vacation Bible School teams in our association.
- Training provided for pastors, VBS directors, preschool, children, missions, music, worship, and crafts. Last hour preview of snacks and decorating. Bring sack lunch.
- Watch for special flyer and details sent to your church office and VBS Director.

### *From Our Missionary...*



### **New things are happening in the town of Yucca!**

. . . It may look very much like a work in progress and it is. The picture above shows a potential church site that we are claiming in prayer and raising funds for a possible purchase. Though the site is far from being secured, we are asking our churches to pray for God's provision. We would need \$40,000 to secure this piece of land in a prime location next to the Yucca School. If God is leading you or your church to give, you can contact the River Valley office at 928-753-9262.

### **It's a new word, but a very old, eternal, and exciting concept.**

. . . We are talking about the word "missional". This is a key word in our new strategy for the River Valley Mission Network. "Missional" represents a critical way of thinking about our world and engaging our dark and lost culture with the gospel. Really, it's not a new concept at all – it's just getting back to the book of Acts! Our three priorities are: influencing missional leaders, developing missional churches, and encouraging missional partnerships. We want to keep a strong focus on church planting as well as helping our churches become more effective than ever before in reaching their communities for Christ. Developing fresh discipleship approaches will be a critical key to reaching our communities for Christ. I'm looking forward to coming to your church to share more about this new strategy in the months ahead.

### **Awesome unity in the calling of new pastors...**

Recently three of our churches have issued a unanimous call to new pastors John Hernandez, Needles, Chris Packard, Chloride, and Wayne Basye, Yucca. Welcome pastors and we pray God's richest blessing on your new ministry!

*Tommy*

## ***New Work News...***

### **Bouse Baptist Church, Bouse, AZ**

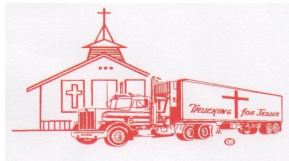
Has just completed special revival services and continue to establish a strong presence in the Bouse community under the leadership of new pastor Ted Finkbeiner. Land for a new church site is secured and paid for and the church is hoping to begin building soon. Fellowship opportunities are being sponsored by Bouse, their sponsoring church in Parker and partner church in Quartzsite. For more information and to let this church know you are praying, you may contact them at [tfinkbeiner3@gmail.com](mailto:tfinkbeiner3@gmail.com) .

### **1<sup>st</sup> Southern Baptist Church of Yucca, AZ**

In addition to the information already mentioned in our missionary's article, Yucca is continuing to sponsor a Good News Club at the Yucca School under the leadership of Sandy Tees and her awesome assistants. We also have strong and established Good News Clubs at local schools through College Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Southern Bullhead City, and Desert Shores. You contact the Yucca Church and new pastor Wayne Basye at [pastorbasye@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbasye@gmail.com)

### **Truckstop & Prison Ministries**

We are thankful for our continued partnership with Truckstop Ministries, Inc. It has been a joy to work with Joe & Jan Hunter and to see God's incredible favor and blessing upon this ministry. Our association has the privilege of helping TMI launch a new Missionary Driver Program that will greatly enlarge the influence of this ministry nation-wide.



A lot of changes are taking place at Arizona State Prison along with new and unique opportunities for us to minister. One of our pastors, Chris Zeller, has recently been named as Senior Chaplain. Some of our pastors recently assisted with baptizing 27 new believers at the prison and we are in critical need of more volunteers to help with our Celebrate Recovery ministry. A special thanks to Calvary, College Park, Golden Valley and 1<sup>st</sup> Southern, Kingman churches for their ministry to inmates. If you are interested in praying for or assisting with this ministry, please contact the River Valley office.

## ***"On Mission" News From Our Churches...***

**1<sup>st</sup> Southern, Kingman** -- Youth busy raising funds for youth camp and World Changers in Salt Lake City where around 19 youth are planning to go & change the world! Choir performed their Christmas cantata at AZ State Prison where over 23 men gave their lives to Christ!

**Desert Shores Community Church-** In the process of "recasting the vision" for the church in order to reach their community.

**1<sup>st</sup> Southern, Parker** - Ministering to children with "Take-A-Kid Fishing". Having an Adult Valentine's Dinner and planning a trip to World Wildlife Zoo and participating in Senior Adult Annual Spring Spectacular in March.

**1<sup>st</sup> Southern, Ft. Mojave** - Preparing for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show and block party. This annual event provides lots of opportunity for sharing Christ. Awana also meets weekly providing children the opportunity to hear the gospel while having fun.

**Oak Street Baptist Church** - Has just finished completely renovating their sanctuary with new padded chairs. Have also begun a weekly Wednesday Bible study and monthly Men's Breakfast which are being well attended.

**1<sup>st</sup> Southern Baptist, Mohave Valley & 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, Bullhead City** - Please continue to pray for these churches as they continue their searches for new pastors. Pray that God would sustain and unify these churches as they wait for God's man in God's time.

Arizona Baptist Children's Services & New Life Counseling now provides pastoral counseling in our area with offices in Kingman, Needles, Golden Valley, and Parker. This is a great help for pastors and a valuable service to our churches. For more information, call Program Coordinator, Byron Reiner at **928-308-1774**.



***Visit our web site at [www.rvba.net](http://www.rvba.net)  
RVMN Phone: 928-753-9262, Fax: 928-753-4117***