

Dear Members of Corridor Baptist Church,

July 30, 2018

We are writing today, for the 1st time in way too long to give you a quick update on our lives here at Masters Ranch and Christian Academy. Every day is beyond busy but whose life isn't? Am I right? We want you to know how very appreciative we are of you continuing to think about us here each month with your gift of love.

Daily at the ranch we are working with the students, teaching them more about Christ & giving them the Biblical tools they'll need to implement in order to live lives pleasing to God and lives that will draw all men to Him. This, as you can imagine is at times a difficult & daunting task considering all the numerous backgrounds each student brings with them. Our goal is always to lead them to Christ so they have a foundation to build upon as well as His strength to draw from. Guiding them in this direction which is so contrary to the world & its philosophies of "do what you want, drugs are the way, my gang is my life," feels like an uphill battle most days. Proverbs 16:25 However, just like the girl's ministry we directed years ago now, the true blessings are seeing the fruit which is often a few years down the road when students come back for a visit, bring their families or as is the case here they stay on to minister to others the way they've been ministered to or go off to Bible college and then return & preach in our church as was the case last Sunday. Once they give God their life and begin to see how He can and will guide them the turn around is fantastic to witness and makes the long days and nights all worth it for eternity! Just today, I had a young man who I led to the Lord this past summer come & thank me for helping him find a new direction in life with the Lord. He has gone home and now has the opportunity to put into action all he learned. Please keep Tai in your prayers that he will continue to walk with the Lord.

We are growing here at the ranch with the building project that is in full swing! This will enable us to bring in more students to learn of Christ & rescue from clutches of sin. This first phase of building should be done in the next few months and students and staff alike are looking forward to the new facility that will be a new classroom, kitchen & dining area which is very much needed along with new dorms. Please keep this a matter of prayer as we continue this process.

As you all know the world is getting worse by the day it seems and thus our ministry to the future young leaders of homes, businesses and America herself becomes that much more difficult and extremely vital. Please pray with us that we will receive the students God has to be here, ones that have listening ears and receptive hearts, that they will for themselves learn to see how each & every decision they make today is of great importance to each of their following days/years. It is hard to get them to understand that consequences do exist and that if they aren't very cautious in the way they conduct themselves they can totally change the trajectory of their lives with one bad choice and they will have to answer for themselves. If we can help them realize that in their youth they are given an awesome opportunity to remove heartache & evil from their futures then we have truly set them on the path to success!
Ecclesiastes 12:1

Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we endeavor to please our Lord in all we do!

Together in His Service,

Russell & Kimbra Cookston