

TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries December 2009 Prayer Letter

Fall Circuit

We ended the Fall Circuit with our December Horse Show/Gymkhana. We had some wonderful competition and even better fellowship. It's always a wonderful thing to see the sportsmanship and true friendships that develop from these activities. Each person, of course, wants to win a ribbon, but competing against their own personal times has great satisfaction. It has been so helpful to have Scott Lewis, a great announcer, for the shows. He makes each person feel special. See the following testimony about him and his wife Gail:



Scott is such a terrific announcer; he really makes the event come alive just by being so funny and enthusiastic. He comes faithfully to every gymkhana and gives it his best every time, no matter how meager the turnout. I'm sure he must be getting tired of it by now. He really is a great asset to the show; it wouldn't be the same without him!

Gail, thanks for getting our audience into the show. It makes it so great for the participants. We really missed you at the beginning of the show Saturday. Thanks for warming things up!



Each show had a mid-break message. The testimonies were great and the messages very meaningful. Three of our extension wranglers Ben, Nick and Caleb shared their hearts from the Word of God, and Miquela gave a personal testimony. We are praying for spiritual fruit.



We thank the Lord for answer to prayer. There were so many times that the weather forecast was very negative, and we should have had to cancel the show completely. The photo at the right attests to the wonderful answer that the Lord gave us each time, even to the point of blue skies!



Clemson Horse Show

Despite the cold weather, the Clemson Horse Show was a tremendous success. We took five riders and came home with six firsts and twenty five ribbons total. The Lord had many lessons to teach, and even in some areas of adverse circumstances, the riders took it in stride and had a wonderful testimony. The TW Quarter Circle Ranch team represented the ranch with some great riding as well! Thanks for your hard work.



Congratulations, TW Quarter Circle Ranch Riding Team!

Hailey on Remington (and not shown-Chinook), Georgia Caroline on Moccasin, Kayla on Willow, Christina on Sequoyah, and Marietta on Sundance



Discipleship on Music

We have had several more meetings with students who are reading *The Battle for Christian Music* by Tim Fisher. Others are finishing their reading and discussing it with us. Here is one testimony of how the Lord is working:

. . . Also I have been reading "The Battle for Christian Music" I am currently in chapter three. It is a great read, and the Lord is showing me areas where I need to become stronger. Thank you for recommending the book to me. It has been a blessing.

In Christ Alone,

~Mark, extension college student

Saying Goodbye



At the end of the semester we said goodbye to our Campus Extension Coordinator Megan Cook. She felt the Lord was leading her to stay home with her family and work on some online classes this coming spring. Her father has cancer and seems to be doing better, so she wanted to take advantage of this special time. We will sorely miss her.

Caleb Downs has accepted the responsibility as head of the extension and Myra Jensen will step in and take on some of the responsibilities with Jeannie Teachout. We have an outstanding crew that has stepped up to do

the work of the ministry. The Lord takes away and the Lord gives – Bless His holy Name!



Caleb organized a going away party for Megan. We were very thankful that one of Megan's most loyal students was able to attend to say goodbye as well. Megan has such a heart for the ministry. She truly impacted those around her. We are hoping she can come back for our shows.

Supporting Local Churches

In Wisconsin

We have been working with one of our extension wranglers in her spiritual growth and walk with the Lord. She expressed a desire to find a good church to attend while home over Christmas. Curt searched the Fundamental Baptist directory, but didn't find any churches. He then searched the phone directory for the cities close to her house. He found one and called the pastor to find out if they were a Bible based ministry. Come to find out he had attended a good Greenville church while he was here in the area. The Lord again directs. Pray that her family will attend with her this Christmas season. Curt sent the pastor Myra's information and picture. He replied, "Thanks for the note and photo. She is going to fit right in with our church folk. It's amazing."

Please pray for Myra and her family. She wrote today:

I was all set to go [to church] last Sunday, even my parents didn't object because we were able to get all of dad's little odds and ends done the day before. But I woke really sick and just didn't make it. Ever since I've been home, I've been sick, some days are better than others; but my cough is getting worse. So pray for this Sunday, the weather is supposed to be nice so unless I'm sick, I'll be going. I was able to show your tract to some of my family on Christmas day, Dad read it all the way through and then was re-reading it. I was able to play some of the DVD, it didn't work very well on the TV but a few days later mom watched on my computer and it worked fine. Neither mom nor dad have said a whole lot about it; I think they are kind of mulling it over.

I hope that everything has been going well down there. I've been praying for you all a lot and there isn't a day goes by that I don't think about you. I think I have been having withdrawals from riding...every time we let the cows out of the barn, I find myself trying to figure out what the chance that one of them will let me hop on for a quick ride without them going nuts :)

Well, I should probably get going to the barn, my girls [her milk cows] are waiting for me. I hope you have a wonderful night!

Love

Myra

In Pennsylvania

Our friend Jim from Pennsylvania, who has been attending the Baptist church that Curt found for him a year ago this past October, asked Curt to help the pastor out with his website, so we set him up with one of our ranch volunteers who is very computer savvy. In no time at all, he had the desired website.

Tracts Around the World

We recently received this e-mail from our friends in Africa:

Thanks, Curt and Bev,

I still have a few of your tracts about your folks, Bev. I gave one at a place of business a couple of weeks ago. On Friday we were back there and the man (owner of the store) told how it had touched his heart so much. We were able to have a good heart to heart talk right there at his counter. He knows the Lord and opened up to talk freely. Thanks.

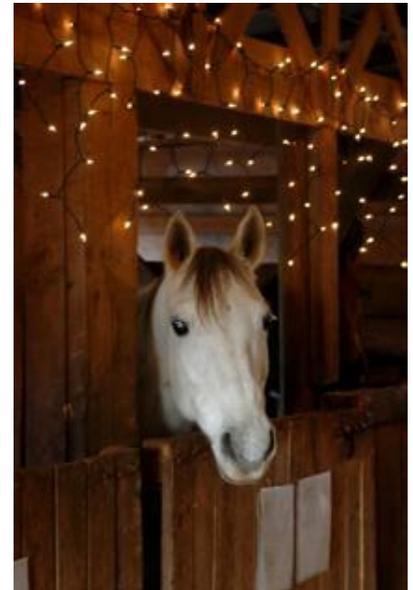
*God bless,
Sandy for us both
Kenya, Africa*

Another message we received from another person we had given a supply of tracts to:

Tears came as I went through facebook and website. I've been blessed. Desire to serve the Lord. I gave 2 of your tracts to 2 guys I sat by on the plane! ~Michelle

Christmas

Despite the cold temperatures in December, there is always a warm atmosphere at the barn thanks to our head wrangler Marietta. She does such a beautiful job decorating. She never has to be asked; she just steps up and does it. We serve hot cider and chocolate to our students and they enjoy fellowshiping around the tree.



Special Gift

I can't tell you how many times that I have been out trying to get to some show or other event, that I have had to call Curt and ask him, "Honey, where am I?" Of course, I don't pay much attention to street signs or landmarks, so it has been a real challenge for Curt to get me back on track and get me to our destination. Well, that has been solved as we received a GPS for a Christmas present. I'm hoping I can't mess that up! Thank you wranglers, Don & Joy, Glorianna & Marietta. We are also grateful for the other thoughtful gifts and cards given by our friends.

Ministry Opportunities

Over Christmas break we were able to have a ministry with one of the moms that came down to visit family. As with so many people, Michelle has wanted to be around and ride horses for years. She came out to the ranch several times. She didn't have transportation, so we picked her up and dropped her off. We developed a nice friendship. We are praying that she will be able to come back at Easter to do the Dupont Trail ride. We had scheduled a trail ride for this past Thursday with her and several of our riders, but our truck broke down and had to be hauled to the garage. We were hoping it would be fixed in time, but that just wasn't the Lord's will.

We not only got to take Michelle riding at the ranch, but she also attended Sunday evening church with us. The horses afford us a wonderful time of meeting new people. Here is a note that Michelle sent about the ranch.

"Hey", from the land of SNOW. I arrived . . . safely, last eve. Went out to eat with my family and got in late. My daughter put one of the photos on facebook. THANK YOU for the photos! THANK YOU for the wonderful opportunity I had @ the ranch!!!!!! I enjoyed the fellowship also. Takes me awhile to learn, unwind, and get comfortable. Would have liked to continue. I want to learn more. Please thank the Wranglers and tell Kathleen . . . I appreciated her help and sweet spirit. Oh, please tell Rose [the horse she rode] "Hay!!!" Thanking & Looking 2 Jesus, Michelle



Issaqueena Trail Ride



Again we had a wonderful time with our family from Indiana. As you can see from the pictures, it was cold, but a great day! Lisa came along on her horse Cheyenne and they both did a great job! What a great experience for both horses and riders. Truman and four of his friends helped us get the horses ready to ride and went with us for the first half, but then they had to take off, due to their schedules.

We had to call Truman to the rescue later that evening when we got back to the truck and trailer. We loaded the horses and went to drive off, but the truck wouldn't start. We had to call for a tow truck, but they don't tow trailers loaded with horses, so Truman came with his fifth wheel and took our crew back to Travelers Rest. What a friend! We are very grateful to be surrounded by such people.



Christmas Surprise

Truman also gave us our puppy. She's a border collie/Australian Kelpie/Blue Heeler cross. Pray that we can train her to be a good ranch dog, and that she will be an asset to the ministry. There's something about horses and dogs that attract people! Of course, our grandkids were thrilled and did a great job of socializing her. She now goes with me to feed the horses each morning and evening. She takes her job very seriously already.



Wednesday Night Testimony

JB has now been coming to church whenever he can. Wednesday night our church had a testimony time and JB shared how he had recently trusted the Lord for his salvation and what peace has entered his life, even to the point where he has been able to cut down on a lot of the medication he has been taking for years for PTSD. This has all been a result of the Revolutionary War cemetery in our backyard that JB spearheaded the clean up and dedication. It was exciting to hear JB testify, as put by some of the church members: "That was exciting testimony Wednesday night...amazing how a grave yard can bring new LIFE." ~Richard and Nikki

JB will be meeting with pastor about baptism and membership this week. We are praying that JB's tremendous testimony of God's grace in his life will help him reach family and friends.

Summer Camp Counselors

Right now we have confirmed several of our counselors for the summer. We are very thankful for Caleb, Nick, Marietta, Glorianna, and Kathleen.

Please pray for our student enrollment for summer camp, and that we will finish filling the positions for wranglers and ranch hands needed. Answers are coming in already. We received our first money for Adult Camp Dec. 21. Praise the Lord!

Remember, when you ride with us, you support the ministry!

Website Testimony about the Ranch

Below we have included a testimony of an evangelist who has this on his website, which is a good description of our camp program.

The summer months bring grandchildren for visits! A precious couple from Faith Baptist Church made it possible for [our grandson] to attend horsemanship camp conducted by Curt and Bev Doherty, former teachers at Hidden Treasure Christian School. Their wonderful ministry is like Vacation Bible School at a Western Ranch—lots of lessons and lots of work! It was a life changing experience for [him].

~Dr. V

Consider

Please pray about giving a scholarship so that some, who would not be able to attend camp, would be able to receive the blessing of going to camp with your support. It is tax deductible and a tremendous opportunity to have a ministry in someone's life. Our camps are \$300 for the week, but you could also give a partial scholarship if you couldn't do a full fee.

Donations

We couldn't make it without your support. Each time that we think we are at the end of our "rope," the Lord provides through your giving. Thank you so very much!

Support: Lloyd & Nelda, Grace, Greg & Lynette, Russ & Angela, Sarah
1/4 page ad, cash gift-JB
Posters from the extension wranglers
Cash gift from our Sunday School class
Cash gift from Betty for Jim's Christmas

(If I have forgotten anyone, it's not that we don't greatly appreciate your sacrifice, it's just a senior moment – but the Lord knows and will bless! Thanks.)

We trust that the new year will bring many more opportunities. We are excited to begin our extension and volunteers Netcasters soul winning training January 16. It will run through April. Please pray that the students will have the time to study the material and have opportunities to use it to reach others for Christ. Thanks for your continued support and prayers. We couldn't do it without you!

2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Love in Christ,

Curt & Bev Doherty

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Training horses and riders
The Montana Connection
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And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

*Revelation 19:11-14
We win!*