



Summer 2018

"Where We're Bringing Life To The Desert!"

www.rivervalleymissionnetwork.org

Phone: 928.753.9262



A Special Word from our Network Director...

Greetings from the associational office,

In recent weeks, your mission money given through the River Valley Mission Network accomplished many things. It continued to fund church planters in their work. It helped some of our pastors to attend the Pastors and Wives Retreat in Tucson. It allowed one of our largest projects of the year to take place in Peach Springs along with the Supai tribe at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. It allowed the city of Seligman to have a Gospel Music Weekend. For all of these reasons, thank you for continuing to faithfully support your local Baptist Association. It is one of several ways that you are invited to participate in The Great Commission and the Cooperative Program through the SBC, AZSBC and RVMN.

As always, I would appreciate any opportunity to come to your church, region or cluster and meet with you individually, with your churches or with your local cluster. I want to be an encouragement to you and your churches. So if you see me show up, don't have flashbacks about being called into the principal's office. Instead think about a friend that came to visit.

Pastor Chip

River Valley Clusters and Information

Check out our new Facebook!

Please take notice of our new Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
RiverValleyMissionNetwork/](https://www.facebook.com/RiverValleyMissionNetwork/)



Southern Cluster:

1. FBC Parker: Really good VBS. About 85 kids enrolled. 7 interested in knowing more about Jesus. Some new families visiting our church. Getting geared up for the Fall schedule. Pastor Glenn and Penny welcomed a new grandson to their family, named Maverick.
2. FSBC Blythe: Joined 2 other churches for a successful VBS. A Friday night youth time is proving beneficial. Pastor Ray is bringing good leadership to the church.
3. Bouse Baptist: Pastor Ted and Pam are leading the work to make some great strides in their community. The new building has a new sign and steeple. Ted and Pam had a great time on their vacation.
4. FSBC Quartzsite is making a difference in their community. Jeffrey and Karen are providing leadership to the church and in their community. Enjoying taking a day off for themselves. Have a desire to do something along the line of VBS next summer possibly. Our next Southern Cluster meeting will be on August 13 in Quartzsite

Kingman Cluster:

Kingman FSBC will be beginning AWANA for 3 year olds and up beginning on August 15th. OneChurch had a very successful visit with the Hualapai Tribe in the Peach Springs Mission Project. Pastor Richard Felton brought along 14 youth and 2 youth leaders to camp this year to Prescott Pines. College Park's new building is nearly complete and with all the bells and whistles to go with it!

Hispanic Cluster:

Pastor Jorge Moreira happily reports they had a successful VBS in Quartzsite and Mision de Quartzsite would like to thank their sister church Primera Iglesia de Blythe for their substantial financial support to help make VBS possible! Pastor Jorge also says they have three new church members!

Count It All As J.O.Y!

The Holy Word speaks of joy many times but Desert Shores Community Baptist Church, located in Bullhead City, is using the term a little differently. They have created J.O.Y. as an after school program for children to come to the church and receive homework assistance and maybe a little bit more. Bible lessons, arts and crafts, and good old fashion play will become a good outlet for many who don't have something constructive to do after school. The icing on the cake is that church staff will pick up the kids at MALC and Sunrise Elementary Schools to bring them to the church. If you are interested in hearing more about this wonderful program, please contact Pastor Tim at 928-754-1111 or Joyce Larsen at 928-234-5793.

A Special Story From the South



Pastor Ted and Pam Finkbeiner recently made a ministry visit to a church member, Pete Robison, who is undergoing medical testing. This might not seem unusual except for the distance they traveled to make the call. Pete is in Abilene, Texas, a round trip of over 2,000 miles. Fortunately, the visit was on the route already laid out for Pastor Ted and Pam on their summer sabbatical.

What a blessing it was to share a few moments with one of our living and beloved church family! Pete is planning to be back in Bouse in August, the Lord willing. Pray for him and for those who minister to his medical needs.

2018 Pastors/Wives Retreat!

Many of our pastors, along with their wives, went to the retreat this year that was held in Tuscon at the beautiful Loews Ventana Canyon Resort. Pastor Felton from FSBC Kingman remarked that it was well worth the trip, five hours one way. He complimented the food but even better were the guest speakers! Felton complimented them by saying, "Sometimes things go so fast in this ministry that you forget to breathe." and that the speakers said things that he needed to hear. Pastor Chip from FBC Fort Mojave commented, "It was a wonderful and relaxing event. This event occurs about every third year, they save up to make it as beneficial and affordable as possible. If you didn't attend, the stories from the guys that did are going to make you very jealous. The purpose is to help pastors and their wives to sit back, breathe and take care of themselves for a change. This point was clear right from the first meal where I ate the most tender and delicious steak I think I have ever had in my life. Then for good measure I ate my wife's too. (She doesn't eat red meat, so they brought her chicken and gave me her steak. Woo Hoo!)"

The Passing of the Torch

Great leaders leave their legacies with the hopes that the work they've done will be continued in their absence. We have two pastors who are saying goodbye to their ministries for two different reasons. Pastor Jerry Kinman who retired from FSBC Parker passed away recently. His service will be held at FSBC in Chino Valley on August 10th at 11AM. Meanwhile at FSBC Kingman, Pastor Paul Daniel announced his retirement this month. He and his wife, Anna, will be moving to Las Vegas to be with their children and grandchildren after 26 years in the ministry. A retirement party is set for August 18th at 11:30am at FSBC Kingman. RSVP Sandi at 310-993-7930.

Northern Arizona Church Planting Region

Report & Update for Summer 2018

River Valley, Grand Canyon, Desert Pines, Four Corners and Yavapai Baptist Associations

Revival and Spiritual Awakening is coming to many of our church planting areas! Henry Blackaby believes God has answered a sixty-

year-old prayer “for a mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God and

revival on the Native American people, on their reserves, in their cities, in their families, and among their young people and children.” Many Christian leaders are now seeing the beginning of this spiritual revival including a fresh church planting movement! Pictured above is a baptism service at the **Cornfields Baptist Church**, one of our newest Navajo churches under the leadership of Pastor Mark Williams. On this same day, this new church baptized an eight-year-old boy and an eighty-year-old man. Cornfields has already launched a second work in nearby **Steamboat**. We desire to see new churches planted very naturally and organically in many places reaching many kinds of people. We will continue to see a need for city and rural churches as well as new churches focused on affinities and unique cultures in Arizona including Native American churches, Set Free churches, Cowboy Churches, Apartment Churches, Prison Yard Churches, and Biker Churches to name a few. A true and biblical vision for church planting is really a vision of multiplication and a vision of “making disciples of all the nations.”

Through the leadership of **Happy Valley Baptist Church**, we are making continued visits in the **Supai Village**, building relationships, and hopefully a foundation for a new church plant. Steven and Keely Sage are continuing to lead the work in **Peach Springs** with four Celebrate Recovery groups meeting weekly and exploring new opportunities in **Supai**. **OneChurch of Conway Arkansas** has just completed a great summer project working directly with the Hualapai Tribe and our new church plant in **Peach Springs**. **Calvary Baptist Lake Havasu City** continues to use some awesome teams for Family Fun Days in **Peach Springs** and **First Southern Kingman** is our sponsor for our Celebrate Recovery ministry and the host for the Arkansas missions team. Future possible church plant locations include **Pinion, Page, Narrow Canyon, Bitter Springs, and Black Mesa Areas**.

Native American Church Planting Network, Navajo, Hopi, Hualapai, & Havasupai Nations

The **Keams Canyon** Community Church has recently voted to affiliate with Southern Baptists and the Four Corners Baptist Association. Michael Campbell will serve as the founding pastor and we are praying to God to raise up native leadership and bless this church with a powerful witness in the **Keams Canyon Community** and in the **Hopi Nation**. The **Burton Baptist Church** is also a partner in this work. Our new church plant in **Indian Wells** with Pastor Sanford Dick and wife, Sadie is now conducting Sunday services and working in partnership with the **Desert Pines and Four Corners Baptist Associations, and Silver Lake Family Fellowship**. **Holbrook** is still serving initially as a geographical “hub” for planting these Native churches and our desire is for God to bring together partners and partnerships to help shape the right strategy for these new works. God has raised up new native leadership for our new church in **Coppermine** and Pastor Jessie Billy is exploring and cultivating a new church plant in **Twin Mesa**. Mission teams from **Abilene and El Paso Texas and Phoenix** are bringing youth mission teams to these areas this summer.

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Prescott, Arizona

The **Yavapai Baptist Association**, along with **First Southern Prescott Valley** and **First Southern Chino Valley**, have recently launched two restarts. **Cordes Lake, Generations Church** under the leadership of Pastor Jamie Long is experiencing new life and growth and seeing new opportunities to minister to you. Plans for a new church plant in **Paulden** are underway and we are praying for the right church planter to lead this work. **Dewey Fellowship** is continuing to reach out to new families in the **Prescott Valley** area, conducting Vacation Bible School and searching for land.



Kingman and Bullhead City Areas

Three new portable baptistries have been ordered for our **Yard Churches at Arizona State Prison**. Each of these yard churches are now averaging around 200 men in attendance in Sunday morning worship. Many are awaiting baptism! New Church Planter Leadership/Ministry classes are being conducted on the Cerbat units with 25 men in each class. The **Desert Shores Church** is working on a fresh and new strategy for our Apartment Church which will include extended ministry and outreach in **Laughlin and Sunridge** apartment community. New Set Free Churches are projected for the **Kingman and Bullhead City** areas.

Flagstaff Arizona and Northern Arizona University

Our newest church plant in the Flagstaff Area is **Elevation Church**, Pastor Kevin Dunlap and wife Codi. Their desire is to work in partnership with the **Grand Canyon Baptist Association, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, and North American Mission Board** in planting a new church with a strong, small group-discipleship model focusing on young families in the older, downtown area of **Flagstaff**. Through the ministry of **Christian Challenge** we are continuing to pray for God to raise up a second Collegiate-Focused church close to NAU. **All Nations Church**, Pastor Sung Cha and wife Esther are continuing to focus on reaching Asian scholars and students from Northern Arizona University. This new church also conducts several projects on the Navajo Reservation.

Aletheia Church, Sedona Arizona

Aletheia Church continues making a powerful and positive impact in the Sedona community, building relationships and networks through community service events, providing strong biblical teaching and discipleship, caring for the needs of hurting people, and making inroads into the new age culture. A special thanks to **Crestview Baptist Church** for graciously sharing their beautiful facilities with this new church. Churches in Arizona, including **Fort Mojave**, and churches as far away as **South Carolina** have partnered with this work. They have just completed some great sports camps in the **Sedona** community.

Set Free Desert Network—Kearny, Arizona—Needles and Desert Center, California

We are continuing to see God open doors for a new network of Set Free churches beginning in the **Yucaipa California** Area and expanding through **Desert Center and Needles California**. New Set Free Churches are being projected for **Blythe California** and the **Buckeye West Valley area of Phoenix**. Needles is continuing to have many baptisms in the beautiful Colorado River. Both **Needles and Desert Center** have multiplied with additional **Biker Tabernacle** church plants and all of our Set Free churches in this network relate closely and partnership together in many outreach projects. Extended ministry is now being conducted in **Blythe, California** and a new Set Free church plant projected there. Our newest plants include a Set Free Church in the Kearny community. We are praying for God to raise up the right leadership and team to launch this new church.

Greater Show Low Area

All praise to God for the continued growth and ministry of the **Silver Lake Family Fellowship**. This new church has started a new weekly Celebrate Recovery Ministry and has ordained some of their first deacons and are developing new leadership. Adjacent land has been secured for future growth and they are now a new partner with the **Indian Wells** church plant. A special thanks to the **Desert Pines Baptist Association** and **Linden Hills Family Fellowship** for their vision of planting more churches in the Show Low area. **The WHY Church** is now launching and conducting bible study ministries in cluster areas under the leadership of Pastor Byron Brown. New locations for church plants are being explored in the **Park Valley, Bison Ranch, and Taylor Areas**.

Thank you for praying for these church plants and planters! For more information on partnership opportunities contact **Northern Arizona Church Planting Missionary, Tommy Thomas at (928) 279-9904**.