

Christmas 2020

The Ranch Review



SNTR is now accepting applications/interviews for our residential youth programs.



Merry Christmas to *everyone* who is reading this newsletter. 2020 has been filled with tough turmoil and trying times, more for some than others. I do not believe any of us has been untouched. Christmas is a very good time to remember that the God who we have a relationship with through Jesus Christ promises to make it all worth our while. He's got our backs and He has the last word.

2020 has not been without its blessings. People are more compassionate and giving than in years past. For one of many examples, the chief communications officer of GivingTuesday, Caryn Stein, shared that during this crisis "total giving increased from \$1.97 billion to \$2.47 billion in the United States alone, representing a 25% increase compared to 2019. Further, GivingTuesday estimates that 34.8 million people participated in 2020, a 29% increase over 2019".

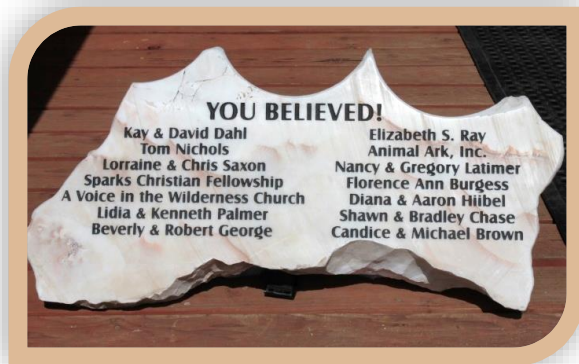
Regarding the Ranch, 2020 has been a good year. After having received our Certificate of Occupancy from Washoe County (whoo-hoo!), we organized Five Open House & House Dedications, Sept-October. Due to COVID restrictions we kept the events small, so our

invitations were limited. Guests that had supported us as early as 2002 marveled at how the vision had finally taken root; what was earlier declared by some to be “impossible” has now been accomplished. It was an inspirational time together with a time of eating, visiting, sharing, and mountain climbing. We provided tours of the facilities, revealing the site plans for programs, and revitalizing our vision and hope for our local youth.



Concerning our desire to serve Nevada’s at-risk youth, it’s important to remember that the statistics indicate that Nevada ranks highest in the country for homeless youth, and among the highest for teen suicide, teen pregnancy, teen drug use, teens not in school, teens not working, and teens not graduating. SNTR wants to provide a way and means of combating these crises, as we know you do too. We believe God wants to reach our youth before they wind up in lock up – before they reach the Jan Evans Juvenile Detention Center, before they reach the Washoe County Jail, before they reach the Nevada State Prison, before they make bad decisions that can change their lives forever, or worse yet, before they are found dead in the streets. It is my hope and prayer that you, and our community, would want to partner with us in bringing this Christian

ministry of love and intervention to our youth. We seek limited government funding, as we do not want government censorship –we want the freedom to be able to read and teach the Bible, pray, worship, disciple, and/or do any of the other Christian activities associated with our faith. We



have built our ministry –formed our organization, acquired our non-profit and tax-exempt status, purchased land, built and furnished our 1st home by relying totally on God, His Church, and public and private donations. It is our desire to operate our ministry in the same manner –by faith.



As stated above, we are excited and grateful to be able to say ***Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch (SNTR) is now accepting applications/interviews for our residential youth programs***, all because of the generous donations from our local community! We pause even now to give thanks, to God and to all of you who have given your time, talent(s), and/or resources to make Sierra Nevada Teen ranch a reality – so, ***thank you***.

In conclusion, SNTR provides 24/7 residential care in a ranch-like setting. Our programs include, but are not limited to, onsite education, vocational exploration, spiritual development, individual and group counseling,



recreation, life skills, anger management, and gang awareness classes. Our projected fees for providing these programs is around \$3000 a month per youth (**about half the cost of similar programs**). SNTR asks you, and anyone you may know, and all our supporters to partner with us in this endeavor –help us cover tuition fees so SNTR can make this ministry available to our youth. *I'd love to meet with you to clarify the vision, hear your ideas, and answer any questions you may have.*

PS. To consider our current youth and program needs, please go to www.sntr.org.

Warm Regards & Best Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice L. Neal".

What's Missing? Kids!!!