



Winter 2023

The Ranch Review

Where did the year go? It is hard to believe it is Christmastime already! If memory serves me right, last year we were pretty-near knee deep in snow. With all the snow and rain, some culverts washed out, and the dirt roads got too dangerous to travel to and from the Ranch. We were wondering and worrying and praying about how on earth we could get the roads repaired and re-open for business. The task itself was daunting and the cost seemed absolutely prohibitive.

So, let me tell you a story. Once again, I'm heading out to the Ranch from town. Well, after turning onto the dirt road and driving a bit, I spotted a big tractor sitting off the road and recognized it as belonging to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). As I got closer, I noticed not one tractor, but two. My head begins to spin, and I wondered, just wondered if it was possible that they were working on the roads. I can't tell you the excitement, the joy and happiness I experienced as it dawned on me that my prayers, along with the worrying, and wondering were being addressed! And sure enough, BLM installed culverts in the washed-out parts of the road. And then, then they even did a fine job of grading the road. Thank you, God. You are good all the time!!! Whew. Still, we had a couple of creek beds that crossed the road, and we needed a couple of additional culverts. With a generous donation from Western Nevada Supply, and the help of some skilled Ranch volunteers, the whole road is now in fair condition. And a heartfelt thanks to BLM, Western Nevada Supply and our volunteers, Herb, Tom, and Jovie. What a gift! What a surprise! What a relief!

Our next story leads us down the path of once again, praying and asking the Lord to bring us the kids he wants us to have. It didn't take long, and our first prayer was answered when we received the first child. One month later two of his siblings arrived. All three of these children (two lovely girls ages 12 and 14 & their older brother, 17) had been homeless along with their mom for the past three years (a good portion of that time spent living in a tent and a car). Additionally, the siblings had not been enrolled in school for three years. Amazingly, they are wonderful kids, and we love them and enjoy them immensely.



They are now enrolled in Abeka's Homeschool Program (Christian based with brilliant curriculum). We are blessed to have the help of two retired Washoe County schoolteachers who give of their time (Jetta Wacker and Cindee Miller), and between the four of us we are helping them embrace the

challenging task of getting back to school and working toward making up the years the locust destroyed. In Joel 2:25-26, God promises to restore the years the locust has eaten; we see God's promise playing itself out in this situation with these kids. We are so grateful for their help. And thanks to Jetta and Cindee, for allowing God to

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