

Ranch Roundup



FALL 2019

On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within them." John 7:37-38

JESUS IS OUR HOPE

Happy Thanksgiving y'all!

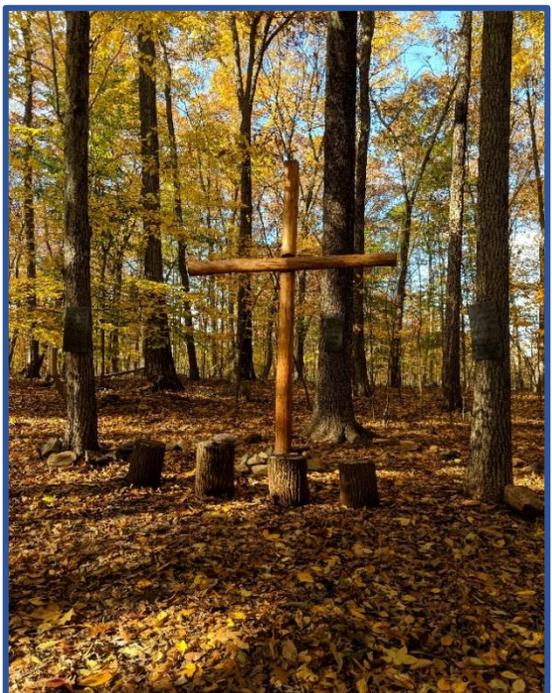
I am so thankful for the Lord and this Ministry he has provided. I'm thankful that his mercies and compassions are new each day, and great is His faithfulness. He is steadfast, mighty, all powerful and completely loving...always and forever. He continues to keep who he is as I watch Him heal the brokenhearted who attend Living Streams Ranch. In a world that is losing a sense of hope, we are able to point Ranchers to Jesus, their Hope, healer and source of Living Water.

As we near the end of our 3rd year of Ministry, we are grateful for each of you who have played a part in this Ministry. For all those who have prayed, volunteered, referred, donated and supported this wonderful Ministry, we say Thank You and God bless you! You are all so amazing. May his joy, love and peace overflow in your lives each day.

"We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice for we trust in His Holy name. May your unfailing love be with us Lord, even as we put our Hope in You." Psalm 33:20-22

Blessings,

Deb Rotelle
Executive Director



To hear how this ministry got started go to our website www.livingstreamsrancho.org and click on the live podcast by Tyler Hunsberger.



LIFE CHANGING

Written by Amber Landes

Life changing. These are the two words I would use to explain my time at Living Streams Ranch. When I first started I was broken, closed, insecure and just struggling with life and with God. Please don't get me wrong, I still am, but not nearly as bad as I was before the ranch and honestly, I don't think those things will really ever go away. They will always be a part of me because they have made me who I am today, in a good, growing way. But they are not the things that define me. Only God defines who I am, and he says I am loved and I am His. I have so many stories from the ranch that show how life changing it is, but I will just share one with you today.

A little less than a year before I started at the ranch, my life was turned completely upside down. The life I thought I had, the future I thought I had, gone, shattered right before my eyes. There was nothing I could do but pray and start to pick up the pieces. Before I started at the ranch I was seeing two counselors, one weekly, the other every other week. I was so lost and so desperate to find answers. My mom was encouraging me to go (she had done it the sessions before me, and so she knew how life changing it can be). I was kind of hesitant to go to be honest. I was already seeing two counselors and was feeling like I was at the point where I was getting better.

One day I just decided to apply and see where it went. My work schedule can be kind of hard so if I was able to find a time to go, I would. As it turns out there, was a time I could go so I took it. I was excited and nervous to start. I kind of knew what to expect because my mom had just done it and told me a little bit, but still wasn't quite sure. I was already learning to trust God though, and so I was just trusting that God knew what he was doing, if I could fit going into my busy schedule, it was meant to be.

Fast-forward to a couple of weeks into, and I'm talking maybe my second or third time there. I was struggling with the idea of forgiveness. I was seeing how this bitterness and hurt was really hurting relationships I had with other people. I was really feeling like God wanted me to forgive, but I was so hurt and just didn't feel like they deserved to be forgiven. Let me tell you what, if God wants you to do something, he will continue to find you and fight for you (kind of like Jonah). I went in to my session that week not expecting to forgive but walked out forgiving.

That week I painted on a horse (which was super awesome, never knew you could do that). On the one side I was asked to paint a picture of what it would look like to forgive. I stared at the horse for a while not knowing what it would look like. Once I started though, it came pretty easily. I ended up painting a picture of me on my knees praying to God. He was surrounding me in the painting because I ultimately knew that it was between God and I.



Once I finished the painting I looked to Deb to explain it to her. She shared with me that she saw something similar to my painting earlier that morning. She asked if I would be willing to take a walk down to the cross and get on my knees there. I was hesitant but eventually agreed.

We got down there and we both got on our knees in front of the cross. I was able to forgive in that moment. It was probably one of the hardest things I have ever done. Even with every fiber in my body not wanting to do it, I was able to do it. With tears streaming down my face I was able to forgive. The moment I said amen, the wind picked up and it was as if God was blowing my anger and bitterness away. I got up from being on my knees and feeling much lighter. I was told by so many people that week how much lighter I had become.

It wasn't until a few months later that I was able to tell that person that I had forgiven them already. They were shocked. Again, don't get me wrong, it is still a daily thing. I still need to forgive them everyday and some days are easier than others.

That moment at the cross has specifically changed my life though. I am somedays still angry and bitter, but not nearly like I was before that day. It truly was such a God moment that I will never forget. So thank you Living Streams Ranch for all you do. Thanks for always pointing me back to God and for always listening to what He wants you to do. You will forever hold a special place in my heart. My experience at the ranch was completely life changing.





FRESH OUTLOOK

Written by Kate Strickland

In the summer, I started attending weekly sessions at Living Streams Ranch with our good friend Mrs. Rotelle. This is where my faith grew far more than it ever had before and I began to put my full trust in God and his plan for my future. Mrs. Rotelle offered a listening ear and steered me towards scripture as we worked through a devotional book. By sharing her own testimony she taught me about forgiveness in a powerful way. During my time at her ranch I was truly able to feel God's presence.

I will always remember one night towards the beginning of summer we were sitting in the middle of the woods out by her cross. I was on her horse, and she told me to close my eyes. The sun was going down and the woods felt dark, as my eyes were closed, I felt a beam of light hit my face. I opened my eyes and I was glowing. The sun was shining through a small patch in the trees onto my face and I was lit amidst the complete darkness of the woods. In this moment I felt God. I felt his presence with me, and I no longer felt alone. This was the turning point in my spiritual journey and I remember leaving the ranch in tears. I felt as though I was heard, God knew me, he saw me, and he knew all that I was experiencing. From this night on I have continued to turn to God in my weaknesses and trust that he has a plan for my life. Around this time yellow became one of my favorite colors and sunflowers became my favorite flower- symbolizing being a bright light in this dark world.

After my time at Living Streams Ranch I was eager to begin with a fresh outlook my senior year. My eyes were open more to others and the knowledge that everyone has their own broken story.

Do you want to help our ministry?

We are on our way to meeting our 2019 financial goal of \$65,000. Will you consider helping us stack our haybales so that our operating expenses will be covered and our services can remain free? Each bale below represents \$5,000 and as you can see, we are \$41,000 into our goal. Every dollar makes a difference at the Ranch. Will you consider donating \$20, \$50, \$100, or whatever amount God is laying on your heart? Please see page 7 of this Newsletter for how to donate.

Do you shop on Amazon? Go to smile.amazon.com and select Living Streams Ranch as your charity. Amazon will then donate a portion of your purchase dollars to the Ranch.



Goal - \$65,000



\$41,000 raised so far!
Thank you for your generosity!

NO GREATER JOY

Written by Katie Sovocool



I asked Jesus into my heart around the age of twelve one night in bed, after watching the Jesus Film for children. I immediately felt a tangible sense of peace enter my heart. But all throughout my teen years I doubted my salvation. I thought you had to act perfect and do everything perfectly in order to be loved and accepted by God. I longed for a true relationship with God, but all I really had was a religion.

This finally changed about 4 years ago, around the age of 20. It was then that I started developing a hunger for God, and realized that it's not about what I can do for Him, but what He's already done for me! I realized that His blood makes me spotless and clean, and that His love is stronger than any sin or doubt of my own, and that all I had to do was repent, and run into His open arms of love. 4 years ago was when I really recommitted my life to Jesus.

Since then, He has taught me so much! The Lord has taught me that nothing is impossible with Him, and that Christ dwelling inside of us is stronger than any other force outside of us in this world. One of my favorite verses is 1 John 4:4b, which says, "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world."



God has also taught me that the greatest thing we can do with our lives is to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Being a Christian is not about belonging to a religious group; instead, it is about being in a dynamic, vibrant love relationship with the One who loves us more than anything else. There's a saying that says, "Jesus didn't just die to get you to heaven - He died to get heaven inside of you!"

I used to think that we became Christians just so that we could get our ticket to heaven and not have to worry about going to hell, but the real reason Jesus died is because He loves you and me and wants to have a relationship with us, and wants us to be His hands and feet to a lost and dying world.



Jesus wants us to live in His love and in His strength. And I am so excited to spend the rest of my life falling deeper in love with Jesus and walking closely with Him. There is truly no greater joy in life than to be in a personal relationship with the Creator of the universe, and the One Who died for me. ~



Volunteer Spotlight

This past year my girls were begging to ride horses. Knowing how expensive it can be for riding lessons especially for two I began praying about it. I met Deb through mutual friends and she said we could come volunteer for FREE!! What!?! My girls and I were so excited!

We came to the ranch...we worshiped...we prayed...we served together and the Lord had us at our first poop scoop!! We have continued to be so blessed by serving at the ministry and my girls who were begging to ride would rather clean stalls, scoop poop, groom and take care of the amazing horses. We haven't missed too many Saturday's since we began last winter because we love it so much.

My girls have learned hard work and what it takes to have horses and also the joy of fellowship and the presence of the Lord in the middle of a barn, at the cross and even while scooping poop. We praise God for the ministry He has placed in Deb's hands and all the lives it ministers to, from the participants to the volunteers. Thank you for having us Living Streams Ranch!

Love, Shannon, Taylor and Paige

Ranch Happenings



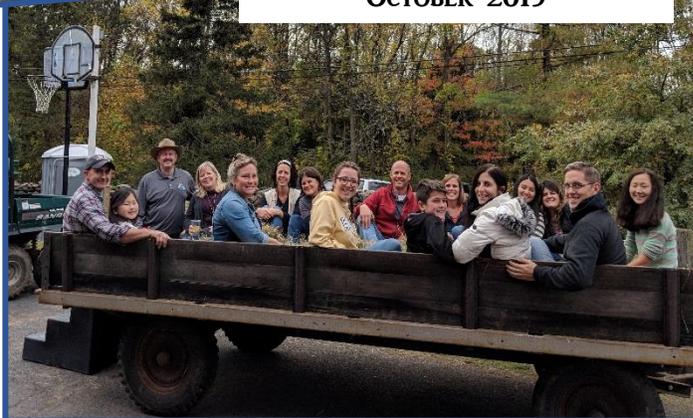
**OUR NEW HORSE – JULIET
THANK YOU TO MELEA, RON
AND RHONDA RUTH FOR
YOUR GENEROSITY**



**MINISTRY TRAINING
AT SHEPHERD YOUTH RANCH
IN NORTH CAROLINA**



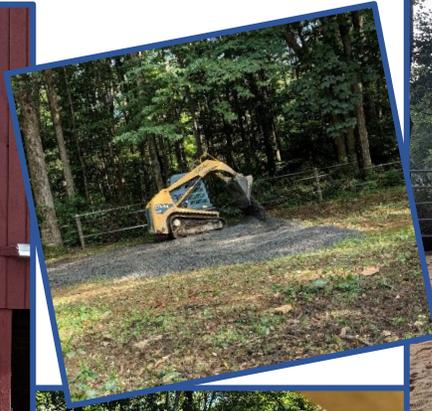
**VOLUNTEER PICNIC
OCTOBER 2019**



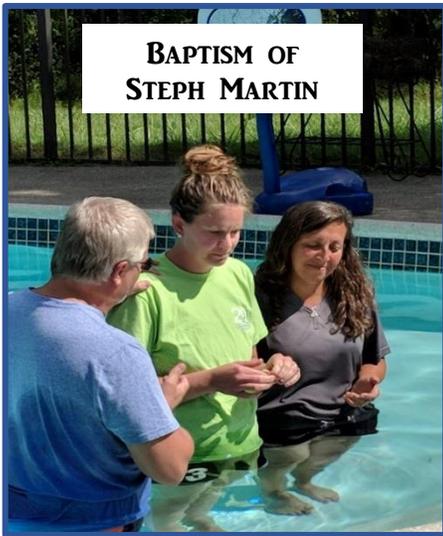
**THANK YOU
TYLER HUNSBERGER
FOR SHARING YOUR TALENTS
WITH US THAT NIGHT!**



Ranch Happenings Continued...



**THANK YOU RYAN WINTERS AND
BOYS SCOUT TROOP 16/FRANCONIA
FOR COMPLETING YOUR EAGLE SCOUT
PROJECT WITH US.**



**BAPTISM OF
STEPH MARTIN**





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From left to right
Back

Wayne Rotelle - President

Deb Rotelle – Executive Director

Front

Cindy Moyer – Secretary

Tricia Escalante – Dictation

Joel Derstine – Treasurer



Our Mission

Living Streams Ranch is a Christian Non-Profit Organization founded on the love of Jesus Christ. In faith we open our hearts and our ranch to children and women so that they might find hope and healing through equine related activities in God’s creation.

Our Vision

Living Streams Ranch seeks to see every person have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, healed from the past, equipped to begin a new life and given hope for the future. Our goals are to share the truth of the gospel, while providing a place where all people feel safe and accepted just as they are. We pray the Ranch will be a place where individuals who come hurting will feel supported through life’s difficulties, and leave each week seeing their true identity, beauty and value as a loved child created by God.

Our Core Values

- FAITH: Jesus Christ is our Savior, Redeemer, Hope and Healer
- COMPASSION: Accepting people where they are while supporting their growth in wholeness
- VALUE: Honoring the intrinsic value of each person created by God in a grace filled environment
- SERVANTHOOD: Serving people and doing all things with excellence to the Glory of God
- SAFETY: Maintaining a place of physical, emotional and spiritual safety

Support

Living Streams Ranch is a Christian 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that relies solely on the generosity of volunteers and donors. The donations enable us to offer free services for all who attend the Ranch. Would you consider becoming a volunteer or making a donation? Volunteer applications are available on our website and we accept online donations at our secure giving site at: www.livingstreamsranh.org. Checks made payable to Living Streams Ranch are also welcomed. Please mail them to: 2375 Schukraft Road, Quakertown, PA 18951



Devotionals used at the Ranch

A very special THANK YOU to Richter Office Supply in Souderton PA for printing this newsletter.



2375 Schukraft Road
Quakertown, PA 18951



*From all of us at Living Streams Ranch, we give
THANKS TO YOU!*