



Rainbow Reflections

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Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of the Rockies
Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp
107 South Ninth Street, Suite B
Canon City, Colorado 81212

Volume 34, Number 1 Winter 2022

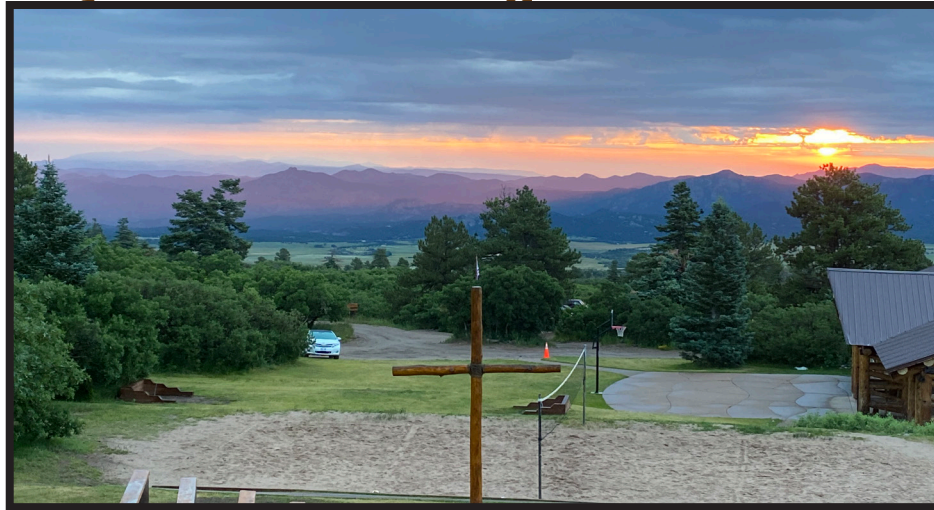
Rainbow Trail is operated and maintained under authority of a USDA Forest Service Special Use Permit. Rainbow Trail is located in the San Isabel National Forest, USDA.

ALMOST....!

Reality of land exchange closer than ever!

In 1998, the Rainbow Trail Board of Directors first approached the U.S. Forest Service about doing a land exchange to own our site. At that time, the Forest Service was not even interested in exploring the exchange. Roll forward twenty-four years, and we are now on the verge of this exchange and owning our site becoming a reality!

It has been an amazing journey to bring us to this point: from cottage meetings in the backyards of our supporters sharing the “why’s” of the land exchange, to raising over \$600,000 in 2012 that would allow us to pay cash two year later for the land we will use in the land exchange, to submitting our official land exchange proposal to the Forest Service in 2018, to where we sit today.



We have great news to share! The Pike-San Isabel National Forest has completed the Feasibility Analysis for the Locke Park Land Exchange, concluding that the proposed exchange appears to be feasible to complete and is in the public interest. Forest

Supervisor Diana Trujillo signed the Feasibility Analysis in late December, recommending the exchange process move forward. Land staff in the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Regional Office is currently completing their review of the Feasibility Analysis.

The final step in the feasibility analysis process will be a decision by Jason Robertson, the Regional Director of Recreation, Lands, Minerals, and Volunteers to concur with Supervisor Trujillo’s recommendation to move forward. We expect this to happen sometime in February. The next step in the exchange will be for RTALC and the Forest Service to enter into a non-binding “Agreement to Initiate” the land exchange. This agreement defines the estates to be exchanged and estimated timeline to complete the land exchange process. We are hopeful that field work will occur in the summer of 2022, and the exchange closing will occur in 2023!

The Rainbow Trail Board
LAND, PAGE 2

WAY TO GO DAVE!

Dave wins Manlove-Howells Leadership Award!

Every year at the annual Lutheran Outdoor Ministry(LOM) conference the Manlove-Howells Leadership Award is given to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in Christ’s Church through the field of outdoor ministry. After the past few years of global trials, full time staff felt it was past time to nominate Dave Jarvis. November as LOM met in Minneapolis for their Total Inclusion conference, Dave was recognized with this prestigious award. The application Full Time staff put together spoke



to Dave’s 33 years of service to RTALC in the role of Executive Director, and included several video testimonials of people impacted by Dave’s ministry.

Throughout the last three decades, Dave has built a legacy



reflective of everything the Manlove-Howells Leadership Award stands for. Many of you know the ways Dave provides visionary insight, inspires collaborative efforts among

colleagues, and offers valuable guidance to current and future outdoor ministry leaders. In the application, full time staff highlighted the following ways he embodies these characteristics.

“Dave is a man who lives his convictions through his Christ centered heart, his unmatched work ethic, and his devotion to uplifting the gifts of campers, staff, and other LOM partners. His mindset around camping ministry all changed when he realized the importance of providing development and

DAVE, PAGE 2

Rainbow Trail Mission Statement

Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp creates holy spaces that embody God’s radical grace to affirm, empower, and transform all people to be Christ’s light in the world

Trail Boss

By Dave Jarvis - Executive Director

I think January is our busiest month of the year. So many things are moving simultaneously: camper registration, promotion Sundays at churches, prepping for recruiting, getting this newsletter out on the streets, and signing over 450 thank you's for all the gifts we received at the end of the year. But, I love the beginning of a new year. It's fresh, it's full of optimism, and we are all ready to go!!

We have had outstanding registrations for our summer on-site programs. Five weeks are already full, with one more getting close to full. We have over 910 campers already registered for this summer, and it is still early. But don't wait to register! Take a look at which week will work for your child and register now. It will be a life-changing week for your kids! We also have 30-day camps scheduled that will be happening out in the congregations. In addition, there is still room for your senior high youth to go on a Compass Points backpacking trip or Bridging Borders service trip this summer. Contact Maggie Brakke or Cam Regennitter respectively for more information on these programs.

Many people think that church camp is a nice "extra" in their child's summer. But if this pandemic has taught us anything, it is so much more. Kids (and adults) need camp more now than ever. I hear from campers over and over again about how camp has solidified their faith and really equipped them to be Christ's light in the world. Camp changes people in some amazing ways. I want every child to experience that wonderfully loving and grace-filled community. Money should never be the reason any child doesn't come to RTLCL. So, don't let that be a barrier. The first question to ask is, "Do you want your child to go to camp?" That is a yes/no question. If your answer is yes, then, together, let's figure out a way to get them there. If you are in a position where finances will prevent you from sending your child to camp, please contact me—we'll find a way to get your child to camp! We have very generous donors that have given specifically to provide camperships for this exact reason. Do this for your child. If you want your kids or family to come to camp this summer, we will find a way to make that happen! Kids need the socialization of camp and to be in community again. Let camp help your kids and family transition out of these crazy times. We'd love to see you!

If you read the lead article in this newsletter, you know the Land Exchange is moving forward in some very positive ways! I expect we will sign the Agreement to Initiate the actual exchange in February, and I think we will see real progress in 2022. I know we will need at least one to two work weekends over on our new land to clear debris and prepare the site to hand over to the Forest Service. Look for details about those weekends this spring. Please keep this Land Exchange in your prayers.

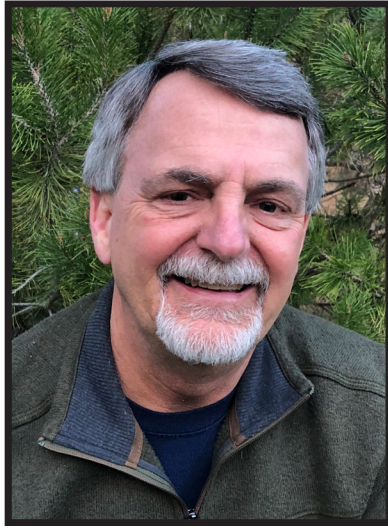
The support humbles me that this community has shown this ministry. 2021 was a phenomenal year of ministry, and the financial gifts we received from all of you have set us up for a quick start in 2022. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will say there is no greater return on your investment than a gift to this ministry that is used to shape the faith life of a child. Kids are experiencing God's love hugely and tremendously. I do believe these experiences are life-changing. Campers leave camp changed to be Christ's light in the world. Can you ask for more than that?

We will start our recruiting for summer staff in early February. We will do a small loop through the Colorado schools during the first week of February and then head to the Midwest on February 7th. I am optimistic about this year. We already have over 55 summer staff applications either completed or in process. Recruiting will be back to a more normal process than last year was.

As I am finishing my column, I just heard about the passing of the Rev. Dave Peters, the second full-time director for Rainbow Trail. Dave dealt with a lot of infrastructure upgrades in the late 1960s, and his vision and foresight put us on a firm foundation for the future. We will celebrate Dave's life and legacy in our Spring newsletter. I want you to know Dave's impact on me and my ministry. He was one of my champions and a great source of advice as I grew in my position here. Dave, you will be dearly missed. Thanks for your early vision that set us on the course we are still living into today.

I am so excited about what is ahead. We have very full summer camps, a land exchange that actually is going to happen, an awesome and complete full-time ministry team in place, a strong and visionary Board, and an air of optimism about all that lies ahead. Please pray for this ministry and our staff. We take great joy in serving you through RTLCL as I begin my 34th year at Rainbow Trail. I could not have asked for a better place to serve and use all of my gifts. The RTLCL community is our family. You have all become an integral part of our story. Thanks for being my partner all along the way! I am so excited for 2022!

Until next time!

CONT. LAND

has already been busy preparing for the exchange. The Board is currently working on a land use analysis for the new land configuration which will lead to a new site master plan and the boundaries of our conservation easement. These are exciting times!!


Rainbow Trail plans to begin the final fundraising efforts of the HOME AT LAST campaign for the land exchange. We continue to ask for your prayers and your financial support for this process. Your contributions at this stage will help us see this process to fruition. If you haven't given to the land exchange yet, consider making a special gift for the future generations that will be a part of this ministry. This is a project that the RTLCL community has rallied around. Our estimates indicate that we still need to raise about \$50,000. Any remaining funds after the completion of the exchange will be used for the first big project of the new master plan. Dave would love to have a more in-depth conversation with you and explain more about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You can reach him by email at dave@rainbowtrail.org or by phone at 719-429-1377. Help us make Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp our Home At Last!

CONT. DAVE

ministry to his staff (rather than just the campers). This commitment to training young leaders in the Rocky Mountain Synod has resulted in countless staff alumni who have changed their life paths to go into ministry. His vision of The Village System and its ability to give campers autonomy in their camp experience flipped camp to be camper centered and encouraged the importance of camper voices from their first step on site. And finally, his servant's heart is seen daily by staff and campers as he is in the dish-room alongside them doing KP, on the porch doing one-on-one check-ins with staff at every meal, playing guitar for worship, or dressing up in costumes for daily camper themes. Although Dave's staff would tell you of the countless sleepless nights Dave has spent working to make RTLCL the incredible success that it is...Dave would tell you he only works 3-4 days a year, the rest is just spent doing what he loves!

Often, awards at the national conferences of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries can be missed at the Synod level. We wanted to make sure our Rainbow Trail family could celebrate Dave alongside us! To watch Dave accept this award, search YouTube for "Dave Jarvis accepts the 2021 LOM Manlove-Howells Award." Congratulations Dave!

**Colorado Gives!!!
Over \$100,000!**



\$100,005

#ColoradoGivesRTLCL

We experienced such a magical day during our 2020 Colorado Gives Day. It was in the midst of a very challenging year with the pandemic and your support was beyond what we could have ever imaged. To be realistic, we didn't think we could expect that kind of response every year. We set our 2021 expectations of Colorado Gives Day to be a little lower, knowing that many things were more stable for camp. So, our 2021 goal was \$89,000. But what we didn't count on was the overwhelming generosity of the RTLCL community. This year's Colorado Gives Day was incredible! In a short 24 hours on December 7, 2021, the Rainbow Trail community responded to the challenge, blew past our goal, and gave \$100,005! An impressive 343 donors participated in giving to Rainbow Trail that day. The response to this day of giving not only shows the incredible generosity of this community, but also shows that Rainbow Trail is a place where so many people invest their hearts. For that, we are truly grateful beyond measure, and hope you all will accept our deepest thanks. Your gifts have set us up for a great start to 2022. These funds help support the day-to-day operations of camp including program equipment, summer staff salaries, our full-time staff, and site and facilities maintenance, to name a few. In all, Colorado Gives Day raised \$54.4 million for 3,063 non-profits in Colorado. We are already setting a goal of \$94,000 for next year! We will let you know the date for 2022 as soon as it is announced. Thank you again to those who joined us in this Spirit-filled day and to those who gave gifts to help support this ministry and all those it impacts.

Camp Vibes

By Cam Regennitter - Director of On-Site & Bridging Borders

2022 is here as we close out another year of great RTLC ministry! Thank you to all who made it such a memorable year, and for supporting Rainbow Trail in so many different ways. I love what this community is about!



We are hitting the time of year when we start preparing for the summer season. We recently finished our Bible Study Writers retreat, where we bring up five pastors to help think of what we want the Bible study to be about, what we wish campers and staff to get out of it, and how to take that all down the mountain. It is a challenging process, but it sure is a fun one! We are now getting ready to hit the recruiting trail, one of my many favorite parts of what we do. We will be hitting all of our ordinary Colorado Schools, along with our regular Mid-West schools. I am ready to see some of our Alumni, but am even more prepared to meet the new summer staff members. So make sure to say what's up if we see you on the way!

This summer will be my 8th summer on staff at Rainbow Trail and my 4th on full time. As I have seen many things over the years, met many people, talked with many staffers, played with many campers, I always like to remember how this place was for me as a camper! I grew up here and always felt like the people around me wanted to know who I was and make me feel God's love through the whole week—remembering how cool it felt that these college-age staff wanted to be my best friend! Not because they had to, but because they wanted to. I will always promise we do our very best for your campers to have the same feeling, knowing that they can come here, be themselves, grow in their faith, and have fun doing it! Thanks for trusting us with your campers; they change our lives.

For my personal life, I cannot complain one bit! The holidays were fantastic, spending time with my family and traveling down to Texas to spend time with Delta and explore Fredericksburg for the first time. It was great to put a face on the town that sends so many campers and adults up during the summer; what a beautiful town. I continue to play all of the sports I can while playing with Penny. She is seven months old now and is just a ball of energy. I love her so much and can't wait for you to meet her during the summer season; She will be running around everywhere saying hello to everyone!

Well, thanks for reading; I can't wait to see many of you this year!

Cam



Rainbow Trail hosts The Summit, a youth ministry retreat, each spring for your youth and family ministers. It's a chance for them to connect with each other and to reflect on this last year. And it's absolutely FREE! It's our gift to them for the ministry they do. The Summit will be held April 25-27, 2022 at camp and is free to all church personnel who work with youth in the Rocky Mountain Synod.

This retreat is designed as a time of personal renewal, professional development, continuing education, and networking with other youth directors, pastors, and Christian educators. Attendees are invited to spend their time in a peaceful mountain setting, surrounded by God's creation and beloved people. The days are filled with time to relax, play, worship, and be engaged in conversation and learning.

Daily devotions and worships will be led by faith formation leaders and the RTLC Staff and community time will be scheduled for us to pool our resources and experiences to workshop ideas on how to best serve our communities in both big and small ways. We are so excited to worship and walk with you in a time of refreshment and reflection. For more information or to register, contact hannah@rainbowtrail.org.



Weeks are filling up but spots are still open in the following sessions. **DON'T WAIT! Register today, or you may not have a spot!**

Junior High #1 June 12-18

Junior Camp #1 June 19-25

Intro to Camp #1 June 19-22

Intro to Camp #2 June 22-25

Senior High #1 July 10 - 16

SH Compass Points July 17-23

RTLC South (NM) July 17-23

JH Compass Points July 24-30

Intro to Camp #3 July 24-27

Senior High #2 July 31-August 6

Young Adult Compass Points Aug 8-14

Check www.rainbowtrail.org for up-to-date status of each week and register today!

SUMMER STAFF 2022



Do you know anyone interested in working at camp this summer? Recruiting for 2022 staff has already begun! If you know someone who loves kids, is passionate about Christian community, and would be a great fit for Rainbow Trail, encourage them to apply for a position on our summer staff! We will be interviewing for the next month and hiring in March. Send those interested to www.rainbowtrail.org/summerstaff for more information!

Hanging With Hannah

By Hannah Loeffler-Kemp - Director of Retreats

Happy New Year, RTLC community!

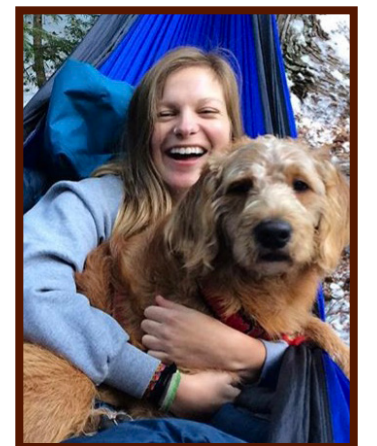
Winter brings forth time for intentional gatherings, peaceful snowy hikes, space to rest, and warm wool socks. I am filled with wonder and awe as I experience Rainbow Trail through the changing seasons. One of my favorite aspects of working in Outdoor Ministry is how the flow and style of work is woven in a similar cycle as the seasons.

The second half of our fall season brought many moments of joy. Youth from across the synod gathered for our Confirmation and Senior High Retreats. During our Confirmation Retreat, Pastor Brad Doty, Senior Pastor at St Philip Lutheran in Littleton, CO, led the youth through conversations and reflections on the theme Living a Life Filled with Faith, Hope, and Love. Missie Bonser, Deacon at Trinity Lutheran in Monument, CO, was our speaker for the Senior High Retreat. She guided the youth through the theme of Not Even: not even death, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love. Both of these weekends were impactful as campers engaged in creation and community in the mountains.

Camp was covered in lights and filled with joy during our Advent-fest. Our artists did a wonderful job working with our participant families to create beautiful pieces - stained glass, pinecone wreaths, hand dipped candles, woven potholders, wooden lamps, and more. Santa Lucia visited the cabins and rooms early Sunday morning to deliver cinnamon rolls and hot chocolate. There was an abundance of love and peace throughout the weekend, as we gathered in community surrounded by music, prayer, and a little bit of snow.

In December, I got to experience the relaxing Colorado activity of going to hot springs. I traveled around Colorado to Pagosa and Mt Princeton to soak and splash. I enjoyed a long restful trip back to Minnesota to celebrate the season with family and friends. I spent most of my time going on snowy hikes with my dog and playing board games by the fire. I look forward to continuing to explore the outdoor adventures Colorado has to offer!

We have a handful of new and returning retreat groups this winter and spring. As I continue to learn and grow in this position, I am filled with awe of the beloved people who make up this community. I can't wait to continue to interact and engage with the Rainbow Trail community. I hope to see you on the mountain soon!



~Hannah



Rainbow Trail is going back to Ecuador, and staff alumni can come along! We will be going to Riobamba, Ecuador, to meet up with our good friend Marco and serve him and Rescate Ecuador. In past years, we have helped build water filtration systems and a Dental Clinic for all of the people and villagers of Riobamba. Summer



directors will be leading this trip, along with other staff alumni! So come on this journey to serve our brothers and sisters in Ecuador and build relationships you will never forget! The trip will be July 3-9, and a cost of \$905 + airfare.



All ages from high school and up are welcome. If you have any questions, reach out to Cam at cam@rainbowtrail.org!

Great New Ways To Continue To Support RTALC

The support of our donors is key to our ministry thriving and growing. There are a multitude of ways that you can give to this ministry. Stocks, bonds, mutual and ETF funds, checks, online, and gifts to annual support or specific projects like the land exchange or camperships are just a few. However, there are some other tools available of which you may not be aware.

If you own an IRA and are over the age 70 1/2, you may be eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (ie a contribution to RTALC) directly from your IRA and not include the amount given as subject to income tax. And such charitable gifts reduce the amount of Required Minimum Distribution you must take for yourself every year! Because of recent law changes, it is always good to consult your tax advisor, but if you are eligible for this, it is a very good deal!

Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) are tax-advantaged investment accounts used for charitable giving. You can fund a DAF with cash or other assets and take a tax deduction for doing so. Usually, people opt to contribute their appreciated investments so they don't have to face the tax consequences of selling it themselves. Once inside the donor-advised fund, your contributions continue to grow tax-free until you elect to issue a grant to the IRS-approved charity of your choice.

The beauty of donor-advised funds is they're available to anyone. Donor-advised funds are "designed to be a simple, turnkey way to execute your philanthropic wishes, whether you're giving \$500 or several million." You can give as much or as little (as long as it's at least \$50) as you want to one charity or dozens whenever you choose. Many charitable gift experts call donor-advised funds "flexible philanthropy."

Take advantage of these tools to help our ministry grow. Talk with your financial advisor and/or your tax consultant for more details. Or contact Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org and he can help you get connected to an expert.

Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

At the 2022 January Rainbow Trail Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved a vaccine policy as we approach spring retreating and summer. This policy highly encourages that all staff, campers, retreat participants, and volunteers are fully vaccinated, based on CDC guidelines, before arriving at RTALC. **We are not requiring vaccinations, however, there will be additional steps for those attending camp that have not been vaccinated.**

We will continue to make the health and safety of camp and the wider community our priority. For more information, and to read the full policy, go to the COVID-19 quick link on our website!

Simonton Says

By Sands Simonton- Director of Site and Facilities

Happy New Year everyone and hello from the site of Rainbow Trail! I'm sure that wherever you are, the warm weather is confusing you just as much as it is me hah! Hopefully some snow falls soon so we can avoid another dry summer up here at camp. It's certainly been a dry start down here in the southern Rockies, but thankfully this year we've been able to host retreats again!

So far, I couldn't be happier with how our retreat season has gone. Hannah has been an awesome addition to our team. Last year when I started this position, things were slow at the camp because of the pandemic. So, because this is the first busy retreat season I've experienced, I've been able to learn a lot about what it takes to run a facility like this throughout the entire year. I've also learned more about some of the different retreats we run during this time, and I absolutely love it. The site is getting good consistent use which makes it easier to keep an eye on things. Compared to last year, I now know what to expect in the coming months getting ready for the summer. I'm currently making my materials list for Memorial Day weekend which is very exciting. There will be a good amount of landscaping following the recent water pipe excavation in the road next to the mall, which will include replacing the logs lining the road and reviving the legends themselves, Norm and Norma (the gnomes). Other projects include new vinyl wood flooring in the Evergreen lodge as well as the apartment in upstairs Columbine, new decks on the original cabins mimicking the same style built on Wood Carving last year, refinishing the Pavilion logs, and many other much needed renovations and upgrades all around. Get excited for that because the spring and summer are right around the corner. Speaking of the summer, just like last year I can't wait to begin my interviewing process for the Summer 2022 Maintenance and Camp Hand positions. I think this is going to be another unforgettable summer and I can't wait.

You've probably already read all about the land exchange information. We are getting so excited about the possibilities that it presents us in terms of customization and expansion of our already fantastic site. Every day we are getting closer to owning this land and we owe it all to the Board of Directors, Dave and his family, the Full-Time team and previous Full-Time teams, as well as all of you out there who have supported us and made it possible for us to do the ministry that we do here. I also want to personally thank everyone on behalf of me and my family for keeping this place moving in the right direction for so many years. I'm honored to be a part of this exciting time in Rainbow Trail's history.

As for me on a personal note, things are going really well! I had a great holiday break with my family and friends. I've only gotten 4 days of skiing under my belt this season which is truly a tragedy! Like I said earlier hopefully we get some better snow so I can be motivated to get on the slopes! Bode is doing great, getting bigger and smarter each day. He's going on 10 months and he weighs 60 pounds now! If you haven't met him yet, I think you're going to like him. Good chance he'll tinkle on you a little bit though... still a puppy turns out. Anyways, stay happy and healthy and I can't wait to see you all again soon in person.

~Sands



Thank You for Being Part of the Ministry of Rainbow Trail!

Rainbow Trail is blessed to have a great cloud of witnesses that give their time and talent to the ministries that happen. The staff at Rainbow Trail work very hard to offer quality programs, food, and facilities, but it would never happen without the amazing support and dedication of all these volunteers. We've made every effort to include all those who have volunteered in 2021; if we inadvertently left you off the list, please forgive us and call the camp office at 719-276-5233 so we can make a correction. Thank you for your amazing service to Rainbow Trail!

Presenters & Writers

RTLTC is blessed to work in partnership with several of the finest pastors, youth directors, and lay leaders in the Synod. These people provide much of the spiritual guidance during the year through Bible study and large group presentations. Your efforts help open the hearts of many in this special place!

Bible Study Writers

Rev. Dave Risendal
Rev. Vera Guebert-Steward
Rev. Jane Jebsen
Rev. Nicole' Ferry
Rev. Brad Doty
Nellie Jarvis

Mens Fly Fishing Retreat

Rev. Dave Risendal
Rev. Roger Thompson
Stuart Andrews - Ark Anglers

Senior High Retreat

Presenter
Missie Bonser

Confirmation Retreat

Presenters
Rev. Brad Doty

Retreat Hosts

Cam Regennitter
Daniel Kirschbaum
Maggie Brakke
Sands Simonton
Dave & Nellie Jarvis
Hannah Loeffler-Kemp
Sarah Weaver
Dalton Bunnell
Jack Noblett
David Rauscher
Leah Jarvis
Sam Walmer
Sadie Nutt
Beka Gershenoff
Abby Wiggins
Tessa Leonard
Haylee Hayden
Gabby Johnson
Adam Schmuck
Chris Lovagnini
Paige Dayton
Anna Saathoff
Grace Hodson
Ashley Procanyn
Maggy Hovden

Sara Larson
Zach Regennitter
Delta Wise
Jack Flemer
Matt LaJoy
Sami Larsh
Zach Lindsey
Annika Burr
Macey Pedersen
Matt Meline
Jonah Hanson
Kelly Marsh
Sam Johnson
Anthony Tantillo

Staff Training Presenters

Rev. Michael Tassler
Rev. Vera Guebert-Steward
Rev. Jane Jebsen
Rev. Nicole' Ferry
Rev. Dave Risendal
Bishop Jim Gonia
Julie Miller

Raft Training

Arkansas River Tours

Camp Grandparents

Bob Witte
Joyce Witte
Bob Veuthey
Bill Dausses
Charlotte Dausses
Cheryl Mahon
Don Morris
Karen Pforr
Mary Koepf
Deb Steinke
Ruth Ericson
Kris Ericson
Janice Ehlers
Lenora Simmons
Don Morris

Family Camp Presenters

Rev. Dr. Jana Schofield
Rev. Jeff Hanson
Nellie Jarvis – Art
Heidi Peterson - Art
Sands Simonton – Art
Richard Walker – Art
Jesse Crock - Art
Charlie Pineda – Musician
Nick Ehrhardt – Musician
Paul Bogart - Musician

Labor Day Leader

Rev. Julie McNitt

2021-2022 Board of Directors

Michelle Okes, President
Rev. Jane Jebsen, Vice President
Nicole' Ferry, Secretary
Bill Ernstrom, Treasurer
Austen Smith
Rev. Kathy Armstrong
Chris Lieber
Phil Dorth
Sandy Elvington
Rev. Vera Guebert-Steward
Rev. Kent Mueller

Ambassadors

Ambassadors are our direct link to congregations. Rainbow Trail Ambassadors serve as information sources for those in their congregations, and keep the camp abreast of important events within the larger church. Their most important function, however, is helping to get information about camp out to the masses! We are grateful for your partnership and support!

Dawn & Shannon Ambrosio
Cindy Budde
Brad & Kathleen Chewakin
Andrea and Tom Croshal
Dave & Carissa Cruson
Bob & Holly Denning
Gerald Engleman
Ruth Ericson
Deidre & Tim Farrell
Kathy & Eric Ferdig
Rebbie Garza

Denise Gergen
Cathy Goodman
Bud & Linda Grimm
Karel & Tom Hemler
Nancy Henning
Andrea & Derek Iverson
Wendy Jendro & Joel Brown
Steve & Linda Jurrens
Mary Koepf
Dee Ann & John Lord
Jessica & Joel Maassen
Cheryl & Stephen Mahon
Holly & Nick Massie
Tanda & Tom McCombe
Kris & Greg McDaniel
Dawn & Brent Meyer
David Miller & Anne Wenzel
Jill & Douglas Monsen
Gail & Mark Muehlethaler
Janice & James Mulvany
Josh & Caitlin Nelson
Chuck & Gayle Newell
Jill O'Brien
Corey & Katie Okes
Vicki & Stacy Padilla
Charlie & Claire Pineda
Randie Polidori
Lisa & Mike Regennitter
Rick & Becky Romano
Christine & Ari Rubin
Paul & Lisa Smith
Rachel & Aldis Strautins
Ana Tolentino & David Bolt
Robert & Denise Tristano
Kathy & Craig Twaddell
DeNee & Jim vanWestrienen
Kate & Eric Waggoner
Sarah & ML Waters

Veteran Servant Corps Retreat April 22-24, 2022



VSCP will be hosting their first Veterans Couples Retreat at Rainbow Trail in April. This retreat is free for any/all Veteran couples. Gather with veteran couple's from around the synod for a weekend of community and renewal. Interested in participating? Contact Vicky Daub at lvdaub2@gmail.com

Chris' Corner

By Chris Seaman - Food Service Manager

To My RTLCL Family,
 My 2022 didn't start well. On 1/5/22 I lost my youngest brother to Covid. Jay was only 58 year's old. He leaves behind 3 children, a wife and a broken hearted family. I'm in NY my home state. Have been stuck at the Hotel in Buffalo for 3 days. Major Blizzard! It's given me the time to process all that has happened. I would suggest you grab a loved one and squeeze them really hard! God loves us and sometimes he needs someone more than we do. Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Hopefully someday soon we won't have to worry about this whole Covid thing. Know that I love you all. And always remember... God Is Great!



Chris

Young Adult Backpacking Trips!

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS! In an effort to more actively minister to young adults, our Compass Points program has partnered with the ELCA Young Adult Abide small groups to make 2 Young Adult Backpacking trips. Young adults are craving more programming created especially for them. We will be bringing in 2 speakers who will work alongside our Compass Points Directors on this week-long backcountry experience. Ages 18-35 welcome! Meet our two speakers!



JENNY SUNG
JULY 10-16

Reverend Jenny Sung is an ordained free range pastor with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. She has been preaching, writing, and curating spaces worldwide for healing through brave love and community art. She received her Masters of Divinity through Luther Seminary and is the founder and co-director of One Dance Company.



BAIRD LINKE
AUGUST 7-13

Baird is a seminarian from Montana studying at Wartburg Theological Seminary. He loves spending time outside with his dog, Kintla, and he's passionate about ecotheology and environmental justice. He can't wait to explore the Colorado wilderness this summer!

Program Assistant Internship

Applications now open!



The Program Assistant (PGA) internship is designed to equip and nurture young adults interested in full-time Outdoor Ministry through experiential learning and professional development.

- > Retreat Hosting, Promotion, Recruiting, Administrative, Special Events
- > Training sessions each month lead by Full Time Directors to enhance practical experience
- > Training Topics Include: Philosophy, Budgeting, Staffing, Program Development, Marketing, and more!
- > 9 Month (late August-early May) Commitment
- > Lodging, Food, Bi-monthly Stipend

Apply for the 2022-2023 season on our website. Applications due February 28th!

The Brak Pack

By Maggie Brakke - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

With a busy retreating season, our Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Conference, and the planning of Summer 2022, it was a jam-packed fall. In the midst of it all, I was able to live up to the flexibility of this season by visiting my family and friends in MN, NM, and NY, competing in a national dance event, and celebrating four weddings of special people in my life! I have cherished these moments, in-person with the people I love, more than I would have ever imagined 2 years ago.



January has been just restful enough to be ready to hit the road for recruiting. I can't wait to connect with our staff alumni across the country, meet new staff, and build our 2022 summer staff community. Our recruiting trip is filled with laughter, storytelling, and empowering incredible young adults looking at a future in ministry. It is simply the best! While on the road, I will also be tabling at the ELCA Extravaganza, sharing our Compass Points program with Family and Youth Ministry Directors across the country. It will be fun to bring new churches into the fold of Rainbow Trail.

Although it is winter, summer is coming fast, and I am so excited to jump back into my third summer at RTLCL. As always, Eagle Peak Lodge is a home to all, please stop by and say "Hi!" if you are onsite this summer!

Maggie

ALSO FOLLOW RTLCL ON...



COLORADO GIVES DAY

Thank you to all of those who gave on Colorado Gives Day, December 7, 2021

Anonymous
 Colorado Gives Day
 Abby Mortinsen
 Abigail and Kurt Mooney
 Alisa and Jim Thomas
 Alissa and Josh Plumley
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The following individuals are members of the 2021 Trailblazers Club. Trailblazers is an annual giving club that keeps the ministry at Rainbow Trail alive and growing. To join, contact Dave 719-276-5233 or check out the “Donate” tab on our webpage at www.rainbowtrail.org. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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The following individuals are members of the 2021 Pathfinders Club. Pathfinders is RTLC's next level giving club that keeps the ministry at Rainbow Trail growing and expanding. These individuals have given \$1,000 or more to this great ministry. To join, contact Dave Jarvis 719-276-5233 or find out more and donate online at www.rainbowtrail.org/donate. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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These congregations have committed to partnering with Rainbow Trail by supporting the ministry through their congregation's budget.

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church, Littleton	Christ the Savior Lutheran Church, Aurora	Holy Love Lutheran Church, Aurora	Peace Lutheran Church, El Paso, TX
All Saints Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, NM	Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, Louisville	Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lakewood	Peace Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM
American Lutheran Church, Grand Junction	Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Broomfield	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Littleton	Risen Lord Lutheran Churchnifer Shepherd of the Hills Luth Church, Canon City
Ascension Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs	Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, Denver	Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey Church, El Paso, TX	South Zumbro Lutheran Church WOW, Kasson, MN
Atonement Lutheran Church, Boulder	Epiphany Lutheran Church, Denver	Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley	Spirit of the Mountain Lutheran Church, Golden
Atonement Lutheran Church, Lakewood	Evergreen Lutheran Church, Evergreen	King of Glory Lutheran Church, Arvada	St. John's Lutheran Church, Thornton
Augustana Lutheran Church, Denver	Faith Lutheran Church, Golden	King of Kings Lutheran Church, Pueblo	St. Luke Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, NM
Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village	First Lutheran Church, Longmont	Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church, Centennial	St. Paul Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, NM
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX	First Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs	Lord of the Mountains Luth Church, Dillon	St. Paul Lutheran Church, Calhan
Bethel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs	First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Burlington	Lutheran Church of Hope, Broomfield	St. Peter Lutheran Church, Greenwood Village
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamos, NM	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Wichita, KS	Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Centennial	St. Philip Lutheran Church, Littleton
Rocky Mountain Synod ELCA, Denver	Glory of God Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge	Mount of the Holy Cross Luth Church, Vail	Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Boulder
Black Forest Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Glenwood Springs	New Promise Lutheran Church, St George, UT	Trinity Lutheran Church, Farmington, NM
Christ Lutheran Church, Highlands Ranch	Grace Lutheran Church, Palo Alto, CA	Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Greeley	Trinity Lutheran Church, Fowler
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Denver	Grace Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Ft. Collins	Trinity Lutheran Church, Loveland
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Durango	Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge	Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Elizabeth	Trinity Lutheran Church, Monument
	Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX		Zion's Lutheran Church, Trinidad

GIFTS IN KIND

Ana Tolentino and David Bolt - Hiking Boots
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 Bob and Margie Dugan - Linens
 Chris Seaman - Travel Expenses
 Christiana Slater - Snacks for Staff
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 Damon and Anna Marie Larson - Pottery Tools and Equipment
 Daniel Kirschbaum and Jonny Tippetts - Hangers and Microwave
 Eric and Elizabeth Berrill - 2009 Chevy Silverado and Accessories
 Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - Foam Brushes, Office Supplies, Water Bottles, and Linens
 Holly and Nick Massie - Linens
 Jerry and Joan Brown - Stamps
 Kate Tjeerdsma Betzel and Filipe Betzel - 36 Water Bottles
 Koren Holden - Storage Containers
 Kyle and Katie Larson - Generator, Patio Lights, Outdoor Lanterns
 Larry and Sally Cameron - Stamps
 Mark and Diane Sather - 2 Woodburning Systems
 Mike and Susan Rush - 200 Carry Out Containers
 Nancy Dalgren - Stamps
 Nathan and Bonnie Palmquist - Towels and GoPro Hero 7
 Phil and Traci Dorth - Food Summer Staff 2021 Closing Banquet
 Robert Hamilton - 20 Bunk Beds and Mattresses
 Sarah and Joshua Voigt - Disposable Masks
 Tabor Lutheran Church - 10 Quilts
 Tom and Karel Hemler - 50 Chairs, 1 Desk, 1 Computer Monitor, and Office Supplies

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 Minneapolis Foundation
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 Drury Family Fund
 Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp
 Thrivent Financial
 Benevity Community Impact Fund
 Cybergrants DST Systems, Inc.

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Ana Reynolds - Staff Mugs
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 Bert and Dolly Lager - Soker Campership Fund
 Bill and Charlotte Dausses - Windows
 Brett and Jennifer Palmer - Soker Campership Fund
 Brian Bonser - Staff Mugs
 Cara Maronek - Staff Mugs
 Chris and Abby Raap - Staff Mugs
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 ELCA Inclusion Grant - Inclusion Grant
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 Kim and Miles Brown - Truck Tires
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 Lindsay Hammon - Staff Mugs
 Mark and Diane Sather - Staff Mugs
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 Medtronic Foundation - Furniture
 Melissa Pforr - Staff Mugs
 Phil and Traci Dorth - Bristlecone
 Rebecca and Paul Marsh - Staff Mugs
 Rocky Mountain Synod ELCA - Week 10 Beloved Community
 Steve and Linda Jurrens - Compass Points Equipment
 Tara and Chad Sawinski - Pavillion Lighting
 Teak and Cliff Simonton - Excavator Rental
 Teak and Cliff Simonton - Tools, Supplies, and Chipper Repair



...as of February 1st.

GIFTS IN MEMORY AND HONOR OF

In memory of Alvin Schlage
 Marilyn Schlage
In memory of Atlanta G. Dye
 Atlanta Lea and James Sheridan
In memory of Bruce and Ruth Masters
 Cheryl Masters
In memory of Dale McDaniel
 Sharon McDaniel
In memory of Daniel Benson
 Virginia and Michael Crow
In memory of Dave Ericson
 Damon Larson
In memory of Ed Mansfield
 Dave and Nellie Jarvis
In memory of Gary Jebsen
 Patricia Torness-Smith
In memory of Gayle Duty
 Diane and William Duty
In Memory of Grandpa Fred
 Janice Ehlers
In memory of James Tobias
 Lisa Scott
In memory of Jerry Nelson
 Patti Nelson
In memory of Joan Splittgerber
Maack
 Audrey Maack
 Kim and Dave Guinn
 Kurt Maack
In memory of Jonathan Schoer
 Brittany and Eric Schoer
In memory of Joni Grundman
 Bob Gojan
 Debbie Whaley
 Glenn Mauston
 Julie Rethman
 Karen Witt
 Ken & Paula Wills
 Kris Carr
 Mary and Gary Bender
 Quita Bertelsen
 Ross and Julie Bertelsen
 Susan Pfabe-Wiggans
In memory of Margaret Patton
 Chris Speckman
In memory of Mark and Kim Myers
 Frank and Lorie Eby
In memory of Mildred Nienaber
 James Nienaber
In memory of Philip Nestingen
 Lynn Nestingen
In memory of Rev & Mrs. Kenneth J Helgesen
 David and Ingrid Waggoner
In memory of Rev Earl and Ida Wall
 Julie and Stan Elmquist
 Stan and Julie Elmquist

In memory of Rev. Harold Skinner
 Nancy Skinner

In memory of Rev. Karl Wyneken
 Christiana Slater
In memory of Roxy and Dixie
 Leah Jarvis
In honor of 2021 staff and Balman Babe Pawnee
 Ashley Procany
In honor of Summer Staffs 2020 and 2021
 Carla Herbig
In Honor of Dave Risendal
 Carolyn Brink
In honor of Jean Larson
 Damon & Anna-Marie Larson
 Darlene Nehls
 Dennis & Lauri Echer
 Kari Reiquam
 Kathy Bergren
 Keith & Frances Paap
 Roger Person
 Scott Paulson
In honor of Hailey Mohler and this special place
 Gail Strobel
In honor of Landon Harmon, love you little brother
 Hannah Harman
In honor of Mitchell and Erik
 Janet and Norman Williams
In honor of Ethan Roberts
 Joanne Cross Blade
In honor of My Campers
 Josh Witkop
In honor of Nicole' Ferry
 Julie and Jary Shimer
In honor of Grandma Ruth
 Kris Ericson
 Leif and Peggy Ericson
In honor Mike, Anna, Kalie, Karyn Saathoff
 Kristen and Mike Saathoff
In honor of Karin & Lori Morton
 Linda and Bob Morton
In honor of 2021 staff
 Madison Sather
In honor of our family & all of our RTLC connections
 Phyllis and Jack Brown
In honor of 2019 staff
 Rebekah Stelzle
In honor of 2020 staff
 Rebekah Stelzle
In honor of staff 2019 & 2020
 Sonja Iverson
In honor Janille Hicks
 Stephanie Carlberg
In Honor of Martin J Younggman
 Wendie Bass

ANN (JARVIS) SMITH MEMORIAL

Adrian Miller	Mike and Michelle DiLisa
Aurice and Bob Worley	Randy Adolf
Bill and Charlotte Dausses	Rick and Sherry Smith
Dave and Nellie Jarvis	Rosetta Bidne
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Janice and Jim Mulvany	Teak and Clifford Simonton
Kevin and Dene Perkins	Vicki and Christian Lieber
Kitty Jarvis	Wayne Arden

CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following friends of Rainbow Trail who gave a gift in 2021.

- | | | | |
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| Alan Beals | Don and Kara Heilman | Kimberly and Chris Sandman | Peter Severson |
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Blazing New Paths!

Trailblazers and Pathfinders are Rainbow Trail's annual giving clubs that sustain and allow our ministry to grow. For as little as \$10 a month, or \$120 a year, you can become a Trailblazer and make a huge difference in everything that happens here at camp! Pathfinders are those that would like to give a little more. For \$1,000 or more a year, you can become a Pathfinder and can make a bigger difference in this incredible ministry. From Day Camp to Bridging Borders to On-Site ministries to Compass Points to RTLCLC South to camperships, Trailblazer and Pathfinder dollars help to make a difference in countless lives through wonderful faith experiences. Support from the Rocky Mountain Synod to Rainbow Trail needed to be reduced to \$19,250 annually a few years ago. We need your help in covering that difference. You can join by simply making your gift to Rainbow Trail. If you are interested in knowing more about Trailblazers or Pathfinders, please contact Dave at the Canon City office (719-276-5233) or by e-mail at dave@rainbowtrail.org.

Use Your Thrivent Choice Dollars Wisely

If you are a Thrivent Financial member, we need your help! We exceeded our Thrivent Choice goal for 2021 of \$33,000 and have set a goal of \$35,000 for 2022. With that kind of support from Thrivent, not only can we continue to provide camperships but we can also possibly upgrade some of the equipment on our site.

Here is how you can help. You will need to go out to the Thrivent website each quarter to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars. This is the only way to ensure that your Thrivent Choice dollars will make it to Rainbow Trail each quarter. Go to <http://www.rainbowtrail.org/donate/thrivent-choice/> and follow the steps to make your designation.

If you have friends that are Thrivent members and who have not designated their Thrivent Choice dollars, please encourage them to designate those Thrivent Choice dollars to Rainbow Trail. We heard that there was close to \$1 million dollars in Choice dollars NOT distributed last year. Help us change that! You can help make a world of difference!!

Remember Your Friends and Loved Ones in a Lasting Way



Want a great way to remember or honor a loved one... and make a difference in the faith life of thousands of children? We have a way! Rainbow Trail now has Memorial, Honor, and Thanksgiving packets that we can send you that make it easy to celebrate the life of someone you love. Memorial gifts can be made at the time of death of a loved one or friend, on the anniversary of the person's birth, or if a couple, on their anniversary. Thanksgiving and Honor gifts can be made at any time in celebration of a person, couple, or group of people. Marriages, wedding anniversaries, confirmations, and retirements are just some of the events that provide occasions for honor gifts. The packet includes a card to send to the family or individual, letting them know that you have made a special gift to Rainbow Trail and an envelope to mail your gift to us. We will list the names the memorialized/honorees in Rainbow Reflections along with those contributing the gift. If you would like a packet sent to you, email Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org and we'll send one out right away.

2022 Memorial Day Work Weekend

Memorial Day has become as much a tradition at Rainbow Trail as anything else we do. We typically have over 120 people that come and join in this annual work weekend to get camp ready for summer. If the list of projects from last year is any indication (replacing every window in Bristlecone Lodge; rebuilding the deck on the Woodcarving Cabin; installing the new laminate flooring in the nurse's station; installing the electric projector screen in Aspen; installing new timing clocks in Pooper; installing a water bottle filling station Bristlecone; painting the exterior of Bristlecone Lodge; installing new gutters on Columbine; and much more), we'll be sure to have another busy and memorable weekend! The dates for 2022 are May 27-30, 2022. Call the Canon City office at (719) 276-5233 or email Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org to reserve your spot at this fun and rewarding weekend. This weekend does fill up quickly and typically has a waiting list. Reserve your spot today!





Rainbow Trail


2022 Events Calendar

- February 28.....Summer Staff Applications Due
- April 1.....Summer Volunteer Apps Due
- May 27-30.....Memorial Day Work Weekend
- May 30-June 11.....Staff Training
- September 2-5.....Labor Day Family Weekend
- September 22-25.....Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
- October 1.....Grace Race
- October 7-9.....Womens Retreat
- October 14-16.....Confirmation Retreat
- October 21-23.....Fall Ambassadors Retreat
- November 18-20.....Senior High Retreat
- Dec 2-4.....AdventFest

www.rainbowtrail.org

A different, yet significant way to support the ministries of Rainbow Trail

Needs List



These are essential items needed for our day-to-day operations. A designated monetary gift would certainly be welcome as well. You can bring these items with you any time you come to camp or call us to arrange a drop-off or pick-up. Thank you for your continued support!

White 20# copy Paper (Laser quality)	Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)
Reams of colored copy paper	9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps)
Avery 5366 Labels	6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)
Avery 5164 Labels	10x13 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)
Nalgene Water Bottles (40)	12 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables
Masking tape	Rain Jackets & Rain Pants
Scotch Tape	25-gallon Rubbermaid tubs (24)
Duct Tape	On-Site and Compass Points Day Packs
Packing Tape	Foam Brushes - 1"
Postage stamps	Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive
8.5x11 Yellow Tablets	White File Folder Labels
8 ft. Rectangle "Lifetime" tables (5)	21 Gallons of Handsanitizer

An Active Way to Support RTLC: Thrivent Action Teams

Thrivent Financial has moved to use Action Teams to encourage more people to be involved in more great projects. An action team is easy to organize. All that has to happen is a Thrivent member identifies a worthy project, finds a group of people to help with the project, and then goes to the Thrivent website and establishes the project in the system. Thrivent will provide \$250 in starter funds for the project in hopes that it can be used to generate more. For example, if your church wanted to buy something from the RTLC wish or need list, you could host a breakfast using the starter funds, and all the proceeds from your breakfast could be used to purchase that item for RTLC. Or you could do something similar to raise campership funds for your youth to go to camp this summer. Or you could use several action teams to buy materials for a congregational work weekend at Rainbow Trail. The sky is the limit for what projects can be done to help Rainbow Trail. Consider forming an action team and make a difference in this fun and worthwhile community effort! Contact Dave Jarvis if you have any questions or need more details.

Wish List



These are larger items that we haven't budgeted for, but would love to have. Contact us if you would like to donate any of these items, new or gently used. You can bring them to camp, or call to arrange a drop-off or pick-up. Thank you for your continued support.

Heavy Duty Cotton Work Gloves	GoPro HERO7 Silver
Industrial Mop buckets (call us first!)	Vermeer Brush Chipper
Sturdy Wheelbarrows	Freezerless Refrigerator
New Full or single mattress pads	Dish Cart
New Queen sheets - white	Phillips 60W & 100W Dimmable LED Bulbs
New Queen mattress pads	Skid Steer Tire Chains
New 3-piece towel sets (20)	Used Day Camp Vehicle
Shark Navigator vacuums (4)	
Free Standing Space Heaters (3)	

Go Green



Rainbow Reflections is available in a paperless version! By opting to receive it in an electronic form you will help us save printing and postage costs, save paper, and reduce waste. You will also get Rainbow Reflections with color photos and information about RTLC programs and events. If you want to receive the newsletter via e-mail contact at info@rainbowtrail.org and let us know that you would like to "Go Green." Don't want to give up the paper, but like the idea of color pictures and a copy of the newsletter letter delivered to your inbox? E-mail "Get Both" to info@rainbowtrail.org. Be sure to include your full name and the e-mail address(es) that you would like to receive it at.



<h3>Administrative Office</h3> <p>107 S. 9th Street, Suite B Canon City, CO 81212 Phone: 719-276-5233 Fax: 719-276-5235 Office Hours: 9 am - 5 pm</p>		<h3>Camp Office</h3> <p>P.O. Box T 3056 County Road 198 Hillside, CO 81232 Phone: 719-942-4220 Fax: 719-942-4000</p>
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Craving Color?

Rainbow Reflections is available in a paperless, color version! E-mail info@rainbowtrail.org to opt for the electronic version of our newsletter! You'll save trees and receive a colorful newsletter right to your inbox!

We make every effort to list each donor, but mistakes do happen. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or have listed you incorrectly we apologize. Please call us, 719-276-5233, and let us know so that we can make corrections.