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

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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.

# EXPANDING THE PARTNERSHIP

# RTLC Adds Both Day Camp and Summer Offering to the Family Camp Partnership with Joshua Station

2022, August of Rainbow Trail began a new partnership with Joshua Station ministries. Joshua Station provides transformational housing for those that have experienced homelessness. It is a two-year program where families are provided with housing and a mentor/coach during their time at Joshua Station; in return, they are required to have a job and pay rent, and they agree to take courses such as financial management. When we first approached Joshua Station, we asked if they would be open to sending their youth to RTLC. They replied, "What about bringing our whole families?" And so, on August 15th, 11 families consisting of thirty people joined our staff for an amazing



three days together. We hiked, built sand castles, wove baskets, wood carved, shared worship and devotions, played games, and created community in a whole new way!

Well, that partnership continues to grow! In 2023, not only will we be offering a full week of camp for these families with close to 60 people expected,

Rainbow Trail summer staff will also be leading a Day Camp this coming July at Joshua Station. We are excited about the possibilities of what this week can be for not only the youth of the Joshua Station families, but also for our summer staff. We believe this will open new doors for us to serve together as their community continues to grow.

Rainbow Trail has also chosen Joshua Station for our summer offering this year. This will allow all of our campers to get to know about the ministry of Joshua Station and contribute to their support. You can bring your monetary offering and put it in the offering jug as you arrive at camp or at closing worship like you have in the past. Please check their website at https://milehighmin. org/joshua-station/. If you want to be a part of making sure this week continues long into the future and this becomes a sustainable program, you can make a gift to RTLC and designate to "Joshua Station programs."

# RTU: YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME AU YEAR! "This place is beautiful, spiritual, and peaceful in a host of ways."

Jesus knew the importance of going up the mountain to pray! He intentionally set time apart to retreat from the world to spend time away with his Creator and friends. Taking time away to listen to God's voice in our lives, to reconnect with family, friends, and creation, and to renew ourselves for service in the world is an important piece of the rhythm of a faith-based life. Rainbow Trail offers a variety of programmed and hosted retreats for individuals, families, congregations, schools, and other organizations.

"You folks are so fantastic, we couldn't possibly have this weekend anywhere else. I have never ever been so well cared for with my food allergies." Retreat guest with Rocky Mountain Storytellers

Rainbow Trail provides opportunities for group retreating and personal renewal throughout the year. Our programs and facilities can meet the needs of any size group from one person to 150 people. We provide radical hospitality and delicious meals in a comfortable mountain setting, creating the perfect

backdrop for relaxation, learning, and fun. Matthew 18:20 says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." When we are gathered with other people in a place like camp, it opens up a space for us to share stories and connect as beloved people.

"There are places in this world where the space between heaven and earth, mundane and holy, common and extraordinary, feels very thin. The Men of Joy Lutheran Church (Parker CO) have found that holy space at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. Each time we have retreated to RTLC we come home more grounded in our faith and renewed mentally, spiritually, physically." Pastor Rod Hank

Camp allows people to experience a deeper sense of intentional community and transforms the mind, body, and spirit. Our retreat participants encounter the changing seasons of camp; from the golden aspens in the fall to the snow that sparkles in the midday sun. Through programmed activities led by our highly trained staff - archery, high ropes,

guided hikes, environmental education - our retreat guests have the opportunity to fully explore the outdoors.

"Perfect camp, perfect venue, great time. The intangibles are amazing!" - retreat guest

Congregational retreats are important events for the life of any congregation. They offer new ways for a community to engage and get to know one another in a space outside the church building. Congregational retreats emphasize the importance of belonging within the Church, allowing a space that welcomes and affirms individuals into a community. It also creates spaces for current relationships within the congregation to grow deeper. The communal experiences and relational growth that happens during a retreat is then taken down the mountain and brought directly back to the congregational community, inviting the congregation members to engage in more restorative and grace-filled ways. Many congregations have been wrestling

with getting their members reconnected, post-Covid. A retreat at RTLC is a perfect way to reinvigorate relationships, face to face, in holy space. Retreating can be an embodied practice of disconnecting from distractions and fast paced life, to reconnecting with the self, creation, and God.

"We decided to host our congregational marriage retreat at Rainbow Trail for multiple reasons. The property alone has majestic views and sets the perfect tone for embracing God's incredible creation, which lends to the most perfect, intimate setting for any event. In addition, the staff made our time special with fantastic service and, of course, fabulous meals. No space or property can compete with Rainbow Trail's beauty and service."

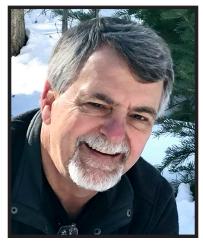
Marriage retreat coordinator

Let us work with you to create a retreat that will send you back down the mountain rejuvenated, refreshed, and ready to engage in the world! Contact Hannah at hannah@rainbowtrail. org for more details or to reserve a date!

#### **Rainbow Trail Mission Statement**

By Dave Jarvis - Executive Director

Summer is here! This has been a fast and furious spring. I have been out in congregations doing promotion Sundays and most of our spring retreating has booked the weeks following Easter. So, there is a lot happening right now! We are training our high ropes people at our site in early May, we are getting our vehicles ready to go for Day Camps, and Memorial Day Work Weekend is super full with over 110 people and with exciting projects to improve our site. We are purchasing lots of cool new gear for Popshop. And the late Spring snows are setting us up for a summer full of singing around campfires. There is excitement for this ministry and for the possibilities of what this summer will hold!



Registrations have been very strong for this summer. Nine of our ten on-site weeks of summer camp are full with open spots only in week #1 (Junior High), Intro #2 and #3, and the open Junior High and Senior High Compass Points trips. There are a total of 80 open spots left for the whole summer! Don't miss out on the chance to be at camp with our great staff. If you are considering registering your child for camp, know we have camperships available to help. We know things are still not 100% back to normal for everyone. This is exactly why we have campership funds. If finances are an issue, email me and let's talk. Don't let money be the reason for not coming to camp. We have faithful donors that give specifically for camperships. There are no forms to fill out, and you don't need to share any private information. Take advantage of this opportunity to help your child have the best week of their summer at Rainbow Trail!

Our summer staff will soon be here! Our Directors arrive on Monday, May 22nd and the rest of our ministry team arrives on May 29th. We are so excited about this team and all they will have to offer our campers. In a time when many other camps are still struggling to fill their staff, we had an amazing process and found fabulous candidates to fill our entire ministry team. There are many wonderful returners that you know and love. There are also a great group of amazing new folks that you will fall in love with as well. Over 60% of this staff is from the Rocky Mountain Synod. One other interesting fact is that 46 of our 65 summer staff have been RTLC campers at some point in their growing up. We began the seven-week online portion of our training with this crew the last week of March and will complete their training with two weeks of in-person training upon their arrival for summer. Please keep this team in your prayers as they prepare for this summer. May God use them in amazing ways this summer!!

The Land Exchange is moving toward the home stretch! The public notice for comment concerning our land exchange will be published in the newspapers and sent to pertinent entities by mid-May. We are finalizing the conservation easement deed, the field work for all of the required environmental studies will take place on both our current site and the Locke Park property, and appraisals of both properties will take place in late August. Our Board is currently identifying a site designer to work with us to develop a new site master plan for our soon-to-be larger site. We are still looking at a 2024 completion of the land exchange! There are still opportunities to support the land exchange. If you would like to help with this project, mark your special check or online gift "Land Exchange." We are equipped to take stock gifts as well. I'd be happy to talk with you about the details! We will own our site and it will be the biggest celebration when that happens!

We continue to need your support for this ministry through prayer, through your gift of time and energy, and through your financial gifts. With your partnership, we are able to hire the finest staff, provide excellent facilities, and create a safe place for people to grow in Christ. I continue to be amazed and humbled by the financial support we receive for this ministry. I hope you know how much your gifts are appreciated. It is through your support that we are able to do things that we could have only imagined. Through the work of over 110 enthusiastic volunteers that join us Memorial Day Work Weekend, we figure that we are making about \$50,000 of improvements to our site every year for a fraction of that cost. Major projects for this year's Memorial Work Weekend include new windows in the main level of Columbine Lodge, log oiling the exterior of the pavilion, remodeling the interior of both sides of the showerhouse, new porches and decking on the Geranium and Shooting Star cabins, a new I AM on the mall, updating the bunk rooms in Eagle Peak Lodge, installing a chimney for the woodburning stove in Juniper Lodge, and painting the exterior of Aspen dining hall. There are so many ways to support this ministry. Gifts of all sizes, large and small, make this ministry run. Thanks for believing in the power of this ministry!

I'm so ready for this summer! I just came back from the Youth Ministry Summit at camp and we commented how it already felt like summer out there. Know that we overjoyed that we get to serve you and your children again this year. Thanks for the blessing of serving you... this is summer #35 for me at this sacred place. I can't wait! See you soon!

Until next time...



# ORDER RAINBOW TRAIL BLEND FOR YOUR

Tired of Folgers? You can order 5 pound bags of delicious, •fresh-roasted, whole bean or ground Rainbow Trail Blend cof-•fee online! What's even better is that all profits of RTLC's• unique coffee blend provide funds for kids to come to camp! Start ordering delicious coffee with a purpose for your congregation today by going to shop.rainbowtrail.org!





In an effort to create more opportunities for individuals to come to camp, we created open sign up trips for our Compass Points High Adventure Program! These open trips are a great way for kids to get to camp even when on site registration is full. We offer a Junior High Open, Senior High Open, Into the Wild (graduated seniors only), and a Young Adult Open. These trips are open for anyone to sign up, so bring a friend and come adventure with us in the beautiful Sangre De Cristo Wilderness! For more information on our Open Compass Points Trips, go to our website or follow us on instagram @RTLC\_Compass\_Points

# CAMP Vibes By Cam Regennitter - Director of On-Site & Bridging Borders

As you read this, some of you may notice something fun in the picture to the right. Of course, it wouldn't be right if I didn't start by sharing that Delta and I got engaged! I popped the question down in Texas in a beautiful Blue Bonnet field, and we got to celebrate with Delta's family the whole trip. That was so special since we don't get to see them very often. I am so excited to do life forever with my best friend!



In other news, Summer is here! We are in full swing as we prepare for our most busy season. Staff is hired and

currently going through online training, the site is being prepped to host an average of 150 each week, and full-time is getting mentally and physically prepared to do another great 3 months of RTLC ministry. This group of staff has a lot of lifelong campers who are finally old enough to be on staff. I'm excited for the potential and passion they bring. Know your campers this summer are in for something special, and I pray they have some lifechanging weeks.

Our partnership with Joshua Station continues to grow and grow. We again will have them up at camp for week 10 this summer. The only difference from last summer is we will have more families, and they will be at camp for the whole week. We are also sending up a day camp team this summer to hang with them at their place and bring Rainbow Trail to those who can't make it up the mountain this summer. We love those families, and Benjamin, one of their directors, has become a good friend to me. Please let us know if you would like to give or get involved with this program! We would love for everyone to be a part of this special relationship.

Bridging Borders is doing it's thing again this summer! We are sending three groups out of Colorado and Minnesota to Appalachia. Appalachia has been our most popular trip recently, and the relationship we have built with ASP has been great. All three groups will be flying and working in Kentucky. All groups will be working on construction projects for low-income family homes. Appalachia has the highest poverty per capita in America, and many of those families cannot afford to get projects done on their homes that need to get done. They are great people who want to know our groups and staff and are very relationship-based, which is our main philosophy at RTLC!

Personally, life is very good. My sister is getting ready to deliver a fresh baby. We don't know if it's a boy or a girl, but either way, Zach and I are prepared to be the best Uncles ever. You best believe little niece or nephew will be so loved, and they will visit up to camp for a second family camp this summer. Delta and I are also moving out and getting our own place. This is my shoutout to 106 and the Bonsers. They have blessed me and my life for the past 3 years. I will miss living with them, but I am so excited for the next step in life with Delta. Love you, boys!

Thanks for reading; make sure to say hi if you make it up the mountain this summer!

### Want To Make A Difference?

Give a gift to Rainbow Trail and invest in the faith lives of thousands of kids. In today's economy there is no better return!



# **Simonton Says**By Sands Simonton - Director of Site and

Greetings from the Colorado Rockies! Hopefully, everyone out there is enjoying the relentless snow or the consistent sunshine! Here at camp, it's been consistent sun and winds, unfortunately. Less snow/moisture than usual, which is slightly concerning, but we are more than experienced with fire ban, so bring it on, I suppose. But because camp is super dry right now, keep your fingers crossed for some moisture, whether it be snow or rain!

As I mentioned in the last letter, BC experienced another flood similar to last year. The reconstruction is in full swing. However, it did impact our retreat schedule again, which is a major bummer. All that being



said, overall, we have had a good retreat season this year. We recently hired Will Johnson as our new Compass Points and Day Camp Ministries Director. I have known Will for a while now, and it's exciting to know that he has much to give to the organization and those two programs specifically. Sam Walmer is back short term, filling in for our recently departed PGA's Matt and Macy. Quick shout out to them for being here with us and keeping our camp operating through the 9 months of retreats!

Memorial Day is coming up once again, and I can feel the pressure and excitement building. We have lots of awesome projects on the list this year. The following are some of the larger projects. We will rebuild the I AM with new logs we find around the site. The current I Am is the second iteration, if I'm correct. It's about time to revisit it. We'll do a much-needed revamp and touch-up in the Shower House, including new paint, floor repairs, remodeling shower changing rooms, and minor fixture upgrades. Eagle Peak will get hit hard this year with mouse-proofing and ceiling remodels in both rear bunk rooms. I'm maybe the most excited to finish off the last couple of cabin decks, Geranium and Shooting Star. We will have a couple of new signs made for the camp, which is exciting, one will be a second bridge sign, and the other will be a new nurse's station sign. A new Equis cross will be in the works, too, so we can get that worship area back in action. Of course, like every year, we have about a billion other projects and jobs around the site. Plenty of electrical repairs and upgrades, new door jams and handles spread about, forest mitigation, wood chipping, cleaning and organizing, and much more. If you're already signed up, look forward to that. If not, then you should look into it for next year!

I am personally doing great. Still living in Salida and loving every second of it. Kyle, my predecessor, good friend, and also, weirdly, my landlord, is now my roommate, if you can believe it, so that's been pretty awesome. Bode is doing great, especially since I've been bringing our old pal Avery (brown dog) up to camp with me every day to join him. My family is all doing great. My parents will be joining us for Memorial Day again this year which is always exciting for me. I've been enjoying my time at home, trying to get as many walks in and restaurant trips as possible in preparation for camp all summer, hah! I hope everyone reading this is also doing well and preparing for a summer of great memories and community. I can't wait to see all of you when you arrive. Take care

# -Sands

# **Save The Date: Colorado Gives Day for 2023**

Support RTLC on the 14 th Annual Colorado Gives Day! Save the date! On Tuesday, December 5, 2023. Coloradans will come together again to raise millions of dollars for nonprofits like Rainbow Trail. Last year, a remarkable \$76 million was distributed to 3,381 Colorado nonprofits. RTLC raised an amazing \$139,021 in that 24-hour period. With the support received in 2022, we have set a goal for 2023 of \$110,000! All funds raised will go towards our Annual Fund. We need a great Colorado Gives Day to end the year strong. Also, we are still in the middle of the land exchange process and some people have shifted their annual fund donations towards that Capital appeal. We still need our annual funds to sustain our day-to-day operations. Mark your calendars and make a difference!



# Thank You, Macy and Matt!



We are so thankful for our gifted 2022-2023 Program Assistants!! Macy Kennedy and Matt Chapman both joined us in the fall. They helped plan and implement our Confirmation and Senior High retreats. They both intentionally welcomed our guests and created relational spaces. We are grateful for their curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm wonder they added to our team! They both left Rainbow Trail in April to serve in full time programming positions. Macy will be serving at Luther Springs in Florida and Matt will be serving at Luther Ridge in North Carolina. Our Program Assistant experience is designed to equip and empower young adults interested in pursuing full time jobs in outdoor ministry. Although we had to say goodbye earlier than planned, we are so proud of Macy and Matt! Macy and Matt led with grace and enthusiasm, making sure our retreat guests experienced radical hospitality. Each one has made an impact on Rainbow Trail!

We wish Macy and Matt the best of luck as they step into full time ministry. May God go with the two of you as you engage in the world as beloved children of God!

## Chris' Corner

By Chris Seaman - Food Service Manager

Hello to my RTLC Family!

As I sit at my desk looking out the window, there is beautiful snow falling! I can say that because we didn't get hardly any snow here at Camp! I know that a lot of you have had more than your share of the white stuff!

Have you checked out our Summer Staff yet? I can't wait for them to arrive! It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the time passes from retreat season to summer again! We have been busy with retreats this Spring. Hannah, you keep doing what you do so well! I have my kitchen crew from last year all returning. We are gonna rock the kitchen! I really hope you all have



added us to your summer plans! My life is going well. I thank the Lord everyday for the many blessings he has bestowed upon me. I am living and loving my best life ever!

So you can see all the beautiful people we have on staff! So until next time, ALWAYS REMEMBER... GOD IS GREAT!!!

Love,

Chris

## Great Ways To Continue To Support RTLC and our Ministries

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, checks, online, and gifts to 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 RTLC) directly from your IRA and not include the amount given as subject to income tax. 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. It's for this reason that Van Sant calls donor-advised funds "flexible philanthropy."

Take advantages of these tools to help our ministry grow. Talk with your financial advisor for more details. Or contact Dave at dave@ rainbowtrail.org and he can put you in contact with someone that can

# Now THIS is What You've Been Waiting for...



Beka Gershenoff Bridging Borders Director Wartburg College Urbandale, IA



Eric Jacob Counselor University of Nebraska Lincoln Parker, CO



Abby Blom Counselor California Lutheran University Parker, CO



Zoey Moser
Bridging Borders Director
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE



Sara Larson
Bridging Borders Director
University of Northern CO
Greeley, CO



Sawyer Smith Camphand Niwot High School Erie, CO



Anna Saathoff Maintenance Assistant Colorado State University Pueblo, CO



Claire Fisk Support Staff Director Sterling College Denver, CO



Maddie Parker Counselor Regis University Millstadt, IL



**Jay Lewer** Compass Point Director Carthage College Waseca, MN



Macy Pedersen
Bridging Borders Director
Colorado State University
Eden Praire, MN



William Dohle Counselor Pueblo Community College Pueblo, CO



Kobey Mojzis Counselor Belmont University Millstadt, IL



Annika Buhr Assistant Cook Colorado State University Greenwood Village, CO



Brynn Harnett
Counselor
Drake University
Greenwood Village, CO



Kelsey Oman Ropes Coordinator Winona State University Deer Park, WI



Caitlin Panicker
Woodcarver
Bowdoin College
Broomfield, CO



Talia McLaren
Camphand
Albuquerque High School
Albuquerque, NM



**Lauren Fisk**Counselor
Northwestern College
Frederick, CO



Josie Simonson Counselor Clemson University Denver, CO



**Lily Jenkins**Counselor
Pacific Lutheran University
Garden City , ID



Justin Kleen Counselor University of Nebraska Lincoln Fort Collins, CO



Haylee Hayden Travel Support Director University of Northern CO Los Alamos, NM



Kiera Toney Counselor University of New Hampshire Littleton, CO



Riley Sawinski Counselor University Of Tennessee Lakewood, CO



Ceyna Dawson Counselor Colorado College Englewood, CO



Bryan Brown
Counselor
Colorado State University
Arvada, CO



Zach Regennitter
Ropes Coordinator
Pikes Peak State College
Falcon, CO



Lynne-Estelle Dohle
Camphand
South High School
Pueblo, CO



Lindsay Smith Camphand Cherry Creek High School Englewood, CO



Amelia Smith
Counselor
Grand Canyon University
Parker, Colorado



Ian Smith
Counselor
University of Montana Western
Parker, Colorado



Claire Koenig Pottery Instructor St. Olaf College Centennial, CO



Emmy Carlson Office Assistant Luther College Kasson, MN



Jack Dalen Counselor Iowa Lakes Community College Underwood, IA



Emmanuel Kermine Jr.
Counselor
Liberia

# ... The 2023 Rainbow Trail Summer Staff



Annika Bostrom
Counselor
Pacific Lutheran University
Renton, WA



Grace Smith
Counselor
Colorado Christian University
Elizabeth, CO



Finn Windmueller Camphand Glenwood Springs High School Glenwood Springs, CO



Kathryn Smith Counselor Depauw University Englewood, CO



Emma Graham Counselor Purdue University Denver, CO



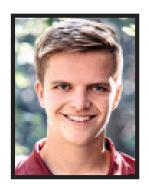
Maddi Baldwin Counselor Whittier College Denver, CO



Addie Flesch Kitchen Assistant St. Olaf College Englewood, CO



Kendall Flesch Kitchen Assistant Gustavus Adolphus College Englewood, CO



Payton Waggoner Counselor Grand Canyon University Parker, CO



**Carla Herbig**Camp Nurse
Fredericksburg, TX



**Ashley Pedersen** Compass Points Director Colorado State University Colorado Springs, CO



Sophie Fowler Camphand Cherry Creek High School Centennial, CO



Kathleen Thiele Counselor Texas Christian University Denton, Texas



Brayden Jacob Counselor Grand Canyon University Parker, CO



Hunter Resley Counselor Kansas State University Highlands Ranch, CO



**Zach Burggraaf**Camphand
Waukee Northwest High School
Urbandale, IA



Tait Herbig Summer Facilities Director Texas Tech University Fredricksberg, TX



Atalia Fisher
Camphand
Canon City High School
Canon City, CO



Max Marold Maintenance Assistant Ankeny, IA



**Nic Ferell**Compass Points Director
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR



Evan Fowler
Counselor
Colorado State University
Denver, CO



Beccs Flerchinger Arts & Crafts Instructor Front Range Community College Berthoud, CO



Nick Hawley Videographer Grand Canyon University Overland Park, KS



Haydon Everts
Counselor
Texas Lutheran University
New Braunfels, TX



Ken Waggoner
Counselor
Colorado Mesa University
Fruita, CO



Eliana Tadé Bridging Borders Director Gustavus Adolphus College Windom, MN



Will Johnson
Director of Compass Points &
Day Camp Ministries
Austin, TX



Cam Regennitter Director of On-Site & Bridging Borders Colorado Springs, CO



Hannah Loeffler-Kemp Director of Retreat Ministries Colorado Springs, CO



**Sands Simonton**Director of Site & Facilities
Salida, CO



**Chris Seaman** Food Service Manager Westcliffe, CO



**Tricia Lindsey** Executive Secretary Cañon City, CO



Aurice Worley Bookkeeper Cañon City, CO



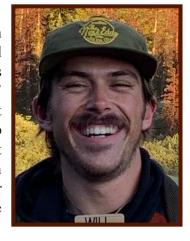
**Dave Jarvis** Executive Director Cañon City, CO

Nellie Jarvis Intro Camp Director Cañon City, CO

# Into The Willderness

By Will Johnson - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

Happy Spring Everyone! It has been a packed spring season as we get prepared for this upcoming summer. Our Compass Points program is prepared to send out 17 trips this year and our guides can't wait to get here! Meanwhile, our Day Camp program is prepared to travel to 33 different congregations around the Rocky Mountain Synod. Lots of great opportunities for ministry this year and we can't wait to see what this summer has in store for us!



Outside of Day Camp and Compass

Points, I am currently at my Wilderness First Responder Course here in Leadville, CO! This is an 80 hour course where I am taught by professionals on how to respond to emergencies in the backcountry. This helps in the safety of our program and the training of our guides so we can keep our participants safe and healthy while out on trail!

In between all of this I have been working on expanding Compass Points into the fall and am hoping to create some more unique trips such as a backcountry fly fishing retreat. Follow our Instagram @RTLC\_Compass\_ points for more information and updates!

As always, all are welcome at Eagle Peak Lodge. Come say "hi" when you are at camp this summer! Happy Trails!

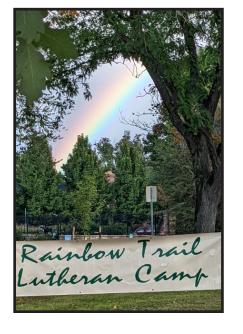
## A Great Way to Support RTLC: **Thrivent Action Teams**

Thrivent is offering an exciting way for its members to positively impact organizations like Rainbow Trail through a program called Action Teams. 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 a \$250 debit card with starter funds for the project in hopes that it can be used to generate more. For example, if your church wanted to buy RTLC something off the 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. Or you could do something similar to raise campership funds for your youth to go to camp this summer. Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Canon City used an Action Team to host a breakfast and raised over \$1200 for camperships for their youth to go to camp this summer! You can also provide an action team for a work project at camp. The sky is the limit for what projects can be done to help Rainbow Trail. Consider forming an action team and make a difference! Contact Dave Jarvis if you have any questions or want more details!

### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND GIVE YOUR BUSINESS A** SHOUT OUT AT GRACE RACE

Every fall, Rainbow Trail Lutheran race webpage. We'll give your Camp hosts its annual Grace Race to business some great press at the race help stamp out world hunger. This and you will help make an incredible annual 5k run/walk was started as part of RTLC's 50th anniversary in 2007, to raise money for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The event is held in collaboration with the Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network. Over the last sixteen years, the Rainbow Trail community has contributed \$88,633 to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. But we think we can do more. The 17th Annual Grace Race will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2023. We are aiming for 300 participants for this year's race. We want to send a \$10,000 check to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal!! Another great way to support this event and cause is to advertise your business on the classy Grace Race tech shirts. For a \$300 donation, we will add your company name and logo to the race shirt. There will also be a link for your business off of the RTLC Grace

difference in our world. Contact Dave Jarvis at dave@rainbowtrail. org for more details.



### Choose to Designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to RTLC and Make A Difference!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has a charitable giving program called Thrivent Choice. Each member is allocated a set amount of money to give to the Lutheran organizations of their choice. Last year, Rainbow Trail received \$28,000 from this program. Our goal for 2023 is \$35,000. We hope that you will designate your allocated dollars to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. You will need to go out to the Thrivent website quarterly to designate your Thrivent Choice dollars. We know that is a lot to remember and we can help. If you will let us know that you have designated your Thrivent Choice dollars to Rainbow Trail, we can send you either an email or a postcard quarterly to remind you to go out and designate your dollars. If you haven't designated your Choice dollars to any organization, just follow the steps below to designate them to Rainbow Trail.

#### HERE ARE STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO **DESIGNATE YOUR FUNDS:**

#### **Over the Internet**

- 1. Log on to www.thrivent.com
- 2. Sign in with your username and password or register for an account.
- 3. Once you have registered and signed in, select the "Direct Choice
- Dollars" button for Thrivent Choice in the right hand side.
- 4. In the middle of the next page, type "Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp" in the "Organization Name" box, leave "City" blank, and click search.
- 5. Next to our camp name, you will click the "Direct Now" button. You will be able to assign all or part of your Choice dollars to us. You can also set it up so Rainbow Trail continues to get your future Thrivent Choice Dollars as well.
- 6. Click the "submit" button and your Thrivent Choice Dollars will be sent to our min-

#### Over the Phone

- 1. Call 800-847-4836.
- 2. Follow the prompts that are given.
- 3. You will be asked for the last four digits of your Social Security number, then you will be sent through an automated operator system. Our camp is listed as "Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp.'

This is just one more way that you can give to support this ministry. Encourage your friends that are Thrivent members to do the same! If you have any questions, call Dave at the Canon City office.

# Hanging With Hannah

By Hannah Loeffler-Kemp - Director of Retreats



As I sit on the porch of Columbine, sipping coffee from a red mug and watching the sunrise, I am filled with deep gratitude for the Rainbow Trail community. I want to take a moment to thank all those involved in making our retreat ministry happen here at RTLC the full-time staff, summer staff, volunteers, speakers, worship leaders, adult leaders, partner organizations and congregations, and participants. There has been transition happening

on our full-time team as we said good-bye to Maggie and hello to Will. I am thankful for Maggie's gifts and ministry she shared with

this place. She is a dynamic and compassionate leader, who inspired and intentionally engaged with her staff. She has been my home away from home! I am looking forward to witnessing the unique gifts Will will bring to our team.

It's hard to believe the retreat season is beginning to wrap up as we anticipate summer! We've hosted around 30 retreat groups, amounting to over 970 people since the 2022 summer season ended. Our ministry at camp truly never stops!

In February, Mason and I took a little weekend trip to Portland, Oregon. We had fun exploring local restaurants and shops, as well as attending a Trailblazers basketball game. I was invited to participate in a weekend retreat with ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission to support the incoming cohort of volunteers. It was a joy to spend time with young people discerning a call of global service and accompaniment. It reminded me of the important work camp does of equipping and empowering our young adult leaders to transform the world!

May you find peace as we transition to the summer season. I hope to see you on the mountain this summer!

## -Hannah 2023 Fall & Winter Retreats

Rainbow Trail's Retreat program aims to give everyone who steps onto our site a space to relax and connect with God and others. Experience radical hospitality, serene surroundings, delicious meals, and loving staff during your time on the mountain. With an elevation of 8,500 feet, RTLC's location offers amazing views, and the rural setting allows for breathtaking starry nights. We value quality in every sense of the word, and strive to go the extra mile any chance we get for the sake of your experience. We can't wait to serve you and share God's love on the mountains!

Men's Fly Fishing September 21-24 Women's Retreat October 6-8 Confirmation October 20-22

**Fiber Arts Retreat** November 2-5 **Senior High Retreat** November 17-19 **Retreat Adventfest** December 1-3

Registration is now open for our Fall Retreat Season!! Confirmation and Senior High Retreat registration opening soon.

### **TRAILBLAZERS & PATHFINDERS**

The following individuals are members of the 2023 Trailblazers and Pathfinders 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 <a href="https://www.rainbowtrail.org">www.rainbowtrail.org</a>. Many thanks to the

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# Rainbow Trail 2023 Events Calendar

• / \	
_ May 26-29	Memorial Day Work Weekend
May 29-June 10	Staff Training
September 1-4	Labor Day Family Weekend
September 21-24	Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
October 7	Grace Race
October 6-8	Womens Retreat
October 13-15	Fall Ambassadors Retreat
October 20-22	Confirmation Retreat
November 17-19	Senior High Retreat
Dec 1-3	AdventFest

### www.rainbowtrail.org

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS**

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#### **GIFTS IN KIND**

Brad and Carissa Nietfeldt - Mac Notebook Computers and Mac Desktop Computers Jeff and Tricia Lindsey - 5x7 Frames and Prints for Staff Photo Display Judy Leiseth - Various sizes white and colored

paper King of Kings WELCA - Twin size quilts

Mark and Heidi Peterson - 8 Yamaha Speakers and Amplifier for Aspen Mark and Heidi Peterson - 4 Six-Foot Utility

#### **DESIGNATED GIFTS**

Tables and jewelry making supplies

Anonymous - Soker Campership Fund Bert and Dolly Lager - Soker Campership Fund Bill and Charlotte Dausses - Drone and Camera Equipment
Bill and Charlotte Dausses - Bible Study Giveaway
Grace Necklaces
Cheryl and Stephen Mahon - Soker Campership
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Judy Leisetti - Camera in memory of Dennis Bagenstos Kim and David Knoche - Soker Campership Fund in memory of Erin Wehofer-Canitia Samantha Johnson - Compass Points Bock Family Fund - New mattresses

#### **ANN (JARVIS) SMITH** MEMORIAL LAND **EXCHANGE FUND**

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#### 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 dropoff or pick-up. Thank you for your continued support!

Reams of colored copy paper Nalgene Water Bottles (40) Masking tape Scotch Tape Duct Tape Packing Tape Postage stamps 8.5x11 Yellow Tablets 8 ft. Rectangle "Lifetime" tables (5) Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)

9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps)

White 20# copy Paper (Laser quality)

6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps) 10x13 Manila Envelopes (no clasps) 12 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables Rain Jackets & Rain Pants On-Site and Compass Points Day Packs Foam Brushes - 1" Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive 2 Cases of Lysol or Clorox Wipes 5X8 note pads Junior legal

### 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 Industrial Mop buckets (call us first!) Sturdy Wheelbarrows New Full or single mattress pads New Queen sheets – white New Queen mattress pads New 3-piece towel sets (20) Shark Navigator vacuums (4) Free Standing Space Heaters (3)

Freezerless Refrigerator Phillips 60W & 100W Dimmable LED **Bulbs** Skid Steer Tire Chains Used Day Camp Vehicle

### **Shop Online**

It's easy to give a gift from RTLC's Needs or Wish Lists online. We've preselected items that we are looking for and provided links straight to great deals that we've found. There is also a Compass Points specific list online. You can even ship directly to us!

www.rainbowtrail.org/donate/needs-and-wish-list

#### Administrative Office

107 S. 9th Street, Suite B Canon City, CO 81212 Phone: 719-276-5233 Fax: 719-276-5235 Office Hours: 9 am - 5 pm



#### Camp Office

3056 County Road 198 Westcliffe, CO 81252 Phone: 719-942-4220 Fax: 719-942-4000

#### **Full-Time Staff**

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Aurice Worley, Bookkeeperaccounting@rainbowtrail.org		
Tricia Lindsey, Executive Assistant/Registarinfo@rainbowtrail.org		
Will Johnson, Director of Compass Points & Day Campwill@rainbowtrail.org		
Hannah Loeffler-Kemp, Director of Retreatshannah@rainbowtrail.org		
Cam Regennitter, Director of On-Site & Bridging Borderscam@rainbowtrail.org		
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We make every effort to list each donor, but mistakes do happen. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or listed you incorrectly we apologize. Please call us, 719-276-5233, and let us know so that we can make corrections.