



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 26, Number 4 Fall 2014

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.

Address Service Requested

Biggest Summer Ever!

RTLTC Records Highest Participation Across All Programs

Summer programming at Rainbow Trail was bursting at the seams in every way it could be this summer. Onsite, nearly every single week of the summer was filled to capacity, complete with grandparents and adult leaders.

Not only was our onsite program busy, but our off-site programs were all booked as well. Our staff went out on trail with 23 different Compass Points groups over the course of the summer. These groups traveled from all over the country and spent their weeks hiking in the Sangre de Cristo mountain range, rafting the Arkansas and experiencing God's wonderful creation. Bridging Borders led 17 groups on week-long service trips to



share the love of Christ in cultures other than their own. 15 Bridging Borders groups went to Boulder this summer to serve families and home owners who were affected by the flooding of

September 2013. Additionally, 1 group went to New York City to do inner city work with kids as well as some manual labor in some urban neighborhoods, and 1 group went to Mexico, built a house

for a Mexican family, and accompanied the family on their journey for the week. Furthermore, 35 Day Camp teams traveled to congregations in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and even Texas this summer.

It would have been tough to fit more in during 2014. What a summer!

Inside this issue...

- *One Step Closer to Home
- *Meet our new Program Assistants
- * Schedule and Fees for Summer 2015
- * Grace Race Results
- * A Look at Upcoming Retreats

One Step Closer to Home

Together, we have been on an amazing journey these past two years. In early 2012, the Rainbow Trail Board pursued acquiring private property that could be used in a potential Forest Service land exchange so we could own our site. In the end, that property did not meet our needs, but we had raised \$712,000 to still move owning our site forward.

In January of 2013, the RTLTC Board approached Ed and Diane Jago about purchasing their property, an isolated private inholding in the National Forest. The parcel is located within the San Isabel National Forest on the north side of the Wet Mountain Range. On February 19, 2014 Rainbow Trail closed on the non-federal land and became the owners of the 120 acre Locke Park property which makes a land exchange viable and brings us one step closer to home.

In June of 2014, the San Carlos District Ranger and land specialists in the Forest Supervisor's office spent a day with us walking the Locke Park

property as well as the extended 108 acre Rainbow Trail property that we would acquire. They loved the idea of the Locke Park property becoming part of the National Forest!

Most Asked Questions

There are several questions that we have been asked often. Hopefully by answering these, we can clarify the whole exchange process. Didn't the exchange already happen? No. Rainbow Trail acquired non-federal land back in February that can now be used in an exchange. When are you moving camp? We are NOT moving camp. Camp will stay right where it has always been, but will be surrounded by about 90 additional acres that will be ours after the exchange process. How long will the exchange process take? The land exchange process can take anywhere from two to eight years, depending on the time available for the Forest Service to focus on our exchange and the necessary studies.

We are hoping that this land exchange process can be completed over the next three years. What is the cost of the land exchange process? The cost of necessary studies and reimbursing Forest Service staff to process the land exchange is approximately \$200,000. However, there are additional expenses such as the land conservancy process, consulting fees to walk us through the exchange, and a new site master plan that need to happen as part of this exchange that take the total cost of the land exchange process to \$275,000.

How Can You Help?

Because of the higher price of \$630,000 that we had to pay for the Locke Park parcel, Rainbow Trail anticipates that we will need to raise an additional \$275,000 to cover the cost of consultant fees and administrative expenses to complete the land exchange process.

For us to achieve the goal of raising

another \$275,000 to finish this project, we need the prayers and financial support of people who believe in the value of this ministry in the lives of youth and families. We know that many of you have already given and given generously to the purchase of the land. We promise this will be the last time we come back to you and ask you to give to the land exchange project. If you gave to the land purchase, please consider giving an additional gift for the future of RTLTC. If you haven't given yet, consider making a special gift for the future generations that will be a part of this ministry. We are open to matching fund opportunities as well. Contact Dave Jarvis at dave@rainbowtrail.org. For more details, go to www.rainbowtrail.org/about/rainbow-reflections/ to see the special land edition of Rainbow Reflections. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Help us make Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp our Home At Last!

Rainbow Trail Mission Statement

Through the ministries of Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, God claims us, Christ transforms us, and the Holy Spirit sends us for faithful service.

Trail Boss

By Dave Jarvis - Executive Director

I believe this has been the fastest fall I have experienced at Rainbow Trail. It has been a whirlwind. We barely finished summer and we were deep into 2015. The retreat season has been packed including a new fall work day and plans for next summer are in full swing!

We had an amazing summer. According to my records, this past summer was the highest ever summer participation across all programs for Rainbow Trail. We had an awesome and faithful summer staff that served almost 3,200 people through all of our summer ministries. I absolutely loved working with these guys – the care they showed kids was superb. This was a younger staff, but they learned fast and have deep and caring hearts. They were truly a gift to our campers. I hope we have a lot of this crew back next year!

There are so many people that make summer happen and be as powerful as it is. Once again, we had an awesome Bible Study that taught us to be “Forgiven: A Better Version of Me” and all the credit goes to our Bible Study writers. We have gained a new understanding that we can turn the world upside down by living Christ-like forgiveness. This was a great study to apply to life for all of us. Thank you to Pastor Vera Guebert-Steward, Pastor Nicole Ferry, Pastor Dave Risendal, Pastor Jane Jebson, and Pastor Michael Stadtmueller for all of the extra time you commit to our ministry to make our program better. You have been a blessing to this ministry and to me!

I also want to thank our partner congregations for their support. These congregations have become the financial foundation upon which we are able to build this ministry. There have been several new congregations that have joined this group in 2014. They have given and given very generously this year. Because of their support, along with our many donors, this ministry continues to grow and serve in new ways. Thank you for seeing us as partners in your ministry and in the faith development of your youth and families. Invite your congregation to be a partner if they aren't already!

I also want to thank Bishop Jim Gonia and his staff for supporting RTLCL in so many ways. Jim and Kim joined us for our end of staff training banquet and worship where Jim commissioned our summer staff for their ministry. Jim was also back with us to close out our summer. Also, Rev. Ron Roschke led a wonderful and lively session on Lutheran Theology for our staff during their training. Ron also came back to lead the adult Bible study for our July family camp. Thank you both for knowing the power of outdoor ministry and seeing it as a vital part of the ministries of this Synod. Know you always have a place that you can come away to be renewed for the journey!

Finally, I want to thank our full-time staff for their dedication. This has been an amazing team to serve with. They are so faithful and all bring their own gifts to strengthen our ministry. They ALL truly view what they do as ministry. Whether in the kitchen, in the office, on the trail, on our site, or out at congregations, you all represent Rainbow Trail so well. Thanks for being my partner in ministry. I love you all!

If the youth of your congregation are not headed to the national youth gathering next summer and are looking for a meaningful experience, consider a Bridging Borders or Compass Points trip through Rainbow Trail. These experiences will be life-shaping for your youth. We still have dates available. Contact the Canon City office for more details!

The land exchange process continues to move forward in amazing ways. Less than a year ago, we were talking about trying to get a piece of land under contract to include in the exchange. Today, we sit owning the Locke Park property and ready to offer it for the land exchange. There are a lot of little steps happening now, but know that things are still moving. You should have received our special land edition of Rainbow Reflections. That has the complete story and the updated status of where we are right now. We will need to raise more money to finish this project. If you haven't given to the land exchange project, prayerfully consider joining 639 people that already have. If you have already given to the land exchange before, consider a second mile gift to help us cover the expenses of the exchange process. We still need to raise about \$275,000, but this gift will be part of your legacy. You will be ensuring that Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is always available for the youth and families of the Rocky Mountain region.

A good friend came to spend a few days with Nell and me this fall. I drove him out to the Locke Park property to show him the land. He had served on the RTLCL Board in the mid 1990's. As we were talking, we recalled that the initial conversations about a land exchange and owning our site began during his tenure on the Board. The seeds planted then may soon come to fruition. And it is all in God's time. We have learned to be patient and let the Spirit move!

Thank you all for the opportunity to continue to serve you through this amazing place. I have been blessed by you all!

Until next time,

Dave

We Need a Nurse for Summer 2015

We have been blessed with having Amy Sutula (or “Nurse Amy” as all the kids know her) as our camp nurse for the last three summers. She has done a great job of keeping our kids and staff safe while they are at camp. Amy is venturing out to do some mission work this coming summer, so she will not be available to serve as our camp nurse this summer. So, we are looking for a camp nurse for summer 2015. Ideally, we would love for them to serve the whole summer, from May 25- August 16, 2015. We do need an RN to meet state and ACA standards. If you or someone you know is interested, please have them contact Dave by email at dave@rainbowtrail.org or call the Canon City office at 719-276-5233.



The 8th Annual Grace Race

The 8th Annual Grace Race was blessed with our largest crowd ever and perfect warm fall weather! Those participating helped make a difference that day by raising funds for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. 195 people registered and came out for the race. Peter Severson, from the Rocky Mountain Synod, joined us representing the ELCA World Hunger Network offices in Chicago. There was also a great post race party with burgers and fabulous music. The top male finisher and overall fastest time this year was Dayton Knutson with a time of 17:43. The fastest female was Addi Choi with a time of 23:32. All the top times for all the age groups will be posted on our website. The final totals are not in but it looks like we will be able to send a check for about \$4,200 to the ELCA World Hunger



Appeal. Since we started Grace Race, we have donated over \$35,000 to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The 9th annual Grace Race is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, October 3, 2015 in Sloan's Lake Park. Put it on your calendars now! We look forward to seeing you there next year!

Grace Race Sponsors

Luther College Sponsors

Mark Burriss
Brittany Grider
Dave and Nellie Jarvis
Lauren Kraus
Kirk & Trish Neubauer
Andrew Peterson
Mark & Heidi Peterson
Brandon Reed
Rick & Jill Reed
Art and Michelle Stone-Kraus

Augustana College

Dave and Nellie Jarvis
Dave and Carissa Cruson
Rick and Becky Romano

City Market, Canon City, CO

Runners Roost, Lakewood

Tayco Screen Printing, Colorado Springs

Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Action Team

24 Hours to give where you live!

Support RTLCL on Colorado Gives Day! On **Tuesday, December 9, 2014**, Coloradans will come together again to raise millions of dollars for nonprofits like ours. Last year \$20.9 million was distributed to 1,442 different nonprofits throughout Colorado! RTLCL raised \$42,307 in that 24 hour period. Our goal this year is to raise \$55,000. All funds raised will go toward the Annual Fund.



Since we are in the middle of the land exchange process, some people have shifted their annual fund donation toward the Capital appeal. But, we still need our annual fund

to sustain day-to-day operations. You do not need to live in Colorado to give on this day! No matter where you live, mark your calendars for Colorado Gives!

December 9, 2014

Register for 2015 Summer Camps

Starting November 1, 2014



Registration for 2015 opens November 1, 2014. Register early - camps will fill quickly! You are encouraged to register online at www.rainbowtrail.org. You can also download the registration form and mail it in. A big thank you goes to Matt Olin who used his gifts and talents to design an incredible brochure and postcard again this year! Brochures have been mailed to congregations and

postcards were mailed to all who attended camp this past summer. Those interested in Family Camp and Labor Day can register online as well. Registration opens on November 1st. REMEMBER – youth camps, family camps, and Labor Day will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Please don't wait to register! We look forward to spending summer 2015 with you!



2015 Summer Schedule

The Rainbow Trail summer 2015 schedule has been set. The fee will be \$415 for all youth camps, with the exception of Intro Camp, which

will be \$210. The week of August 9 - 15 has a special rate of \$395. Family camp fees are \$415 for adults (ages 19 and older), \$310 for teens (ages 13-18) and \$210 for ages 4-12. There is no charge for kids under age 4. **Be sure to register early!**

May 22-25.....	Memorial Day Work Weekend
May 25-June 6.....	Staff Training
June 7-13.....	Junior High #1
June 14-17.....	Intro To Camp #1
June 14-20.....	Junior #1
June 17-20.....	Intro To Camp #2
June 21-27.....	Confirmation #1
June 28-July 4.....	Family Camp #1
July 5-11.....	Senior High #1
July 12-18.....	Confirmation #2
July 19-25.....	Senior High #2
July 19-25.....	Open Sr. High Compass Points
July 26-August 6.....	Open Jr. High Compass Point
July 26-29.....	Intro #3
July 26-August 1.....	Mixed Junior #2/Junior High #2
August 2-8.....	Family Camp #2
August 9-15.....	Mixed Junior #3/Junior High #3
September 4-7.....	Labor Day Family Weekend

To find out more about these camps, our summer brochure can already be found at our website, www.rainbowtrail.org. You can also find a full set of our registration policies on our website.

Grade Levels as of Fall 2015

- Intro to Camp = entering 2nd - 3rd grade
- Juniors = entering 4th - 6th grade
- Junior High = entering 7th - 8th grade
- Senior High = entering 9th-12th grade

Please note: Lutherans of the Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA have registration priority until January 1, 2015. This applies to all camps, including family camps.

Ben There...

By Ben Larson - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

Last spring I wrote about the first of my 2014ers. From something that started as a silly word play in a conversation about climbing mountains, it became something of a quest this year. There were mountains that were fun to climb, with beautiful weather, and stunning views. There was a day in which we peaked four 14ers (Democrat, Cameron, Lincoln, and Bross), which sounds pretty impressive, but was just seven miles on pretty easy terrain. Then there were the days that weren't so much fun, like the one when we quit counting miles in frustration as we got kicked off the back side of Huron by ugly terrain and nasty weather. Then there was the day when we started before dark and hiked to the peak just to see the inside of a cloud. Someplace around number fifteen, it just became consuming, just trudging up a hill to check one more off. Now that it's finished, looking at pictures, telling stories, it's fun to remember mostly the good stuff, and at least be able to laugh at the less than desirable times. I can look back and see what a wonderful adventure it was.



Summer and fall at camp have been a little like the quest for 2014ers, fun days and challenging days. There were the times when campers came off trail exploding with stories and energy, when it was easy to see how meaningful their experience was. Then there were the times where it seemed like pack-out for next weeks group just wouldn't end. Someplace around week eight we wonder where the energy will come from to get through the summer, but there is an amazing staff there to help push through with style, even in one of the busiest summers we've ever had. There was the trudging process of getting a new high ropes course built, and then there was joy of so wonderful volunteers pouring their time and energy into making it an amazing place for campers. Like the peak, there was the joy of watching people push past their fears to accomplish something they never thought possible. Summer camp is finished, but there are pictures (on our website and Facebook page) and stories of amazing people and amazing experiences. There are even a few things that we look back and laugh at now. If you weren't part of the adventures of this summer and fall, I'd love to have you come and join us for one soon.

...Done That Ben

OPEN Compass

Points Dates
are still available
Call now! Slots are filling quickly!

WANTED:

RTLCA AMBASSADORS

Normal, everyday people who love RTLCA and want to serve as RTLCA Ambassadors for their congregations. Ambassadors meet at RTLCA for a retreat once a year to:

1. Find out what is new at Rainbow Trail
2. Build a display board for their congregation
3. Become equipped to pass along important information about what is happening at Rainbow Trail to their congregations.
4. Ambassadors are an important key to the ministry at Rainbow Trail.

If you are interested in becoming an ambassador for your congregation, contact Dave Jarvis at : 719.276.5233 dave@rainbowtrail.org.



Into the Wild



Heading off to college is a big part of life for many young people as they graduate from high school. For both them and their parents, it's a time filled with anticipation, excitement, and maybe a little fear. Rainbow Trail is excited to announce a wonderful summer program to help prepare young people for the journey into an awesome college experience!

"Into The Wild" is a Compass Points backpacking trip designed specifically for graduating seniors. It's set up to help them step into wild

places and have great conversation with other graduating seniors and RTLCA's experienced college guides about making the most of college. Explore what life on your own is like-- how to balance the pressures of work, studying, and social life; what life with a roommate is like; how to take your faith down the mountain and into school; and other questions you have-- all as you trek through the amazing mountains surrounding RTLCA.

This summer will be an intense one as you graduate, say good-bye to friends, sign up for classes, and pack for heading off to college. Take a week to come back to camp, relax, have fun, and refocus yourself as you make this huge transition in your life. RTLCA staff have been there before and can help you do it with confidence. As

you hike, camp, and raft through wild places in God's creation, they will be there to answer your questions, and help you get ready to explore the wild places that are waiting for you at college. Join us the week of July 5-11, 2015! Check out "Into the Wild" under the Compass Points tab of our website, rainbowtrail.org.

**"This looks amazing! I wish I could go back three years and prepare for college this way."
-- RTLCA Counselor**

ReTreat Yourself!

Family AdventFest
December 5 - 7, 2014

Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
September 10-13, 2015

Don't get caught up in the hectic holiday hustle and bustle. Come get away and retreat to RTLCL and celebrate the real reason for the season: Jesus. AdventFest is a great way for families to prepare for the arrival of our Lord. The worship services will focus



on the four Sundays of Advent, and will be led by Pastor Chad Kohlmeyer and his wife Aly.

There will also be time for kids and adults to create great Christmas gifts. Adult crafts for this year include stained glass, woodcarving, Amish Ornaments, Cribbage Boards, Wooden lamps, pinecone Christmas wreaths, woven reed baskets, and pottery glazing. Adults and kids ages 13 and older are able to participate in two crafts during the weekend. Each craft costs \$12.00 for instruction and materials. Kids' Korner includes a variety of things including sledding (weather permitting), crafts, cookie baking, and games! Kids' Korner is for kids ages 4-12. Babysitting will



also be available during the weekend. Both Kids' Korner and babysitting cost \$15.00 per person for the weekend.

AdventFest starts on Friday evening and runs through lunch on Sunday. This is a great weekend to relax and truly enjoy the season with your family. The cost of this weekend of fellowship and renewal is \$80 for adults and \$40 for kids ages 4-12. Kids 3 and under are free (crafts are additional).

Registrations are due no later than November 29th. Space is limited and a 50% non-refundable deposit is due with your registration. You can register online!

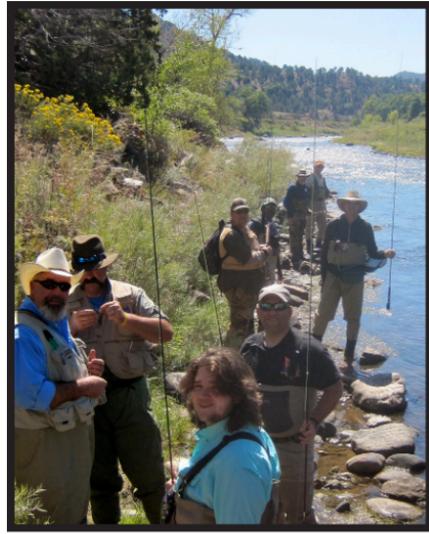


The Summit-Youth Directors' Retreat

April 13 - 15, 2015

The Rocky Mountain Synod is blessed to have an amazing group of professional Youth Directors and Pastors investing themselves in the lives of young people. It's a demanding job, and each year RTLCL says "Thank You" by offering a free retreat to help these incredible people rejuvenate themselves, grow in their own skills through continuing education, and network with others to find support and new ideas. The Youth Directors' Retreat is scheduled for April 13-15, 2015. If you value the energy and

love that the Youth Director or Pastor in your congregation pours into the youth there, thank them the next time you see them, and encourage them to attend. More information is at www.rainbowtrail.org, look under the Retreats page.



This past September a group of guys converged on Rainbow Trail for a weekend of fly fishing, fellowship, and wonderful worship led by Pastors Dave Risendal and Roger Thompson. Participants at the annual Men's Fly Fishing Retreat had a great time; one said, "I tell everyone it is not about the fish, it is a special place to be with many good people and the experience will enlighten you." Built around fly fishing, the weekend is designed to be a time of refreshment and renewal. It's a time to step out of the stresses of ordinary life and into the refreshing waters of the Arkansas River. Pastors Dave and Roger bring a long friendship and a deep love of both fly fishing and the gospel to the weekend and lead worship that is real and contextual. Prompting conversation, these men help fishermen explore their faith and the way that it impacts their everyday lives. With years of fly fishing experience, they will also teach people to cast for the first time perfect their

skills in fly tying. Whether you are a seasoned fly fisherman, or have never picked up a fly rod, this is a weekend where you can learn something new. Greg Felt, owner of Ark Anglers Fly Shop, will come and share valuable information about what's happening on the Arkansas River and how to find the fish that are out there. During the mornings, when not on the river, you can take part in onsite workshops on casting, fly tying, reading the river. There are also many seasoned fishermen who are just as excited to hook a new guy on fishing as they are to hook a fish. Whether you are an experienced angler or just want to try fly fishing, this is a weekend you won't want to miss! The \$195 program fee includes meals, lodging and onsite workshops. If you don't have gear, we have rental equipment available at a great price. We can also make arrangements to hire guided fly trips through Ark Anglers if desired. To get more information, visit www.rainbowtrail.org/retreats or email ben@rainbowtrail.org.



Help Us Finish Paying for the Ropes Course

We enjoyed an incredible summer on the new ropes course. It was definitely a blessing to our campers. We still need to finish paying the remaining \$17,000 of the \$186,000 that was needed to complete the ropes course project. You can help us finish the ropes course so we can really focus on the land exchange. If you would like to make a gift to the ropes course, send your gift to the Canon City office and be sure to mark your gift designated to "Ropes Course."



Help Us Move the Land Exchange Along



One way you can help us move the land exchange process forward is to help us identify a retired Forest Service employee that might be able to serve as the point person for the land exchange. They would need to be approved by the local Forest Service but this would greatly speed up the exchange process. If you have any names, please contact Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org and he will have our consultant follow up.

If these retreats don't appeal to you, bring a group to RTLCL and you can customize your own retreat!

Bridging Borders is traveling to ECUADOR, MEXICO, and BOULDER!
There are still weeks available this summer for ALL locations!
Call now! Slots will fill up quickly!

He be Jammin

By Ben Jarvis - Director of On-Site & Bridging Borders

Summer is over. Fall is here. I guess that's the case everywhere, but the difference from one season to the next is pretty drastic for us here at Rainbow Trail. It's kind of bizarre, actually. We go from having hundreds of campers and a staff of about 70 onsite, all fully invested in summer 2014, to a staff of 7 full-time staff and 2 Program Assistants focusing on retreat season and summer 2015 all in a matter of two weeks.

This summer was my first as a full-time staff member, and it definitely reminded me of why I decided to apply for this position. I got to connect with amazing staff members from all over the country, rekindle friendships from years past, and even see some of my former campers growing up. As familiar as I am with the summer ministries of RTLCL, I have to admit, I learned so much more than I thought I would. I loved the challenge of something new.

Bridging Borders was as full as it has ever been this summer, and I truly enjoyed the chance to work with so many groups from all over the country to serve God away from the boundaries of our site. I wanted to mention a special word of thanks to both Atonement Lutheran Church in Boulder and Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Louisville as they provided many of our Bridging Borders Boulder groups with excellent lodging and amazing hospitality this summer. I'm truly grateful for your generosity and care for our groups. Thank you!

Our Program Assistants this year, Christa and Kelsey are already doing great work and are a joy to work with. Christa's a first-timer to Colorado, but has the same sassy wit of most natives. She has become a fast friend. Kelsey worked with me on staff a few years ago and we went to school together in Boulder before that. It's been so great already reconnecting with her and working alongside her. If you haven't met these two, try to make your way to camp for a retreat. They're awesome.

Other than the myriad of retreats and activities going on at camp, I've been loving the community of friends both in Colorado Springs and in the Denver area. Many staff alumni have moved to Colorado since working for us at RTLCL, and it is always a treat to be around them. We even had about 20 show up to a pickin' party that Dan Bock and I threw in Denver. It's so cool to see the community and the friendships that we've built in this special place continue in the "real world."

Well, the flannel is out, the leaves are falling, and snow is coming. Come up for a retreat so we can see you! Blessings on your fall.



HELP RTLCL WITH YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you are a Thrivent Financial member, we need your help! We set a Thrivent Choice goal for 2014 of \$45,000, up from \$40,000 last year, and we still think that goal is very attainable. With that kind of increase, 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 still close to \$1 million dollars in Choice dollars NOT distributed last year. Help us change that! You can make a world of difference!!

2015 Memorial Day Work Weekend

Memorial Day has become as much a tradition at Rainbow Trail as anything else we do. We typically have over 100 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 (building the new Eagle Peak Lodge deck, building two new Compass Points tent platforms, remodeling the upstairs Columbine bathroom, installing log siding on both sides of the interior of Paintbrush cabin, installing new steel grates for the front of Columbine, grooming the area around the new ropes course,



installing the new logs for the lower entrance to Columbine, installing the new basketball hoop, installing new drains in the Aspen coffee bar, wood chipping the labyrinth, scraping and resealing the exterior of the pavilion and the crosses, and much more), we'll be sure to have a busy and memorable weekend! 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 Welcomes Christa and Kelsey!

This September, Rainbow Trail welcomed two new program assistants for the 2014-2015 retreat season. We can't wait for you to meet them! They bring amazing gifts to this ministry and will be an asset to all we serve this retreat season. Come visit us this retreat season and get a chance to know these two!



Christa Drengler and Kelsey Kethan, our new program assistants

Christa Drengler

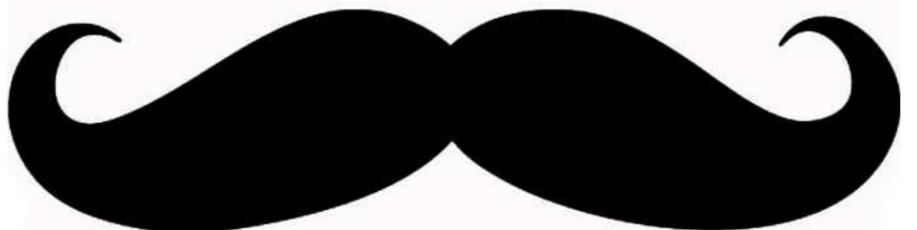
My name is Christa Drengler and I am one of the PGA's for the 2014-2015 retreat season. I'm originally from North Carolina where I went to Appalachian State University. I graduated with a degree in Recreation Management with a focus in Camp Management and a minor in Special Education. I worked at Camp Agapé in Fuquay-Varina, NC for three summers and it is a large part of my love for camp and Outdoor Ministry. I am so excited to be here at RTLCL serving the community and learning more about myself and life at camp.

The Program Assistant position is designed to give interested individuals a chance to experience full-time outdoor ministry. Program Assistants serve from September through May and help in all aspects of Rainbow Trail's ministry. If you would like more information, please contact the camp office.

Kelsey Kethan

My name is Kelsey Kethan. I am a PGA for the 2014-2015 retreat season here at Rainbow Trail. I was born in Texas but have lived in Virginia, Oklahoma, Colorado, and most recently Florida for college. I graduated from Palm Beach Atlantic University with General Studies degree with a concentration in elementary education and a minor in dance. While in Florida I worked with a high school and middle school youth group for two and a half years. I worked on summer staff here at Rainbow Trail for three summers in 2010, 2011, and 2012. If you are familiar with camp you might know me as Swarley. I have fallen in love with the ministry here at RTLCL and look forward to serving the community that Rainbow Trail reaches.

Mustache Appeal



You know it must be important if Dave is willing to put his mustache on the line for it. Well, the land exchange and the appeal to pay for it are that important to him. So there is now a bounty on Dave's mustache. We are looking for a capstone gift, a gift that will close out our \$275,000 campaign. In exchange for a single gift of at least \$25,000 to \$50,000 (or more), Dave will shave his mustache. Now that may not seem like a big deal but here are some interesting facts: the last time Dave shaved off his mustache, it was 1977; none of Dave's staff has ever seen him without a mustache, and neither have his kids, neither has his wife Nellie! Help us close out this appeal in grand fashion and make it memorable for all! Contact Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org if you are interested in making this special gift!

Site to Sight

By Kyle Larson - Director of Site and Facilities

It's hard to believe that 2014 is coming to a close. Seems that just yesterday we were interviewing summer staff and getting ready for the busy season ahead. Now I find myself using the shorter cooler days to check things off my list that I didn't have time to get done over the summer. If you'd believe it, I still have a few Memorial Day projects that need finishing! It's just been that kind of crazy year.

Speaking of Memorial Day, I feel I need to offer a public apology from Mother Nature. The project list was lofty even if the weather would have cooperated. With the addition of daily rain, projects were carefully woven in between storms. Even though conditions weren't necessarily ideal, many huge improvements took place onsite. What an incredible weekend of giving hearts and flexibility by all involved. As always, our contractors went above and beyond. Thanks to all who came out and braved the elements. Next year will be different. I can feel it.

As I hope you all know by now, Rainbow Trail owns a piece of land and can begin the land exchange process! As I write this, I'm making plans for visiting the land and thinking about ways we could incorporate it into our programming. Although there's not much to be done, it's both exciting and overwhelming to have another property on my radar for maintenance and upkeep. What a cool time to be part of the RTLCL family!

Looking back on summer, I want to say a thank you to the incredible staff we had with us. I've told a lot of people this, so it's no secret, but I think last summer's staff was one of the most giving and open communities I've seen in the time I've spent at RTLCL. Each person truly cared about the ministry they were doing and how they were impacting lives. I especially want to thank Sean Kinney, Jordan Okes and the whole camphand crew. I hope you all understand the incredible gift you have been to the RTLCL community and to me personally. Summer can be hard on the site but thanks to the work and devotion you all put in, I can confidently say the site looks better than it ever has.

The conclusion of summer is always a time for me to slow down and start focusing on things outside of camp for a little while. Some of you may know that I bought a fixer-upper (that's an understatement) in Salida, CO. The plan has been to remodel it but I just haven't had the time. Looking at the coming retreat schedule, I think I'll finally have the opportunity to kick the project off. I'm looking forward to the fun and challenges that the remodel will present.

As I round the corner on my two year anniversary at RTLCL, I'm constantly amazed at how the Holy Spirit works though both staff and volunteers. I couldn't do what I do without the love and support of those around me. If you find yourself in my neck of the woods, pop by and say Hi. Coffee is always waiting!

Kyle



NEW FALL WORK DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

On national Make A Difference Day, thirty volunteers joined us for the new fall work day. The weather was perfect which allowed the team of volunteers to make huge strides on the ropes course and on our firewood pile. The ropes course is now complete. A new trail was added around the north side of the course and wood chips were spread over all of the walking paths. In addition, one team spent the entire day splitting firewood so that we are ready for those wonderful winter retreats that will be coming soon. This was such a successful day that we are thinking we will do it again next year.

Thanks to all the volunteers that came out and really made a difference!



NEW CD "JUST BE" ON iTunes BY CHRISTMAS!



If you haven't already heard, the 2014 summer staff spent a Saturday afternoon this summer recording a new camp CD! *Just Be* will include songs such as "Fruits of the Spirit," "Little Room," and "Come Thou Fount," as well as some new cuts of classics like "Light the Fire." Be on the lookout for *Just Be* on iTunes later this fall!

PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

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

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church, Littleton
Advent Lutheran Church, Olathe, KS
Advent Lutheran Church, Westminster, CO
All Saints Lutheran Church, Austin, CO
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Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Littleton
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Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sante Fe, NM
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Glory of God Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Glenwood Springs
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Grace Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA, Colorado Springs
Grace Lutheran Church, Casper, WY
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS
Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX
Holy Love Lutheran Church, Aurora
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Hope Lutheran Church, Westcliffe
King of Glory Lutheran Church, Arvada
King of Kings Lutheran Church, Pueblo
Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church, Centennial
Lord of the Mountains Lutheran Church, Dillon
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Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Centennial
Lutheran Church of the Master, Lakewood
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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. Your gifts help us cover the expenses of the day-to-day operations of camp. 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 camperships, Trailblazer and Pathfinder dollars help to make a difference in countless lives through wonderful faith experiences. We need your support more than ever.



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.

'Tis the Season to Give!

If you have ever wanted to make a difference... and contribute to a greater cause, Rainbow Trail offers a unique way to do so. Our Campership Funds help give youth in less fortunate financial situations the chance to still experience a week at camp. What a great gift: sending a deserving kid to camp to experience God in this beautiful setting! Contact Dave at the Canon City office for more information. 719-276-5233 or dave@rainbowtrail.org

ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS

AIG Matching Grants Program
 California Pizza Kitchen
 Community First Foundation
 Thrivent Action Team-Grace Race
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 United Way of Northern New Mexico
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The following individuals are members of the 2014 Pathfinders' Club. Pathfinders is RTL'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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**Events Calendar
 2014 - 2015**

November 7-9.....RTL Confirmation Retreat
 December 5-7.....AdventFest
 February 28.....Summer Staff applications due
 March 29.....Summer Volunteer apps due
 April 13-15.....Youth Directors' Retreat
 May 22-25.....Memorial Day Work Weekend
 May 25-June 6.....Staff Training
 September 4-7.....Labor Day Family Weekend
 September 10-13.....Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
 October 3.....Grace Race

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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!



www.rainbowtrail.org/donate

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The following individuals are members of the 2014 Trailblazers Club. Trailblazers is an annual giving club that keeps the ministry at Rainbow Trail alive and growing. To join, contact Dave at 719-276-5233 or check out the "Support Us" portion of our webpage at www.rainbowtrail.org. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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Kevin & Denev Perkins
Carl & Emily Sauey
South Zumbro Lutheran Church, Kasson, MN
Marsha Yosten

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)
- Reams of colored copy paper
- Avery 5160 labels
- Avery 5164 labels
- Masking tape
- Adobe Creative Suite 6 (Mac)
- Sharpie brand permanent markers
- Scotch tape
- Duct tape
- Postage stamps
- UPS Surge Protector Power strips
- Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)
- 9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps)
- 6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)
- 16 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables
- 6 or 8 ft. rectangular white Lifetime tables
- Extension cords (all lengths)
- 10 gallon Rubbermaid tubs for the kitchen
- Adult size scissors
- A "new" economic car for Day Camp
- Extension cords (all lengths)
- Computer Battery Back-Up System
- AA and AAA Batteries

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.



- Industrial Mop buckets (call us first!)
- Sturdy wheelbarrows
- Jump drives/thumb drives
- New Mac desktop and laptop computers
- New full sheets - white
- New full or single mattress pads
- New Queen sheets - white
- New Queen mattress pads
- 20 new 3-piece towel sets
- 1 digital camera (min 10-12 megapixel)
- Costumes for life of Christ
- 3 - 5 gallon shop vacuums
- 3 - upright vacuums
- 3 new high chairs
- 2- 32" Digital Flat Screen TVs
- 20 ft. or longer extension cords
- 2 - New gas grills
- Motorola 2-way radios
- Bobcat Pallet toothed bucket
- Free-standing Space Heaters
- Pack-n-Play Cribs
- Freezerless Refrigerator
- Dish Cart

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

P.O. Box T
3056 County Road 198
Hillside, CO 81232
Phone: 719-942-4220
Fax: 719-942-4000

Full-Time Staff

- Dave Jarvis, Executive Director.....dave@rainbowtrail.org
- Sara Marietta, Executive Secretary.....info@rainbowtrail.org
- Aurice Worley, Bookkeeper.....accounting@rainbowtrail.org
- Ben Larson, Dir of Compass Points & Day Camp.....ben@rainbowtrail.org
- Ben Jarvis, Dir of On-Site & Bridging Borders..ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org
- Kyle Larson, Dir of Site & Facilities.....kyle@rainbowtrail.org
- Chris Seaman, Food Service Manager.....chris@rainbowtrail.org
- Christa Drengler, Program Assistant.....christa@rainbowtrail.org
- Kelsey Kethan, Program Assistant.....kelsey@rainbowtrail.org

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www.rainbowtrail.org

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 719-276-5233 and let us know so that we can make corrections.