



# 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 27, Number 3 Fall 2015

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

## Expanding Borders

### RTLCLC Bridging Borders Extends to Dominican Republic and Navajo Reservation

Rainbow Trail's Bridging Borders program is always looking for locations in the world where we can serve God and spread His love. In every location, we try to partner with an organization in the area. This leadership in the work projects combined with our staff's relational connection and spiritual focus with the group allows for meaningful experiences for all participants.

This year, in addition to some of the trip offerings we've had in the past (Ecuador, NYC, and Mexico), we are also sending groups to the Dominican Republic and the Navajo Reservation in the southwestern United States. In the Dominican Republic,



groups spend the week building a house for a family in need, and also building lasting relationships with each other and those who would be living in the house.

In the Navajo Reservation, groups will be connecting with the Navajo people through Day Camp-style ministry while also doing various community and building improvements.

#### Inside this issue...

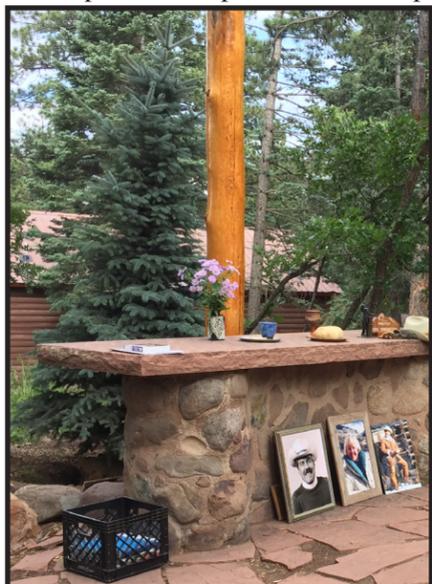
- \*Simonton Seminary Scholarship
- \*Meet our new Program Assistants
- \* Schedule and Fees for Summer 2016
- \* Grace Race Results
- \* A Look at Upcoming Retreats

The needs of the location within the Reservation can vary, but every group will be contributing meaningful work to these people.

To learn more about these life-changing opportunities, go to our website at [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org) or email [ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org).

## Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Establishes the Simonton Memorial Seminary Scholarship Fund

On March 17, 2015, the Reverend Don Simonton, the first full-time director of Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, passed away in Grand Junction, Colorado. Don had a huge vision for the ministry of Rainbow Trail. Don developed and shaped the first camp



The new Don and June Simonton memorial trees are planted at the Outdoor Chapel

philosophy for Rainbow Trail as well as designed the initial programs that Rainbow Trail offered.

Dave Jarvis represented RTLCLC and had the opportunity to celebrate Don's life and legacy three times over the last six months – in May, at Don's memorial service in Vail; in July, on the top of the mountain at Vail Ski Resort where Don often led mountain top worships for skiers; and then in August at Rainbow Trail. As part of the service at camp, we planted two memorial trees in the Outdoor Chapel, a Blue Spruce for Don and a White Fir for his wife June, and scattered their ashes on the roots of those trees. Don and June will be with us every time we worship in the Outdoor Chapel.

Rainbow Trail, along with the Simonton family, is creating the Simonton Memorial Seminary Scholarship Fund. The purpose of this Fund is to encourage and assist current and former Rainbow Trail staff members who are pursuing their call

to full-time ministry and have been accepted as a full-time student at an ELCA seminary. These funds will be available to cover tuition and housing expenses at an ELCA seminary. This fund is such a natural progression in widening the vision of Rainbow Trail's ministry. It is a perfect way that we can now help contribute to the development of the next generation of pastoral leadership for the ELCA.

Don was such a major influence on the shaping of today's ministry at Rainbow Trail. Through this scholarship, Don will continue to impact so many lives and help shape the future leaders of the church.

The family is providing a sizeable gift as seed funds to establish this scholarship fund. We are also working with a foundation for another generous gift to this seminary scholarship fund. If you would like to make a gift to the Simonton Seminary Scholarship Fund in memory of Don and June, please

mark your gift "Simonton Seminary Scholarship." If you would like to make a larger gift or a stock gift to help kick start this scholarship fund, please contact Dave Jarvis at 719-429-1377 for more details.



#### 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

This fall has been a whirlwind. The longer I serve as Executive Director, the more I travel and the more things we have to juggle with all parts of what is now a bigger ministry. The retreat season has already been packed including several week-long programs. Plans for next summer are already in full swing!

We had an incredible summer. The weeks flew by and the summer seemed very short. We had an awesome and faithful summer staff that served 3,000 people through all of our summer ministries. I absolutely loved working with these guys – and so did the pastors and other adult leaders that were with us this past summer. I know that because I heard it over and over again that this may have been one of our best staffs. The care they showed kids was superb. There was a tremendous spirit and energy among this group. 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 help make a summer as powerful and successful as 2015 was. Once again, we had an awesome Bible Study that taught us “The Fruit Of The Spirit” and all the credit goes to our Bible Study writers. I think this study may have stuck more than others. Campers really know the fruit of the spirit and what that looks like in their lives. Thank you to Pastor Vera Guebert-Steward, Pastor Nicole’ Ferry, Pastor Mark Twietmeyer, Pastor Jane Jebesen, and Pastor Russ Britton 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 all of our partner congregations for their support of this ministry. 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 2015. They have given and given very generously this year. Because of their support, along with our many other donors, this ministry continues to grow and serve in new ways. There are now 55 partner congregations that contribute to this ministry. 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 our Synod office folks for supporting this ministry in so many ways. The Rev. Ron Roschke led a wonderful and lively session on Lutheran Theology for our staff during their training. He also joined us for our end of staff training banquet and worship service in which Ron commissioned our summer staff for their ministry. Bishop Jim Gonia joined us to close out our summer at our closing banquet and to lead Eucharist at worship. Thank you both for knowing the power of outdoor ministry and seeing it as a vital part of the ministries of this Synod.

Finally, I want to thank our full-time staff for their dedication to this ministry. This continues to be an amazing team to serve with. They are so faithful and each 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 this ministry so well. Thanks for being my partner in ministry. I love you all!

There are some exciting new Bridging Borders trips available for 2016. In addition to Mexico, New York, and Ecuador, we have added trips to the Dominican Republic to build a house or to a Navajo Reservation to help with local repairs. 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 slowly. The Forest Service continues to prioritize their land related projects. Once that is accomplished, they will be ready to start moving forward with their highest priorities. We believe we will be one of those. The key words are patience and persistence. We will still need to raise about \$175,000 to finish this project. If you haven’t given to the land exchange project, prayerfully consider joining almost 800 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. You will be ensuring that Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is always available for the youth and families of the Rocky Mountain region.

We just hosted what I think was one of our best Ambassador weekends ever. Ambassadors are our liaisons in the congregations that keep their people informed with all the happenings of Rainbow Trail. The focus of the weekend was the impact of Rainbow Trail on those that participate in our programs. We “played camp” on Saturday by putting the Ambassadors and their families into villages, had them plan their schedules, and then we held a “staff meeting” where they meshed their schedules together. They had a fun afternoon but I think they also understand a little more about our approach of putting the kids in leadership roles and allowing them to shape their days during camp. I love seeing this program come to life with kids in charge!

Thanks for the opportunity to continue to serve you through this amazing place. We have a lot of exciting things on the horizon for Rainbow Trail. I’m excited we can walk this journey together!

Until next time,

## We Need a Nurse for Summer 2016

We were blessed with two great nurses in 2015, Laura Ritchie and Nicole Elsasser. They did a great job of keeping our kids and staff safe while they were at camp. We aren’t sure if either one of them will be able to return for another summer. So, we are looking for a camp nurse for summer 2016. Ideally, we would love

for them to serve the whole summer, from May 30-August 21, 2016. 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 9th Annual Grace Race

The 9th Annual Grace Race was blessed with great weather and an enthusiastic crowd. Those participating helped make a difference that day by raising funds for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. 150 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 Bryan Perrott with a time of 18:33. The fastest female was Leah Bock with a time of 20:12. 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 \$4,600 to the



ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The 10th annual Grace Race is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, October 1, 2016 in Sloan’s Lake Park. We will be back to our regular afternoon time of 4:00 pm. Put it on your calendars now! We look forward to seeing you there next year!

## Grace Race Sponsors

### Luther College Sponsors

- Kelsey Anderson
- Dave and Nellie Jarvis
- Lauren and David Keller
- Art Kraus & Michelle Stone Kraus
- Eric and Beth Krueger
- Judy and Jim Myra
- Kirk & Trish Neubauer
- Andrew Peterson
- Mark & Heidi Peterson
- Rick & Jill Reed
- Austen Smith

### Augustana University Sponsors

- Dave and Nellie Jarvis
- Dave and Carissa Cruson

### Congregation Sponsors

- Abiding Hope, Littleton, CO

- Atonement Lutheran, Boulder, CO
- Augustana Lutheran, Denver, CO
- Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village, CO
- Evergreen Lutheran, Evergreen, CO
- Faith Lutheran, Golden, CO
- Trinity Lutheran, Monument, CO

### City Market, Canon City, CO

### Brand Evolutions West, Golden, CO

### Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Action Team

- Additional Donors**
- Roger & Claudia Larson
- Gail & Kay Luttinen
- Lynne & Michael Sherpe

## 24 Hours to give where you live!

Support RTLCL on Colorado Gives Day! On Tuesday, December 8, 2015, Coloradans will come together again to raise millions of dollars for nonprofits like ours. You do not need to live in Colorado to give on this day! Last year \$26.2 million was distributed to 1,677 different nonprofits throughout Colorado! RTLCL raised \$65,429 in that 24 hour period. Our goal this year is to raise \$70,000. All funds raised will go toward the Annual Fund. Since we are still in the



middle of the land exchange process, some people have shifted their annual fund donation toward the Land Capital appeal. But we still need our annual fund to sustain day-to-day operations. Anyone can give from anywhere!! No matter where you live, mark your calendars for Colorado Gives!

mark your calendars for Colorado Gives!

**December 8, 2015**

## Register for 2016 Summer Camps

### Starting November 1, 2015



Registration for 2016 opens November 1, 2015. Register early - camps will fill quickly! You are encouraged to register online at [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://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 2016 with you!



## 2016 Summer Schedule

The Rainbow Trail summer 2016 schedule has been set. The fee will be \$425 for all youth camps, with the exception of Intro Camp, which

will be \$215. The week of August 14 - 20 has a special rate of \$405. Family camp fees are \$425 for adults (ages 19 and older), \$315 for teens (ages 13-18) and \$215 for ages 4-12. There is no charge for kids under age 4. **Be sure to register early!**

May 27-30.....	Memorial Day Work Weekend
May 30-June 11.....	Staff Training
June 12-18.....	Junior High #1
June 19-22.....	Intro To Camp #1
June 19-25.....	Junior #1
June 22-25.....	Intro To Camp #2
June 26-July 2.....	Confirmation #1
July 3-9.....	Family Camp #1
July 3-9.....	Open Bridging Borders
July 10-16.....	Senior High #1
July 17-23.....	Confirmation #2
July 24-30.....	Senior High #2
July 24-30.....	Open Sr. High Compass Points
July 31-August 6.....	Open Jr. High Compass Point
July 31-August 3.....	Intro #3
July 31-August 6.....	Mixed Junior #2/Junior High #2
August 7-13.....	Family Camp #2
August 14-20.....	Mixed Junior #3/Junior High #3
September 2-5.....	Labor Day Family Weekend

**To find out more about these camps, our summer brochure can already be found at our website, [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org). You can also find a full set of our registration policies on our website.**

### Grade Levels as of Fall 2016

- 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, 2016. This applies to all camps, including family camps.

## Ben There...

By Ben Larson - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

### Unexpected Adventures

I love it when I have a great adventure planned out, and then everything falls apart! No really, I do (at least most of the time), because I found that when I'm open to what's next, it's usually an even bigger adventure. Take for instance Guide Training last spring. I'm probably not supposed to have favorites, but I do, and Guide Training is one of my favorite weeks of the year. It's the time during Week 1 of camp, when I get to take the Compass Points Directors out for a week of experiential learning on trail, teaching them the backpacking, problem solving, decision making, and group leadership skills necessary to safely guide groups of campers into (and back out of) the wilderness for the rest of the summer. This year we were headed back to Music Pass (after a couple of years of not having permits for that area) with plans to follow Sand Creek for a leisurely down hill hike into Great Sand Dunes National Park.



Even though it was mid June and at relatively low elevation, we discovered forests full of snow and a valley divided by an impassable creek. There was some great learning that took place as we had to reevaluate our situation and make new plans (something we would have to do several times in the days ahead). We eventually settled on a new route that pushed us to climb back out of the valley and follow the ridge of mountains south and west towards our destination. When we reached our newly planned point to drop back to the valley floor we found a steep drainage littered with fallen dead trees. Full packs made the descent really rough! That was just the beginning of two days (one in solid rain) of rough bushwacking and route finding that lay ahead. We eventually made it to the Sand Dunes and got to enjoy the beauty of sunset and a star filled night from the top of backcountry dunes.

It would have been easy to give up at lots of points during the adventure of that week. What we had in the way of training opportunities, bonding together, being pushed to our limits, and seeing amazing places, was more than I could ever have hoped for. I hope the next time your adventure falls apart, you're open to the bigger one that's probably around the corner!

...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](mailto: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 10-16, 2016! Check out "Into the Wild" under the Compass Points tab of our website, [rainbowtrail.org](http://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 4 - 6, 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 Sonja Sandquist.

There will also be time for kids and adults to create great Christmas gifts. Adult crafts for this year include stained glass, woodcarving, Candle making, Cribbage Boards, Wooden lamps, pinecone Christmas wreaths, 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. In addition, you can cut your Christmas tree off of RTLCL's site for only a \$10 Forest Service permit fee. This has all the makings of a great family tradition!

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 28th. Space is limited and a 50% non-refundable deposit is due with your registration. You can register online!



## The Summit-Youth Directors' Retreat

April 11 - 13, 2016

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 11-13, 2016. 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](http://www.rainbowtrail.org), look under the Retreats page.



**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, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, NAVAJO, and NYC!**  
Still space available for ALL locations!  
Call now! Slots will fill up quickly!

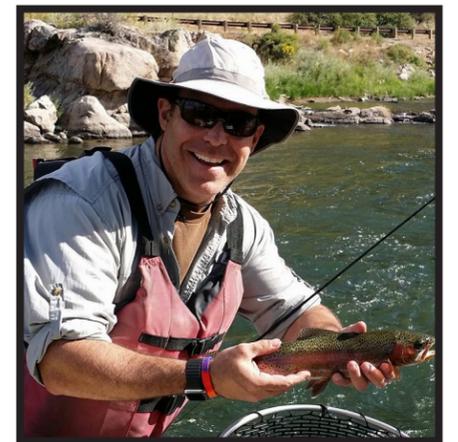
## Men's Fly Fishing Retreat

September 22-25, 2016



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 and 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](http://www.rainbowtrail.org/retreats) or email [ben@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:ben@rainbowtrail.org).



## Rainbow Trail Confirmation Retreat

November 6 - 8, 2015



Confirmation leaders and students: this retreat is for you! Bring your fellow confirmation class friends, a couple of adult leaders and your pastor to one of these fun-filled weekends of faith-building, worship, fellowship and play.

The subject of this year's confirmation retreats is "Holy Humor: Our Lord, Our Life, Our Laughter." Pastor Russ Britton from Bethany Lutheran Church will be leading large group sessions.

"Jesus has come that we might have life abundantly! God wishes a life filled with joy for us! However, the

world can be a tough place and there are times where life is also no laughing matter," says Britton. Britton will lead us through a weekend of exploring how the confirmation promises might equip our joy and prepare us for the less joyful parts of life.

Confirmation classes get a chance to discuss what they have learned with their class, and to play together in the beautiful Sangre de Cristos. Our world is hungry for Good News so come and join us on the mountain; that you may dive head first into a more spiritually driven life and take it home with you!

The cost for these retreats is \$85 per confirmation student and \$60 for each adult. You can find more information and get a registration form on the Rainbow Trail website [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org). Look under the "Retreats" menu or call Ben Jarvis at 719-276-5233 or email him at [ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org) Register soon as spaces are filling quickly!

## He be Jammin

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

My second summer on full-time staff has come and gone. It's weird to have the contrast of not knowing much and learning as I go during my first summer, and feeling confident and knowledgeable in my second summer. It's given me more of a chance to really experience and love my job rather than focusing so much on what I don't know.

One of the aspects of my job that I was able to more fully experience this year is Bridging Borders. Of course there's the administrative side of these trips where I get to organize and take care of the logistics and communications with each group, but there is also the experience of the trip itself. Even though I rarely get to join on a trip, I get excited about every single group that embarks on these service trips because I have experienced first-hand not only as a camper and summer staff member, but also in this job this past summer the life-changing and faith-rocking journey that can take place in just a short week.

I love being on-site at camp. The energy felt and the amazing faith communities that form throughout the weeks between campers, adults, and staff is truly incredible. However, when I went to the Dominican Republic this summer, I was reminded of how important the Bridging Borders side of my position is. Taking off out of Denver on a red-eye flight, I traveled with Evergreen Lutheran Church and three summer staff members to the Caribbean island to connect with Casas por Cristo in Santiago. Part way through the trip, I started asking myself why we were needed for the construction of this house. I'm not a professional contractor, and neither was this group of high schoolers. It would be far cheaper to send money and a team of people that build houses professionally to complete the job. So why go? That's when it hit me that there is so much more to these trips than simply the tangible work that we do.

We went to build a small, yet functional 3-bedroom house with a family room, a cement floor, plywood walls, and no indoor plumbing. What we were able to accomplish that week extended much beyond this structure. Although much of our group didn't speak Spanish, the love of God and the connections of brothers and sisters in Christ surpassed all language barriers. The friendships and the love that materialized out of that week will stay with me for years. I can only hope the same is true for those sleeping in that house tonight. I pray that the Spirit be with them, and that maybe one day I will see them again.



## HELP RTLC WITH YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you are a Thrivent Financial member, we need your help! We set a Thrivent Choice goal for 2015 of \$47,000 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 their 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!!

## 2016 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 2 new decks on Juniper Lodge, remodeling the upstairs Juniper bathroom, installing log siding on both sides of the interior of Kinnikinnick cabin, installing a new French door in the upstairs Juniper apartment, installing the new logs for the front of Columbine, scraping and resealing the exterior of the pavilion and the crosses, new stair lighting on the front of Columbine, and much more), we'll be sure to



have another busy and memorable weekend! Call the Canon City office at (719) 276-5233 or email Dave at [dave@rainbowtrail.org](mailto: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 Sam and Megan!

This September, Rainbow Trail welcomed two new program assistants for the 2015-2016 retreat season. We can't wait for you to meet them! They bring amazing gifts to this ministry, valuable experience, 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!



Sam Berglund and Megan Myers, our new program assistants on the top of Pikes Peak

### Sam Berglund

Sam grew up in Helena, Montana and has been hooked on outdoor ministry all of her life. After graduating the University of Montana, Sam found herself in England teaching kids how to sail, climb, shoot arrows and basically be pirates at a Christian outdoor center located on the eastern coast. After three years of drinking tea and calling a ship home, Sam is excited to return to the mountains and the family feeling of a Lutheran camp at Rainbow Trail.

### Megan Myers

Hi! I'm Megan, a PGA for the 2015-2016 season. I grew up in the Houston area, and graduated from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. I'm a born-and-raised Texan, but already love living in Colorado (although I can't wait for Blue Bell ice cream to make its way back here!). I grew up as a camper at Lutherhill, a camp in La Grange, Texas, and spent five summers there as a staff member. I'm so excited to experience a new camp tradition as well as a brand-new climate here at Rainbow Trail.

*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.*

## Memorial Day Donor

Are you considering a yearly gift to Rainbow Trail but don't know where you'll see a tangible return? Look no further! Each Memorial Day weekend Rainbow Trail hosts roughly 115 volunteers to make major improvements to our site and prepare for summer. What some might not know is that Rainbow Trail spends around \$12,000 in materials for the weekend! With the help of experienced contractors and careful planning, we believe we receive between \$35,000 and \$45,000 worth of labor in just three days! Rainbow Trail is seeking donors that are passionate about site improvements and would be willing to fund our annual Memorial Day work weekend. If interested, email [kyle@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:kyle@rainbowtrail.org) or call (303) 902-5940.

## Day Camp Vehicle Needed

Did you know that Rainbow Trail drove over 68,000 miles last year? Do you have a gently used minivan you're considering trading in or selling? Why not donate it to Rainbow Trail and watch it live on for many more years? RTLC is in need of a reliable minivan that can seat a minimum of five people and their luggage. If you think you've got a vehicle that might benefit RTLC, email [kyle@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:kyle@rainbowtrail.org) or call (303) 902-5940. Remember, donations are tax deductible!

## Site to Sight

By Kyle Larson - Director of Site and Facilities

Happy fall to you all! The colors at camp have been phenomenal this year. Just another reason fall is by far my favorite season. With the changing of the colors, of course comes cooler weather and plenty of things to do to get the site ready for winter. Our coming winter season is looking pretty full which makes for a much easier winter on all of our pipes. Knock on wood...

My hope is that everyone is able to come and see the various changes that take place to our site each year on Memorial Day. Since that's not always achievable, let me update you on the great strides we took this year. The upstairs Juniper Apartment got a huge makeover with new kitchen tile, a full bathroom remodel and a massive second story deck. For those of you in full-time ministry, take advantage of this retreat space. It has been transformed! Kinnikinnick was finished with log siding on the interior and a full electrical upgrade. The front steps of Columbine now have LED lighting that will last for many years to come. We also have a new sign at the first fork in the road where there was a smaller sign. Those are the big projects that happened but many other smaller projects happened as well. A huge thanks goes out to the contractors who give up their Memorial Day weekend and give of their gifts to this ministry. I hope you know the incredible impact you make each and every year. The list is already started for next year!

Summer has passed and I can honestly say I've never had a summer fly by as quickly as 2015. It felt like I blinked and the summer was over. As usual, I want to say a huge thank you to all those that worked with me this summer. Jordan, you killed it. Thanks for being an incredible support for me and the camp hands. Your work didn't go unnoticed. Seth, what great gifts you bring to this ministry! Thanks for your knowledge and willingness to learn. Finally, camp hands, thank you for doing the job that most don't have the stamina to do. Thank you for your positive attitudes and servant hearts. The spirit was certainly moving through each of you and the summer wouldn't have run as smoothly without your work.

Personally, my life outside of work has been great but hectic. For years now, I've been saying that I'm close to starting on the remodel project of my house in Salida. The pieces finally fell together after camp this year so I'm in the thick of a total gut of my house. It's incredibly exciting but also hard to motivate myself to go home and work after a long day! I have a few more windows to install, a back door to move and a front porch to build before a new coat of stucco goes on! I'm getting close but winter is coming!

Almost unbelievable that summer registration will be opening Nov. 1st. Soon enough I'll be in the full swing of interviews. If you know of anyone interested in the camp hand position for next summer, send them my way! I'm always on the lookout. As always, come stop by the shop and say hi if you're in the area!

Till next time,

*Kyle*



## "JUST BE" GOES LIVE ON iTunes LATE OCTOBER!



The new music CD "Just Be", that was recorded by the RTALC 2014 staff, will go live on iTunes in late October. The album has all the current camp favorites including "Hello, Hello," "Fruits of the Spirit," "Little Room," "Just Be," "Come Thou Fount," "Grace Like Rain," and many more! Look for announcements on our website and on Facebook when the new album goes live!

## 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  
All Saints Lutheran Church Miriam Circle, Austin, CO  
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Littleton  
American Lutheran Church, Grand Junction  
American Lutheran Church WELCA, Grand Junction  
Ascension Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Ascension Lutheran Church Women, Colorado Springs  
Atonement Lutheran Church, Boulder  
Atonement Lutheran Church, Lakewood  
Augustana Lutheran Church, Denver  
Augustana Foundation Fund, Denver  
Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village  
Bethany Lutheran Church Foundation, Cherry Hills Village  
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX  
Bethel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamos, NM  
Black Forest Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Centennial Lutheran Church, Englewood  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Santa Fe, NM  
Christ Lutheran Church, Highlands Ranch  
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Denver  
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Christ the Savior, Aurora  
Christ the Servant, Louisville  
Community of Joy Lutheran Church, Rio Ranch, NM  
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Broomfield  
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, Denver  
Cross of Hope Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, NM  
Elim Lutheran Church, Odgen, UT  
Epiphany Lutheran Church, Denver  
Evergreen Lutheran Church, Evergreen  
Faith Community Church Outreach, Longmont  
Faith Lutheran Church, Security  
First Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
First Lutheran Church, Gypsum  
First Lutheran Church, Longmont  
Glory of God Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Glenwood Springs  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Denver  
Grace Lutheran Church, Boulder  
Grace Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Grace Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA, Colorado Springs  
Grace Lutheran Church, Casper, WY  
Grace Lutheran Church, Waseca, MN  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS  
Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, TX

Holy Love Lutheran Church, Aurora  
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lakewood  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Littleton  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA, Littleton  
Hope Lutheran Church, Westcliffe  
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley  
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  
Lutheran Church of Hope, Broomfield  
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Centennial  
Lutheran Church of the Master, Lakewood  
Lutheran Church of the Servant, Santa Fe, NM  
Messiah Lutheran Church, Denver  
Mission Lutheran Church, Swink  
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder  
Mount of the Holy Cross, Vail  
Nativity Lutheran Church, Commerce City  
New Promise Lutheran Church, St. George, UT  
Our Father Lutheran Church, Centennial  
Our Savior Lutheran Church, Greeley  
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Ft. Collins  
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, East Bethel, MN  
Peace Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM  
Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Elizabeth  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs  
Prince of Peace Women of the ELCA, Colorado Springs  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Denver  
Rocky Mountain Synod  
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Canon City  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, La Salle  
Spirit of the Mountain Lutheran Church, Golden  
South Zumbro Lutheran Church, Kasson, MN  
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Arvada  
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Albuquerque  
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St. Paul Lutheran Church, Calhan  
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Greenwood Village  
St. Philip Lutheran Church, Littleton  
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Northglenn  
Tabor Lutheran Church, Pueblo  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Boulder  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Fowler  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Loveland  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Monument  
Valley Lutheran Church, Denver  
Zion Lutheran Church, Trinidad

## 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. Funding from the Synod to Rainbow Trail has been reduced in



recent years. 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](mailto: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 needing financial assistance the chance to still experience a week at camp. What a great gift: sending a deserving kid to camp to experience God and a lively faith community in this beautiful setting! Send your gift to RTALC marked "Camperships." You can also make your gift through the new donate button found on the banner photo of our Facebook page. Contact Dave at the Canon City office for more information. 719-276-5233 or [dave@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:dave@rainbowtrail.org)

## ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS

AIG Matching Grants Program  
Benevity Community Impact  
California Pizza Kitchen  
Community First Foundation  
OtterCares Foundation  
Thrivent Action Team-Grace Race  
Thrivent Action Team-Work Weekend  
United Way of Larimer County  
United Way of Northern New Mexico  
Verizon Foundation



## Events Calendar 2015 - 2016

November 6-8.....RTLCL Confirmation Retreat  
 December 4-6.....AdventFest  
 February 28.....Summer Staff applications due  
 April 1.....Summer Volunteer apps due  
 April 11-13.....Youth Directors' Retreat  
 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

### LEELAND & ELLEN SOKER ANNUAL CAMPERSHIP FUND

Bruce & Nancy Albertson  
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 Meghan Blanch  
 Mike & Connie Burris  
 Todd & Jill Grivetti  
 Scott & Janet Harrison

Steve & Cheryl Mahon  
 Jean Short  
 Avery Stolp  
 Theresa Thompson  
 Troy & Heather Twesme  
 Marci & David Wait

### CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following friends of Rainbow Trail who gave a gift in 2015.

Marty Bendel Waite  
 Karen Benuska  
 Jane & Curtis Bonser  
 Matthew & Ashlea Brady  
 John Chandler  
 Mark & Pegi Crates  
 Thelma Diedrichs  
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 Leonard & Judy Walgren  
 Einar & Lone Wulfsberg

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

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 Julie Wade  
 Marvel Wolken

### PATHFINDERS

The following individuals are members of the 2015 Pathfinders' Club. Pathfinders is RTLCL'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](http://www.rainbowtrail.org/donate). Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

#### Challenger Peak \$1,000-1,499

Anonymous  
 Bruce & Nancy Albertson  
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 Karen Smith  
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 Ruth Von Mosch  
 Tim & Jen Walmer  
 Dave Young

#### Long's Peak \$1,500-2,499

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 Hanne & Kip Schauer  
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#### Mt. Princeton \$5,000-\$9,999

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 David & Edie May Phillips  
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#### In Memory of Aaron Grider

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#### In Memory of Del Herrold

Mary Boucher  
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#### In Memory of Donna Jean Mount

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#### In Memory of Ruth Swanson Arden

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#### In Memory of Nick Duelo

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## GIFTS IN HONOR OF

#### In Honor of the Porch Family

Harriet Porch

#### In Honor of Robert & William Laurie

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#### In Honor of Joyce Boe

Lisa Boe-Sims

#### In Honor of Mark Twietmeyer

Daniel & Diana Breed

#### In Honor of Marci & Dave Waite

Julie McCallister

#### In Honor of Pastor Dave Risendal's 30th Ordination Anniversary

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Greenwood Village

#### In Memory of Lynne Craver

Matthew Abemayor  
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 Black Forest Lutheran Church, Black Forest  
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 Stoneridge Homeowners Association,  
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#### In Memory of Sandra McCallister

Marci & David Wait

#### In Memory of Beuford & Rosalie

##### Kokesh

Julie Jinkins  
 Marlise Lonn  
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#### In Honor of our Grandparents

Jeanne & Martin Dallman

#### In Honor of Johanna Crock, Hanna Nichols, Laura Pierce & Sara Witte

##### Ray

Hannah Harman

#### In Honor of Karin Arndt

Nancy & Rex Howard

#### In Honor of The McCracken Family - Ben, Arlene, Lynn, Mark, Michelle, Madison & Mia

Kristin McCracken

#### In Honor of our Family Birthdays in January and February

Todd & Jill Grivetti

## GIFTS IN KIND

Rosetta Bidne  
 Brad & Kathleen Chewakin  
 Tamra & Ken Dalle Molle  
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 Frank & Lorie Eby  
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 Dave & Nellie Jarvis  
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 Paul & Amy Munding  
 Brad & Carissa Nietfeldt  
 Brett & Jennifer Palmer  
 Laurel & Jeffrey Roberts  
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 Lutheran Church of the Resurrection,  
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 Kevin & Deney Perkins  
 Teak & Clifford Simonton  
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## TRAILBLAZERS

The following individuals are members of the 2015 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](http://www.rainbowtrail.org). Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

### Eagle Peak Club

**\$500-\$999**

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**\$250-\$499**

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**\$120-\$249**

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Laura Wouters  
Gene & Angie Youngmann  
Harry Zander

## SIMONTON MEMORIAL SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Barbara Layman  
Joyce Mills  
Marcia Oppermann

Dave & Judy Peters  
Arlie Riggs

### 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) | 6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)             |
| Reams of colored copy paper          | 16 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables       |
| Nalgene Water Bottles (40)           | 6 or 8 ft. rectangular white Lifetime tables |
| Masking tape                         | 25-gallon Rubbermaid tubs (24)               |
| 3-ring Binders- 1" (15), 1.5" (10)   | A "new" economic car for Day Camp            |
| Adobe Creative Suite 6 (Mac)         | Computer Battery Back-Up System              |
| Duct tape                            | Dry Wall Screws - 1.25" and 2"               |
| Packaging tape                       | Deck Screws - 2" and 3"                      |
| Postage stamps                       | Foam Brushes - 1"                            |
| Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)    | Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive        |
| 9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps)    |  |

### 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!) | 5 gallon shop vacuums (2)       |
| New Mac Laptop computers                | Upright vacuums                 |
| New Full sheets - white (16)            | New high chairs                 |
| New Full or single mattress pads        | 32" Digital Flat Screen TVs (4) |
| New Queen sheets - white                | GoPro HERO4 Black               |
| New Queen mattress pads                 | Vermeer Brush Chipper           |
| 3-piece towel sets (20)                 | Freezerless Refrigerator        |
| Digital camera (min 10-12 megapixel)    | Dish Cart                       |
| Costumes for life of Christ             |                                 |

### 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  
Megan Myers, Program Assistant.....megan@rainbowtrail.org  
Sam Berglund, Program Assistant.....samantha@rainbowtrail.org

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[www.rainbowtrail.org](http://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.