



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 29, Number 2 Spring 2017

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

Rainbow Trail Expands Pottery Program Incredible \$50,000 Gift Set to Transform Beloved Camp Activity

Through the generosity of the estate of Chris Larson, Rainbow Trail received a gift of \$50,000 to expand our current pottery program and really establish pottery as an integral part of our summer program. The Larson family has long and deep history with Rainbow Trail. Chris served on Rainbow Trail staff in the late 60's. Chris had a deep love for pottery and RTLC. In her passing, she wanted to share that love of pottery with Rainbow Trail and with our campers. Currently, pottery is done on a small scale at RTLC, with kids hand shaping clay, glazing and firing by the end of the week. We currently have one kiln that we purchased about 15 years ago. With this gift, the pottery program will become a stand-alone program. Campers will get to learn how to throw pots on a wheel under trained leadership. The pottery program will have its own summer staff person, 2



new kilns, 10-15 new pottery wheels, and its own space in the pavilion. Because of all of the logistics and upgrades to that we need to do to the

electrical and storage in the pavilion, this new program will not be fully functional this summer. We will continue to include pottery as part of

our arts and crafts in 2017.

In addition to the pottery gift, Rainbow Trail received an additional gift of \$23,000 from the estate that was used to install the new floor in the Aspen kitchen. This gift has transformed the kitchen working space and made the kitchen feel brand new again!

Thanks again to the Larson family, especially Jean Larson, Lorene Larson Salomonsson, Dean Larson, Damon Larson, and Chris's kids, Raili Renquist, Jake Renquist, and Pete Renquist. All of them agreed for this gift be given to RTLC, specifically to the pottery program. Thank you for their vision and trust in Rainbow Trail to explore this gift for our ministry. Know that this gift will be a game changer in the arts area of our program.

Thanks to Roger Riekema for Decades of Service

It all started with the first deck on the "new" Columbine Lodge. Rainbow Trail had the money to build the building, but not to build the deck on the lodge. So we had a "Fill in the Plank" campaign to raise money for the new deck. We raised just over \$3,000, and over Memorial Day Work Weekend in 1990, Roger Riekema was the one and only contractor to lead the construction of the new deck that weekend. That project started a transformation of our site over the next 28 years that is beyond compare. We had 60 people at Memorial Day Work

Weekend that year, and we haven't had fewer than 100 people any year since. Roger helped orchestrate Memorial Day as it transitioned from a small weekend of cleaning and a few projects into a weekend where major changes happened on our site every year. We now have five to seven contractors that lead projects every year. After 28 years of transforming RTLC with his hard labor and craftsmanship, Roger is "retiring" from RTLC's Memorial Day Work Weekend.

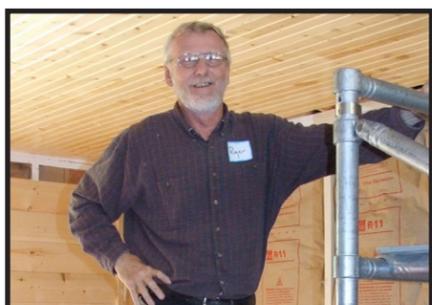
As we look at our site, we don't think there is a single building at Rainbow Trail that Roger hasn't improved over those 28 years. Roger was part of the campaign to install metal roofs on all of our buildings after the forest fire of 1993 including roofs on Eagle Peak Lodge, Holling Lodge, Aspen, and most of the cabins. Roger installed the fire doors and the new curtains in Bristlecone Lodge as we started upgrades to that building.

Roger was also part of starting the remodeling of the interiors of the cabins across the creek with the log siding, setting the standard to which all of our cabins are being remodeled. Roger helped head up the infamous "bunk bed making" Memorial Day weekend where Aspen was turned into a bed factory and we produced 140 solid bunk beds with bed rails. Those are the beds that we are still using today.

Even in the years when Rainbow Trail was in transition with our Site and Facility Director position, Roger came out and helped Dave calculate materials needed and help get orders placed so we were ready for Memorial Day Work Weekend those years.

We are grateful for the gift that Roger has been to this ministry and ultimately to the people we serve. Not only did he share his expertise, but

he also shared his servant heart with all of us. Roger is a gentle spirit and a great friend. Though we will miss him at Memorial Day Work Weekend, we know that Roger and Mary won't be strangers. We hope they will come and enjoy the fruits of their labor!



Inside this issue...

Trail Boss.....	p.2
Peanut Free Kitchen.....	p.2
Men's Fly Fishing Retreat.....	p.3
Chris' Corner.....	p.3
Sight to Site.....	p.3
Thank you PGAs.....	p.3
Meet the 2017 Summer Staff...p.4-5	
Jam Session.....	p.6
Just Jordan.....	p.6
Simply Sam.....	p.7

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

The wheels are spinning fast. It's that time of the year! Final preparations for summer, providing our staff online spring training, attending Synod assembly, leading retreats, buying clothing for popshop and assorted recreation equipment we need to provide our ministry are just SOME of the things we are doing right now. Campers will be arriving in a little more than a month. I love that we can be a part of the faith development of so many of your children. It is a task we take very seriously. Thanks for trusting us!

Registrations are very strong for summer and all weeks are full except week #10 and the open sign-up Compass Points trips. There are some spots in intro #2 and #3 for both boys and girls. There is still a lot of room in that last week of camp (week #10). Double check when your school starts for the fall. Many schools don't start until after that last week. Don't miss out on the chance to be at camp with our great staff. If finances are an issue, email me and let's talk. Don't let money be the reason for not coming to camp. We have campership money available for that purpose. There are no forms to fill out, and you don't need to share any private information. Take advantage of this opportunity to help your child have the best week of their summer at Rainbow Trail!

Our summer staff will soon be here! Our Directors arrive on Monday, May 22nd and the rest of our ministry team arrives on Memorial Day. We are so excited about this team and all they will have to offer our campers. This is a great group! Over 56% of this staff is from the Rocky Mountain Synod. There will be many familiar faces but also a bunch of wonderful new ones that are ready to meet you and love you! Please keep this team in your prayers as they prepare for this summer. May God use them in amazing ways this summer!!

The land exchange process continues to move very slowly. There are two active exchanges on our forest that were supposed to be completed before the end of 2016. Neither of those were finalized. Our Board is exploring all of our options as we move forward. It is not a matter of if this exchange will happen; it is a matter of when. We need to be all about patience and perseverance. In the meantime, the RTLCL Board will receive the report from the strategic planning listening posts that we held over the last year. So things are still moving forward!

We continue to need your support for this ministry through prayer, through your gift of time and energy, and through your financial gifts. I hope you know how much your gifts are appreciated. It is through your support that we are able to do things that we could have only imagined. The Golden Opportunity projects are a prime example. This Spring alone, we have remodeled the interior of five of our cabins, have installed a new floor in the Aspen kitchen, installed a new hot water booster and hot water heater in Aspen as well, and the projects of Memorial Work Weekend are still to come! There are so many ways to support this ministry. Gifts of all sizes, large and small, make this ministry run. Thanks for believing in the power of this ministry!

My family got the chance to celebrate the engagement of our Ben and Jordan Jensen. They got engaged over Easter weekend, but we had not had a chance to have the whole family together. Leah, our daughter, flew in from Austin, Texas and we all went out to dinner together in Denver. It was a very fun night, and real chance to laugh together and celebrate this momentous occasion. We are all excited about Jordan joining our family. We will have a fun year of planning ahead of us! I'll see you this summer! It is going to be a great one! I can't believe we are already starting another one. Thanks for the blessing of serving you another summer. This is summer #29 for me. I can't wait! See you soon!

Until next time...



Peanut Free Kitchen at RTLCL Starting 2017

It has been quite the process to get there, but Rainbow Trail will be peanut free starting with summer 2017. It is no simple task to eliminate peanuts, in all forms, from your menus and your programs, but we view this as an increasingly important safety measure for all who step on-site at RTLCL. We have found an excellent soy butter peanut butter substitute that we will use for hike days, and we are also purchasing new soy butter and jelly tubes to start fresh this summer so there is no residual peanut butter in the plastic. We are also revamping our trail mix recipe to eliminate M&M's which are produced on a peanut line

at the factory. We promise the food will continue to be that same great food that RTLCL is known for. Thanks for your patience in this transition. We hope this will make for a safer camp experience for all of our campers!



The 11th Annual Grace Race

The date has been set! Please join us on **Saturday, October 7, 2017** for the 11th Annual Grace Race. The race will begin at 4 pm with check-in beginning at 2:30 pm. We will be grilling after the race as we did last year. This year we will again be partnering with the Rocky Mountain



Synod World Hunger appeal. We are hoping to again have a representative from the ELCA office in Chicago joining us. Can't wait to see you all there to support the World Hunger Appeal. We're hoping to have 400 runners and raise \$10,000 this year for World Hunger.

PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

Thanks to these congregations who have included us in their annual budgets!

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 ELCA, 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
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
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Durango
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, Golden
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 56093
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 Saviour 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
South Zumbro Lutheran Church, Kasson, MN
Spirit of the Mountain Lutheran Church, Golden
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Arvada
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Albuquerque
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Albuquerque
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

Designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to RTLCL and Help Great Ministry Happen!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has a charitable giving program called Thrivent Choice. Each member is allocated a set amount of money to give to the Lutheran organizations of their choice. Last year, Rainbow Trail received \$26,168 from this program. Our goal for 2017 is \$35,000. We hope that you will designate your allocated dollars to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. You will need to go out to the Thrivent website quarterly to designate your Thrivent Choice dollars. We know that is a lot to remember and we can help. If you will let us know that you have designated your Thrivent Choice dollars to Rainbow Trail, we can send you either an email or a postcard quarterly to remind you to go out and designate your dollars. If you haven't designated your Choice dollars to any organization, just follow the steps below to designate them to Rainbow Trail.

Here are step by step instructions on how to designate your funds.

Over the Internet

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

Over the Phone

1. Call 800-847-4836.
2. Follow the prompts that are given.
3. You will be asked for the last four digits of your Social Security number, then you will be sent through an automated operator system.

Our camp is listed as "Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp."

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

Sight to Site

By Kyle Larson - Director of Site and Facilities

Spring has really gotten away from me this year. I can hardly believe that summer is only a month away. April and May have been full of snow and rain at camp. It's been great for the grass, but it has made some of the current maintenance and improvement projects at camp much more challenging. I'm certainly ready to say goodbye to the snow shovels for the season.

This spring has been filled with work groups who have all come to help me with major site improvements made possible by the Golden Opportunity donation. It's very rewarding seeing so many improvements to the site, but I'll have my hands full finishing these projects with not a whole lot of time to do it before summer. Outside of work groups, the site remains occupied most of the time. We've had a busy season with retreat groups onsite almost every single weekend. A huge thank you goes out to every single person from these groups that use our site during this time of year, and to those who have given their time to improve the site. Just a few of the projects that have taken place over this retreat season include remodeling Geranium, remodeling Calypso, completely deconstructing the kitchen in Aspen to install a brand new floor, and dozens of smaller projects around site to help keep us firing on all cylinders. With so much going on around camp, Memorial Day seems to be sneaking up on me quicker than years past but I just have to trust that everything will get done in time. We've got great projects happening this year, as always. Purple Aster will be getting remodeled, Golden Banner bathrooms will be remodeled, Aspen lighting will be updated, and the Arts and Crafts room in the Pavilion will be getting a new loft to prepare for the pottery program expansion. Those are just the big projects, there are plenty of smaller ones that really help us get the site looking ready for summer. What an incredible blessing all of the Memorial Day volunteers are to the ministry of Rainbow Trail!



With the changing of the seasons come changes in our staff as well. This past nine months, Rainbow Trail has been blessed to have Katie Scherr and Chad Nelsen as our Program Assistants. They have both worked for us in the past, and it has been a pleasure working with them again. I'm happy to say that I'll get three more months with Chad as my Summer Facilities Director. Katie and Chad, thanks for all your work and your friendship this year. Come back anytime!

As summer comes barreling towards us, I find myself excited for the routine and the extra hands that will be onsite in a few weeks. I am constantly blessed by the beauty that surrounds me at camp and the relationships of those I come in contact with up here. I know that God is truly present in both and will guide us as we enter our summer season. I'm excited and maybe even a little stressed to begin another summer but I know that all will be fine. I hope to see you all this summer!

Kyle

RAINBOW TRAIL IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Follow Us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and now, Snapchat (@rtlc1957) this summer to see what's going on at camp! Villages, Day Camps, and Off-Site Programs will be posting using the hashtag #norulesRTLCLC. Tag your own posts with this hashtag as well so that we can see the stories of the summer! Also, you can post anytime using #RTLCLC when talking about camp, or #RTLCLCswag when wearing Rainbow Trail gear!

Thank You Program Assistants



The past nine months, we have had two wonderful program assistants who have truly become a part of the full-time staff family. From organizing retreats, leading worships, teaching archery, and splitting wood, we have appreciated all they have done to contribute to our ministry.

Chad, thank you for your calm demeanor and beautiful voice. Katie, your organizational skills and gift for hospitality have been huge blessings.

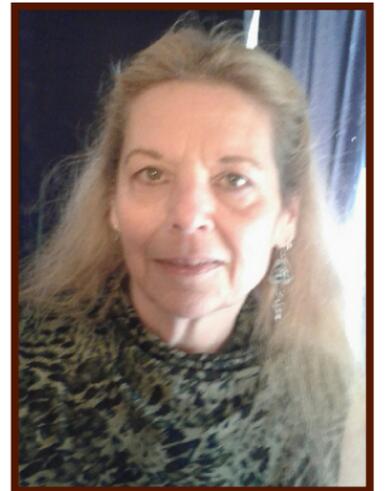
We wish Katie well as she continues her work up in Denver for Lutheran Family Services and Chad as he continues to work for Rainbow Trail as our Facilities Director this summer.

Thank you, again, for sharing your gifts with us, Katie and Chad! It has been a pleasure to serve alongside you both.

Chris' Corner

By Chris Seaman - Food Service Manager

I am so excited about being able to contribute to the newsletter! My plan is to give better insight into the workings of the RTLCLC kitchen. I would also like to share some helpful hints that I've picked up over the years on how you can do some things more easily and others with less expense. We will share recipes - yours and mine. Perhaps you would like to share a fond memory of a specific meal? There are so many things we can do together in this article!



The kitchen is in MAJOR upheaval right now. We are installing a new floor. Thank you Dave and Kyle for making this happen! Thank you also to the awesome crew that came in to do the tear out. Please don't forget us when it comes time to reinstall! I'm excited for the crazy, nerve-racking, joyous summer that is quickly approaching. As always, I will do my best to insure the safety of all our campers who have special dietary needs. It seems with the major dumps of snow that we have gotten recently that camp is farther away than it really is. It has been a great retreat season too. Thank you Kyle, Sam, Jammin, Jordan, Katie and Chad. Together I think we made a lot of people very happy!

I managed to get the inside of my house painted this winter. It was quite a job but really rewarding. My good ole dog, Chunk, is still hanging in there! Wait until you meet Luna, Jordan's new baby. What a love she is!

So, let's get to some helpful hints! If you have a recipe that calls for room temperature eggs if you put them in a bowl of hot water they will be ready to use in five minutes! If you have been handling garlic or onions, rub your hands on stainless steel (sink, spoon, sharpening steel, etc.) it will take the smell right off your skin! They sell things for this purpose in most kitchen supply stores for a chunk of change. What if you have a recipe that calls for you to add eggs one at a time? You can crack all your eggs into a measuring cup and it makes this process a lot quicker!

I think I will share with you one of RTLCLC's most asked for recipes: Rainbow Trail Bread.

In a large mixer bowl place 4 cups of baby bottle temp water. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of rapid rise yeast over the top and let foam. Add ¼ cup sugar or honey, ½ cup vegetable oil, 2 tablespoons salt. You will need 8 to 10 cups of flour. If you'd like, you can do a one part wheat flour to 2 parts white flour. Stir in as much flour as you can with a spoon. Move dough onto a floured surface. Add flour while kneading until you get a smooth dough. At this point, you will knead the dough for at least 5 minutes. Set a timer! Why is this important? As you knead the dough you will see the texture change as the gluten is released from the flour. This is what gives you that awesome texture! Cover dough with a warm, damp towel, and let it rise for one hour. This recipe will make 3 large loaves. Cut dough into 3 equal parts. Shape into loaves and place in 3 9x5 bread tins. Brush the tops with melted butter. Cover tins with a damp towel and let rise in a warm place for 45 min to an hour or until it doubles in size. Remember, if you use your oven for the rising process, to pull them out so you have time to preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Bake for 20 minutes and spin pans. Bake for another 20-25 minutes or until a loaf sounds hollow when tapped. Remove from oven, brush with melted butter, and enjoy! Hint: if you don't want to bake all the loaves at once, wrap the unbaked but shaped loaves in plastic wrap twice. When you want to bake them, just put them in a greased pan, and spray the tops with no stick spray. Then, cover with plastic to rise and continue as stated above. If you forget to spray either the loaves or plastic, you won't be very happy! You can use the same recipe with dinner rolls.

I hope you enjoyed my first article! Always remember that God is great!!

Till next time,

Chris

Men's Fly Fishing Retreat September 21-24, 2017

Take some time to step out of the stresses of ordinary life and into the refreshing waters of the Arkansas River. This weekend of fly fishing, fellowship, and amazing worship and conversation is led by Pastor Dave Risendal. His deep love of fly fishing and the gospel will help you re-center and deepen your faith. Expand your fly fishing skills with instruction from Ark Anglers Fly Shop, fly tying workshops, and advice from other seasoned fishermen. 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 and lodging. Don't have gear? No problem, we can connect you with rental equipment at a great price. We can also make arrangements to hire guided fly trips through Ark Anglers if desired. To get more info, contact Jordan at 719-276-5233 or email jordan@rainbowtrail.org.



Registration is Open! Sign Up Today!

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



Tabi McCombe
Counselor
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado Springs, CO



Nicole Grinager
Travel Director
Augustana University
Sioux Falls, SD



Nick Vande Krol
Travel Director
Luther College
Decorah, IA



Nikki Skifton
Counselor
Gustavus Adolphus College
Stewartville, MN



Hector Calar
Counselor
University of Colorado
Colorado Springs, CO



Shannon Lavelle
Counselor
Cal Poly
Superior, CO



Sara Eachus
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Waterloo, IA



Mareda Smith
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Luther College
North Liberty, IA



Connor Peterson
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Evan Lieber
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Paige Koenig
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Madeline Craig
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Chris Kleinfeld
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Fountain, CO



Ariel Behnke
Compass Points Director
UW- LaCrosse
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Ropes Coordinator
Colorado State University
Albuquerque, NM



Alexis Carey
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American University
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Nurse
Metro State University
Willmar, MN



Zach Davis
Counselor
Colorado Christian University
Lake Nebagamon, WI



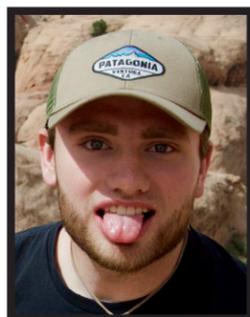
Janelle Hernandez
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Ali Welge
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Christa Slater
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Pacific Lutheran University
Fresno, CA



Cam Regennitter
Travel Director
CSU - Pueblo
Peyton, CO



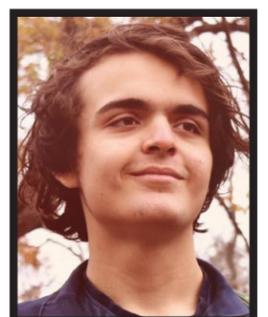
Kelly Marsh
Camphand
Loveland High School
Loveland, CO



Landon Risendal
Camphand
Cherry Creek High School
Centennial, CO



Maya Gardner
Camphand
Lincoln SE High School
Bennet, NE



Sammy Garcia
Counselor
Tarrant County College
Fort Worth, TX

...The 2017 Rainbow Trail Summer Staff



Hannah Maxa
Counselor
Luther College
Lenox, IA



Delta Wise
Videographer
Baylor University
Fredricksburg, TX



Drew Culp
Compass Points Director
Denver Seminary
Greenville, SC



Maggie Smith
Ropes Coordinator
Colorado State University
Burlington, WI



Kjersti Olson
Camphand
South Central Calhoun
Lake City, IA



Nick Hughes
Camphand
Highland High School
Albuquerque, NM



Matt Ferdig
Camphand
Cibola High School
Albuquerque, NM



Owen Lewer
Counselor
Carthage
Waseca, MN



Emily Mohlis
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University of Northern CO
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Connor Foust
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Centennial High School
Pueblo, CO



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Northern Arizona Univ.
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Travel Support Director
Luther College
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Chris Hazlaris
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Paul Jordan
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Wartburg College
Waukesha, WI



Caroline Henning
Counselor
Nebraska Wesleyan
Coon Rapids, MN



Dean Klinkerman
Support Staff Director
Colorado State University
Fowler, CO



Chad Nelsen
Summer Facilities Director
Wartburg College
Rock Valley, IA



Rebekah Nestingen
Woodcarving Instructor
Luther College
Evergreen, CO



Tovo Razafinirinarimanana
Counselor
Madagascar



Seth Woodring
Counselor
Colorado State University
Colorado Springs, CO



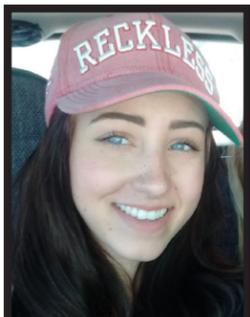
Meghan Gould
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Pacific Lutheran University
Monument, CO



Clay McCombe
Travel Director
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado Springs, CO



Peter Meyer
Counselor
Colorado State University
Albuquerque, NM



Kayla Cohu
Guitar Instructor
University of Northern CO
Colorado Springs, CO



Sam Berglund
Director of Compass
Points & Day Camp
Salida, CO



Chris Seaman
Food Service Manager
Hillside, CO



Jordan Jensen
Director of Retreat
Ministries
Colorado Springs, CO



Ben Jarvis
Director of On-Site &
Bridging Borders
Colorado Springs, CO



Kyle Larson
Director of Site & Facilities
Salida, CO



Sara Marietta
Executive Secretary
Cañon City, CO



Aurice Worley
Bookkeeper
Cañon City, CO



Nellie Jarvis
Intro Camp Director
Cañon City, CO

Dave Jarvis
Executive Director
Cañon City, CO

Jam Session

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

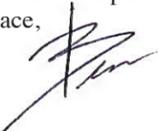
Spring is a season of preparation at RTLCL. For months now, we've been preparing for summer. We've had the Bible study writers join us at camp for a few days to develop the study that will be taught every week. We've gone through multiple drafts to complete that study. We've had a month of recruiting staff. We've had another month of training staff online. We've had site improvements to our cabins, our kitchen floor, and many appliances. We've been recertified on the ropes course, and had our annual inspection. All the while, we've also been hosting retreats and doing our best to make Rainbow Trail a home, a sanctuary, and a place of respite for all who step foot onsite.

While I'm excited to see the colder months come to an end, all of this preparation work has me wishing we had just a few more weeks to get it all done. Then I think of the incredible staff who will start arriving at camp on May 22nd, and I don't want to wait any longer to work with these people. I truly believe Rainbow Trail has hired wonderful staffs for years, and continues to do so. Every summer, I feel the energy of possibility. This energy sets in immediately, and a family begins to form. If our staff give fully of themselves, they're in for one of the best summers of their lives. I love the anticipation of it all.

In my personal life, I've also begun a season of preparation this spring. Jordan Jensen and I went on a Great Lakes trip, celebrating 5 years of dating with visiting 5 lakes. While Canada was beautiful, and Chicago was a blast, the highlight of my trip (and of my 2017), was when we found ourselves in Milwaukee. On a drizzly morning walk with Jordan's sister Lauren, and her boyfriend Tim, we wandered out on a peninsula into Lake Michigan. A grove of trees made us pause for a few pictures. When my camera "wasn't working," I asked Jordan to help me troubleshoot the problem. Little did she know that I had replaced the battery with a ring. I opened the battery flap, the ring slid into my hand, I got down on one knee, and for some reason she said, "yes!" So, now the preparation for our wedding and life together begins. This spring has truly been all about preparation for me.

This will be my 10th summer on summer staff in some facet. My first few years as woodcarver, the next few as counselor, and then a few years in summer director roles. I'll be in my 4th summer on full-time staff this year, and I can't wait to see what will happen. Every summer surprises me in some way. God willing, this summer will not include yet another evacuation. But if that is what ends up being our adventure this summer, bring it on. It's amazing to see the transformation of staff from the day one, "deer in the headlights, not sure about this whole camp thing, who are these crazy people I'm stuck in the mountains with" attitude, to really hitting their stride, loving their campers, developing their style, and finding themselves being the most genuine and authentic that they have ever been. Summer at RTLCL has a way of illuminating the best qualities that God has put in staff and campers alike, and allows them to learn new things about themselves. Hope you can all come be a part of it, and see for yourselves how Christ is at work at RTLCL.

Peace,



PATHFINDERS

The following individuals are members of the 2017 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. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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Ben & Bev Larzelere

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In Honor of Hunter & Ashley Ryll

Karen Wagenknecht

In Honor of Dave

Jarvis
Lisa Boe-Sims

In Honor of Ede Ericson - Merry Christmas

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In Honor of Chris Kleinfeldt

Kathryn Schmidt

In honor of Our Parents

Russ & Cheri Sorensen

In Honor of Herb Korff

Karen Stenger

In Honor of the 1965 RTLCL Counselors, The first paid staff

Vicki & Donald White

Just Jordan

By Jordan Jensen - Director of Retreats

It has been quite the spring here in Colorado, with seventy-degree temperatures one day and ten inches of snow the next. I cannot wait for warmer weather, summer concerts, road trips, and day-long hikes with my puppy, Luna! This summer, I will be heading to multiple places around the country to celebrate marriages and spend time with friends and family. It will be a great season for adventures.

Luna is getting bigger every day and has finally lost all of her baby teeth. She enjoys the great outdoors and has deemed camp and the dog park two of her favorite places. She also makes friends (dogs and humans alike) easily and firmly

believes that she is invincible. Lucky doesn't even begin to describe how I feel about getting such a great best friend. Now if only I could get her to sleep in a little in the mornings...

The highlight of this past month was a weeklong trip that I took to the Great Lakes with Ben. We spent time at each of the five lakes and got to explore a large part of Ontario, Canada. After looping back around to Lake Michigan, Ben proposed to me in Milwaukee! It was quite the surprise and a wonderful way to end an unforgettable trip. I even got to celebrate with my family before coming back to Iowa. It is exciting to think about what's to come.

Lately, I have been trying to focus on what it means for me to be well. Although I did not make any goals for the Lenten season, I used the time leading up to Easter to reflect on what I can do to better my day-to-day life. Spending time outside, sleeping consistent hours, and prepping meals have done wonders for my mental and physical health, along with attempts to compartmentalize parts of my life. Moving forward, I plan to focus on my spiritual life as well. Finding a set congregation and a faith community outside of work feels like a great place to start. If you belong to a congregation in Colorado Springs, reach out to me! I would love to stop by and get to know your church.

As the retreat season comes to an end, I have been reflecting on how many wonderful people I shared coffee, conversations, and laughs with these past eight months. It has been a pleasure getting to know children, fly fishermen, pastors, skiers, and knitters. Thank you to all who have given me the gift of grace as I continue to learn about this ministry and how to serve you all best. As summer approaches, I am looking forward to some time for rest, renewal, and preparation for next fall and the retreats to come. Enjoy these coming months and the creation He has blessed us with!



ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS

AIG Matching Grants Program
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Thrivent Action Team-Grace Race
Thrivent Action Team-Work Weekend
United Way of Larimer County
United Way of Northern New Mexico
Verizon Foundation

TRAILBLAZERS

The following individuals are members of the 2017 Trailblazers Club. Trailblazers is an annual giving club that keeps the ministry at Rainbow Trail alive and growing. To join, contact Dave 719-276-5233 or check out the "Donate" portion of our webpage at www.rainbowtrail.org. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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Simply Sam

By Sam Berglund - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

Happy Spring to you all! I hope this finds you well-rested and happy during this busy muddy season. The weather here at camp is currently throwing a tantrum. Sunny and warm one minute and dumping buckets of snow, rain and hail the next. It's hard to keep up but despite the over dramatic weather patterns the colors around here are as beautiful as ever with most things already in bloom!

We're in full swing here at camp, putting kitchens back together, testing new backpacking equipment (it's literally like Christmas every time a box arrives), organizing the new daycamp t shirts, and dehydrating food for our campers that we will all too soon be sending out into the wilderness for some much awaited God time in the woods! Although the to-do list seems to be getting longer while our time before staff arrive gets shorter, it's been really fun talking with future staff and directors as they get excited for their summer in beautiful Colorado.

Last month I got to spend 10 days on a Wilderness First Responders course in Durango. I LOVED it. We spent the week learning how to provide medical care to all types of patients in the backcountry in all kinds of different wilderness scenarios. The course itself was very intense but really fun and I learned a lot (also I passed which was neat). I'm currently looking into volunteering with a couple local search and rescue teams starting in the fall so I can use my new qualification in my local community (and maybe get to ride the lifeflight helicopter around, I'd be lying if that wasn't a huge incentive:)).

I've also started a new etsy site recently which has kept me busy screenprinting new t shirts and creating new designs. It's been a really great outlet for me, creating my own artwork and actually selling them to people I don't know! I've really enjoyed getting into a new art form and love the challenge and uncharted territory that comes with it.

As it warms up and the snow starts to melt I look forward to getting back out on the trail and checking out the trail conditions for our busy summer season in the Sangres and some areas around Salida/Buena Vista as well! As the season picks up and the days get longer, time on the mountain gets better and better and we hope to see you up here for a retreat or during the summer!

If you are a Youth Director or know a few that would love a week on trail we're currently taking bookings for our Youth Director Compass Points trip August 6-12th for a week of camping, rafting, great food and conversation. Come join us!

And as always, if you have any questions about Day Camp or Compass Points we're still booking groups all the time so give me a call or send me an email today!

God's Peace to you all,



SIMONTON SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Bethany Lutheran Church Foundation, Cherry Hills Village Mary Carter Myron & Mary Eckberg Dean & Dorothy Halvorson Dave & Nellie Jarvis	Barb Layman Joyce Mills Marcia Oppermann Dave & Judy Peters Arle Riggs Cliff & Teak Simonton
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GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Thanks to those who donated to the Golden Opportunity to help make massive site improvements at RTLCL!

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Rainbow Trail

2017 Events Calendar

- May 26-29.....Memorial Day Work Weekend
- May 29- June 10.....Staff Training
- June 11- August 20.....Summer Camps
- Sept. 1-4.....Labor Day Family Weekend
- September 21-24.....Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
- October 7.....Grace Race 5k (Denver)
- October 13-15.....Fall Ambassadors Retreat
- October 20-22.....Confirmation Retreat**
- *Note this change for Confirmation Retreat**
- December 1-3.....AdventFest

www.rainbowtrail.org

CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following friends of Rainbow Trail who gave a gift in 2017

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Craving Color?

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

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

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) | 9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps) |
| Reams of colored copy paper | 6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps) |
| Avery 5366 Labels | 12 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables |
| Avery 5164 Labels | 6 or 8 ft. rectangular white Lifetime tables |
| Nalgene Water Bottles (40) | 25-gallon Rubbermaid tubs (24) |
| Masking tape | A "new" economic car for Day Camp |
| Scotch Tape | Foam Brushes - 1" |
| Duct Tape | Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive |
| Packing Tape | 2-drawer Locking File Cabinet |
| Adobe Creative Suite 6 (Mac) | 4-drawer Locking File Cabinet |
| Postage stamps | |
| Long barreled fire lighters (Bic) | |

Wish List

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



- | | |
|---|---|
| Heavy Duty Cotton Work Gloves | New high chairs (3) |
| Industrial Mop buckets (call us first!) | 40" LED Digital Flat Screen TVs (2) |
| 12 Canvas Print Photos for BC | Free Standing Space Heaters (3) |
| Sturdy Wheelbarrows | GoPro HERO4 Black |
| Jump Drives | Vermeer Brush Chipper |
| New Full sheets - white (16) | Freezerless Refrigerator |
| New Full or single mattress pads | Dish Cart |
| New Queen sheets - white | Phillips 60W & 100W Dimmable LED Bulbs |
| New Queen mattress pads | Non-Insulated Holding Cabinet for Kitchen |
| New 3-piece towel sets (20) | 120 Volt Ice Machine |
| Digital camera (min 10-12 megapixel) | Ice Storage Bin |
| Costumes for life of Christ | Skid Steer Tire Chains |
| 5-gallon shop vacuums (3) | Commercial Washers (2) and Dryers (2) |
| Shark Navigator vacuums (4) | |

Shop Online

It's easy to give a gift from RTLC's Needs or Wish Lists online. We've pre-selected items that we are looking for and provided links straight to great deals that we've found. You can even ship directly to us!

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

Administrative Office

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



Camp Office

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

Full-Time Staff

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
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| Sara Marietta, Executive Secretary..... | info@rainbowtrail.org |
| Aurice Worley, Bookkeeper..... | accounting@rainbowtrail.org |
| Sam Berglund, Director of Compass Points & Day Camp..... | samantha@rainbowtrail.org |
| Jordan Jensen, Director of Retreats..... | jordan@rainbowtrail.org |
| Ben Jarvis, Director of On-Site & Bridging Borders..... | ben.jarvis@rainbowtrail.org |
| Kyle Larson, Director of Site & Facilities..... | kyle@rainbowtrail.org |
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| Katie Scherr, Program Assistant..... | katie@rainbowtrail.org |
| Chad Nelsen, Program Assistant..... | chad@rainbowtrail.org |

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