



# 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 35 , Number 3 Fall 2023

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.

## A Little Texas Hospitality Comes To RTALC

RTALC Welcomes New Director of Retreat Ministries

Rainbow Trail is pleased to welcome Delta Wise as the new Director of Retreat Ministries. Originally from Fredericksburg, Texas, Delta received her undergrad degree from Baylor University, where she studied English Literature. As a member of Holy Ghost Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg, Delta was introduced to Rainbow Trail when her church started bringing kids to Colorado for summer camp at Rainbow Trail. Delta attended RTALC as a camper for several years before serving on our summer staff in 2017 as videographer, and in 2018 as one of the Ropes Coordinators. For the past two years, Delta has worked in social media and corporate marketing in Dallas, Texas and in Colorado Springs. During her time in Colorado Springs, Delta



helped with many of Rainbow Trail retreats and fell in love with that ministry. Delta was hired at Rainbow Trail in August to join our full-time team.

Delta is one of the most welcoming people you will ever meet. People are only a stranger for a moment with her. She will

make you feel like you have known her for years just from one conversation. She cares deeply about relationships. Delta's hobbies are dance, film, writing, music, and the arts (she was a film major for two years and was on the dance team at Baylor). Delta loves live music and concerts, getting

outside, snowboarding, iced coffee (she is partial to Starbucks), Penny (her dog), and Cam. Delta's warm and hospitable style make her an ideal fit for our Director of Retreating.

When asked what she is most excited about in stepping into this new role, she said, "I'm excited to see the plan God has for my next chapter in life... seeing all the dots start to connect leading up to now. And getting married and living my dream in Colorado!"

In case you didn't know, Delta just got engaged to Cam, our Director of On-site and Bridging Borders ministries. They plan to get married at camp next September. That will be quite the celebration!

Join us in warmly welcoming Delta as she begins her ministry at RTALC!

## Creative Problem Solving

We Need YOU!!!

As the land exchange inches closer to completion, there are a few tasks on our to-do list that are starting to become time sensitive. One of our responsibilities is to clear any old structures from the land that we are going to give to the Forest Service in the land exchange. There was an old canvas Quonset hut and a hunter's cabin that were left by the prior owner that need to be removed from our land prior to the appraisal next spring. There is also an industrial generator and some solar batteries from a solar panel that used to be on the site. These are very heavy and will need to be trailered out of the property. The piles are significant enough that

there is way more than a few pick up loads.

You would think that the solution is easy. You drive in, load up your trucks and haul everything out. The problem is that the road is very twisted and has very steep water bars. It is eight miles from the Forest Service gate to our gate, and that eight miles takes over an hour to drive. We have talked to professional trucking with long dump trucks and even standard dump trucks and we were told condition of the road won't allow them to get in there. We even explored using helicopters to bring all of it out in one or two loads.

The price tag on that was \$50,000 a load! Right now the only other solution is to put a dumpster at the Forest Service gate and run multiple pick-ups back in forth, loading with a Bobcat on one end and shoveling into the dumpster on the other end. This process could take as many as four days with a team of 20-25 people camping out on our land for that time.

We know there has to be another solution. We have been told that there might be mountain dump trucks that are made to perform on mountain roads. But we haven't found them. Then we thought: we have an expansive and smart

Rainbow Trail community at our fingertips. Let's let them help us solve this problem. So, help us come up with an awesome solution to remove all of this debris so our land is ready to hand off to the Forest Service.

If you have an idea or a solution or know someone that can help us move forward with this project, please contact Dave Jarvis at [dave@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:dave@rainbowtrail.org) or at 719-429-1377. If you are interested in helping with the removal work, contact Dave for that as well. We can't wait to hear the creative solutions you come up with!

### Rainbow Trail Mission Statement

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

## Trail Boss

By Dave Jarvis - Executive Director

The days are flying by. I don't know if it is the addition of all the work that is land exchange related, but I can hardly catch my breath. We have barely completed this past summer, and we have already hosted Labor Day weekend, two weddings, and the men's fly-fishing retreat... and we are already deep into the planning for 2024. The brochure is being finalized and will go to press very soon. And Delta has planned a very full fall retreat season for all of us. There are a lot of moving parts right now!!

We had an amazing summer. Our teams led 30 day camps, 3 Bridging Borders trips, 16 Compass Points backpack trips, and we served over 1,000 campers on-site this summer. In addition, we had an incredible Week 10 with the families from Joshua Station. The Joshua Station program continues to grow and blossom. Their program only lasted three days last year, but this year we were able to provide a full week. They were able to do pottery, go rafting, make jewelry, do high ropes, and develop trusted relationships through conversation and worship. We also welcomed well over a hundred camp grandparents and adult leaders throughout the summer. Our summer staff was once again amazing. This was a younger group, but they grew quickly and became an incredible ministry team. They loved their campers deeply and they truly loved each other. We are excited to have many of them back next summer!

One of the key parts of our program is a quality Bible study that challenges all of us to make the world different once we leave camp. This year was no exception. We had an awesome Bible Study that helped us understand that It's All about Grace. This was a powerful study that reminded us that we are beloved children of God, always and forever, no matter what! The writers did a superb job of creating a study that I believe touched not only our campers but also our staff. Thank you to the writing team-- Pastor Nicole' Ferry, Pastor Adam Berndt, Pastor Jane Jebsen, Pastor Pam Challis, and Pastor Brad Doty-- and 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! Others who made a huge difference in our ministry this summer through staff training are Julie Miller, Sonja Iverson and Pastor Nicole' Ferry. Thank you all for giving so fully to this ministry and being flexible in sharing your knowledge and time with our staff!

I also want to thank all of our partner congregations for their support of Rainbow Trail. You, along with the Rocky Mountain Synod, have provided us with such a stable support base - especially over the most recent years - that has allowed us to fully live into our ministry. There are now over 85 partner congregations that contribute to Rainbow Trail. Thank you for seeing us as partners in your ministry and in the faith development of your youth and families. Thank you also to the Rocky Mountain Synod for naming outdoor ministries as an important part of your ministry as well.

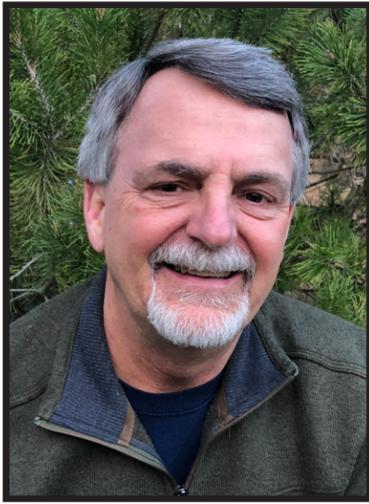
As the Rainbow Trail community, you have continued to believe in and support Rainbow Trail in 2023. People have been so generous toward RTALC. You have allowed us to focus on the critical things, such as training and preparing our staff, so the campers' experience can be the absolute best it can be. Thank you!!

I also want to thank our full-time team for their work this summer. All of our programs were back in full motion and ALL of our programs experienced great success. Thanks to the full-time team for your passion, your love of this ministry, and your partnership in this ministry. I love you all!

Registration for 2024 will open on November 1st at 12:01 am. Members of the churches of the Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA have registration priority until January 1st, 2024. After that date, it is open registration. Rumor on the street is that early registration is going to be vigorous! Take advantage of this next two months of priority registration. This will ensure that your camper gets into the week of camp that they want to attend. If you wait until even late January, many camps will be full and your choices will be limited. Start making plans now!

The land exchange continues to move forward. The public comment period was during this past summer and overall, that was a very positive experience. Also, many of the field studies are beginning to happen in early October and those will run until the end of June, 2024. Land appraisals on both our current site and the land we are exchanging with the Forest Service should happen in either Spring or early summer and the land exchange, barring no major setbacks should be completed the first quarter of 2025! Then we can celebrate!

Nell and I had a chance to go to Depoe Bay, Oregon for a week right after camp was over. It was fabulous! We were able to whale watch from our balcony for hours every day. The seafood was excellent and the down time was even better. I loved just hanging out with Nell, walking beaches, doing puzzles, and really just catching up with each other. This was true gift!. It really got me ready to come back for the work of this fall. Nell and I bought a house in Colorado Springs to be closer to our kids, so my commute to work might be a little longer now. We are very excited about our new home! Thanks for another great summer. I have been blessed to serve you. We are living in the excitement of all that will be 2024! Come join us and be a part of it!



## Thank You Hannah and Birkley, And Good Luck!



We are sad to announce that Hannah Loeffler-Kemp finished her time as the Director of Retreat Ministries at RTALC in September. Hannah joined our team in 2021 and has done powerful ministry here. Her dedication and tireless efforts have made a significant difference in the lives of everyone who has attended our retreats.

Hannah created a welcoming and supportive environment that was transformative for many people. Her dedication and hard work ensured that every aspect of the program was executed flawlessly, from the schedule of events to the accommodations and amenities provided. The program thrived and provided a transformative and meaningful experience for all who attended. Her ability to bring people together and create a safe and nurturing environment was remarkable, and we are grateful for all of her contributions to the program. Hannah's passion and commitment to excellence were evident.

We're sad to see her go but are excited about her new adventure at Luther Crest as their Associate Director. We know she'll bring the same energy and professionalism to her new role, and we can't wait to see what she will accomplish there.

Thank you again for everything you've done for us Hannah! We love you!



## December 5, 2023

On Tuesday, DECEMBER 5, 2023, Coloradans will come together again to raise millions of dollars for non-profit organizations like ours. Last year, \$53.2 million was distributed to 3,336 different nonprofits throughout Colorado! RTALC raised \$139,021 in that 24-hour period! With the encouragement of some of our donors, we have set our goal for 2023 at \$110,000 with a challenge goal of \$150,000. All funds raised will go toward our Annual Fund. You may wonder why we do Colorado Gives Day every year. The answer is that every donation given to RTALC on Colorado Gives Day gives Rainbow Trail a chance at additional funds made available by Community First Foundation and 1st Bank. Every donor that gives to Rainbow Trail, no matter the size of the gift, puts Rainbow Trail in the drawing for monetary prizes. So, a \$10 donation could earn RTALC \$1,000 or more!

Additionally, at the end of Colorado Gives Day, \$1.4 million incentive fund will be divided among the participating non-profit organizations. Each organization involved will receive a portion of the \$1.4 million based on their total donations that day. Each and every gift provides a percentage of the bonus fund to RTALC. More than ever, we need our annual fund to sustain day-to-day operations. You don't need to live in Colorado to give on this day! Anyone can give from anywhere! No matter where you live, mark your calendars for Colorado Gives! Be sure to go to [rainbowtrail.org/co-gives](http://rainbowtrail.org/co-gives) to donate! There is also a quick link on our home page. If you're worried about forgetting, fear not! You can pre-schedule your donation for Colorado Gives Day starting November 1, 2023 and make your donation go farther!

### Want To Make A Difference?

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



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

Online Anytime

*Dave*

## 2023 Memorial Day Work Weekend

Memorial Day has become as much a tradition at Rainbow Trail as anything else we do. We typically have over 120 people that come and join in this annual work weekend to get camp ready for summer. If the list of projects from last year is any indication (replacing every window on the main floor of Columbine Lodge; rebuilding the decks on the both Geranium cabin and Shooting Star cabins; installing new LED lights in woodcarving; installing a new cross in Equis chapel; remodeling the interior of both sides of the shower house; building a new cross in Equis Chapel; remodeling the interior of the bunk rooms in Eagle Peak Lodge; rebuilding the wheelchair ramp on the nurse's station; installing new signage for the nurse's station and second bridge; resealing the entire exterior of the pavilion; and replacing screens on all of the cabins), we'll be sure to have another busy and memorable weekend! The dates for 2024 are May 24-27, 2024. 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!



## CAMP Vibes

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

Hello everyone! As the colors begin to change and the weather turns colder, Pikes Peak is often dusted with a bit of snow every other morning. Although summer has ended, things are still busier than ever. We have been active with retreats at the camp, planning for Colorado Gives Day, preparing for registration day, and many more things. Despite the Vikings' poor performance this season, I am having the time of my life and wouldn't want to be elsewhere.

This summer was filled with unforgettable God moments, beautiful worship, inspiring testimonies, and life-changing Kitchen Parties in Aspen. Our staff this summer, like always, was the best staff in the world. They took on the challenge to love and walk with these campers, grow in their faith journey, and provide great ministry in all the camp ways possible. I am proud of this staff and excited to see what they accomplish in life. The on-site program thrived once again, having over 1,000 campers for the first time since 2020. Almost every week was packed, and once again, we hosted our out-of-state groups from Texas, Kansas, and New Mexico. Being engaged to Delta is always a good time to talk with the Fredricksburg crew and hear all their stories and memories about Delta growing up there. So many kids from that group look up to her!

Joshua Station was even bigger this summer. We hosted 60 people, which was 90% of their population. We made the week longer and were able to add more activities during the week, such as Camp Dance, rafting, and Jewelry making with Hedi Peterson. It was amazing watching these families thrive and laugh together. Lots of them had never been outside of Denver before. The kids had the biggest smiles when they hopped out of the vans, ran, and played on the grass and the playground. I am so thankful for our relationship with Joshua Station and their families, and I am so excited to see how much more this week will grow. We hope to get 100% of Joshua Stations population here next summer.

During the summer, Bridging Borders had a fantastic experience as we sent three groups to the Appalachia region. Each group significantly impacted the families they served, building beautiful relationships. My home church, Black Forest Lutheran Church, participated in the program for the first time. My dad was on one of the trips, and hearing about the stories and what the trip meant for him inspired me to understand the purpose behind this program. I am excited to see what the next summer brings for this program.

In my personal life, everything is going great. Delta and I moved into our place, sadly leaving 106 and the Bonser boys. Those guys are some of my best friends, and I can't thank them enough for the last three years of life together. With that said, I am excited for our next journey. We are in the beginning stages of planning a wedding for next year. We are getting married at camp in September. We are very excited to share a great day with some of our close family and friends. I also have been able to play Uncle with my niece Baylor. She is the cutest niece in the world and always puts a smile on my face. I love you, Baylor!

Cam



## Into The Wilderness

By Will Johnson - Director of Compass Points

Wow, what a summer! I can't believe my first summer on full time has already come and gone! It was such a blast and I couldn't have done it without the help from so many great people and leaders around me.

This summer our Compass Points Program got the opportunity to lead 16 high adventure trips throughout the Sangre De Cristo Mountains! What a blast! We served congregations from Texas, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and even young adults from the East Coast. This summer was full of card games, worship, study, prayer, peaking fourteeners, and singing camp songs until the sun came up. A special thanks to my summer directors that made such an incredible summer come to life in the mountains.

Day Camp was a great success this summer and we got to serve 29 congregations from all over including New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Kansas. Many lives were touched and changed due to the amazing work that our Day Camp Directors and Counselors did every week day in and day out. We also got the opportunity to host a Day Camp with Joshua Station in Denver! This was a new Day Camp but it was very successful and further enhanced our relationship with Joshua Station and Mile High Ministries. A big thanks to Joy Lutheran and the Joshua Station staff for helping this dream come true!

I'm excited to step into the busy retreat season and start living full time in Salida, CO. Come say hi if you're up at camp this fall!

-WILL

## Rainbow Trail Welcomes Matt & Claire

This September, Rainbow Trail welcomed two new Program Assistants for the 2023-2024 retreat season. We can't wait for you to meet them! They bring great passion to this ministry, valuable experience, and will be an asset to all we serve this retreat season.



Matt

Matt is from Austin Texas and is a recent graduate from Texas State University in San Marcos where he majored in religious studies. Having counseled for two summers at Rainbow Trail, Matt is returning as a Program Assistant. Missing the mountains and the conversations with the Rainbow Trail community. Matt is excited for the retreat season and has great reverence for the ministry of RTALC. When not working, Matt can be found playing his guitar, exploring new areas around the Sangre de Cristo range, or listening to new music.

Claire

Claire Fisk grew up in Frederick, Colorado. In May, she graduated from Sterling College in Kansas with a major in business management and a minor in music. She was on summer staff for three years and is excited to be back for the retreat season. Claire loves being outdoors and hiking, music, and anything arts and crafts.

## Chris' Corner

By Chris Seaman - Food Service Manager

Hello to my RTALC Family! Well, we finished one heck of a summer! I would like to thank my kitchen crew for another STELLAR SUMMER! Annika, Addie and Maddie; you make Summer so easy! LOVE YOU GALSG!!! We have two really Awesome PGA'S this year. Claire Fisk and Matt Turman, I'm so glad you are here! Labor Day weekend was a blast! We had a strong group of 130 and fun was had by all! The next 2 weekends in a row were Weddings. Such joyous events! We have every weekend booked through Thanksgiving. Life is good here at Camp!



The only sad spot this summer was that I lost my dog. Still on the search for my next baby. My health is good. YAY! Just a reminder that 2024 is my Last Summer! I will still be here working retreats. I'm not leaving totally!

So, I think you might be in need of some fun/weird food facts! Can you guess what the most stolen food in the WORLD is? It's Cheese! Around 4% of all the cheese made is stolen. There's even a Black Market for it! Bananas, Cucumbers and Kiwis are all classified as berries. Strawberries, blackberries and raspberries are not! Large groups of Pistachios can spontaneously combust! The oily fibrous materials used to transport pistachio nuts can cause them to break out in flames! So maybe you should exercise caution next time you're passing around a big bowl of these guys! Speaking of nuts, did you know that 25% of all Hazelnuts are used to make Nutella? The demand for hazelnuts has become so great that universities are trying to grow them in labs to combat global shortages!

Now for some helpful kitchen tips. If you're like me, when there is a good sale on anything I stock up! When breaking down large packages into smaller bags, open the bags you will need and fold back the tops before filling. This will prevent stuff from getting in the zipper and ruining your seal. When doing any task where you may expect a mess, do it in the sink! If you are cooking something on the stove that you know is going to make a splatter mess, LIGHTLY spray the top of your stove with pan spray and it will make cleaning up a whole lot easier!

I would like to share a recipe that I make at home that's pretty easy to make and will impress your company! Chicken Piccata- This dish is really great for a quick and beautiful dinner for 4. It only takes 25 minutes from stove to plate! You will need: 4(6 oz.) boneless, skinless chicken breasts, 1/4c. Flour, 1 Tbl. butter, 1 Tbl. olive oil, 1/2c. White wine, 1/4c. Lemon juice, 2 Tbl capers, 2 tsp. Minced garlic, 1/4 tsp. Salt, 1/4 tsp. Freshly ground black pepper, 2 Tbl. chopped fresh flat leaf parsley. Place each chicken breast between 2 sheets of heavy duty plastic wrap. Pound breasts to 1/2 inch thickness with a meat mallet or small heavy skillet. Spread flour into a wide, shallow dish. Press chicken into flour and coat completely. Melt butter with oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat; cook chicken in butter/oil mixture until no longer pink in the middle and juices run clear, 3-5 minutes per side. Remove chicken from skillet to a serving platter and keep warm. Pour white wine, lemon juice, capers, and garlic into the pan. Bring the liquid to a boil while scraping all the brown bits of food from the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon; cook at a boil until slightly thickened, about 2 minutes. Season the mixture with salt and pepper. Drizzle the sauce over and around the chicken; garnish with parsley.

Personally I always double the sauce ingredients. That's the best part! I like to serve this over Angel Hair pasta with a side of roasted broccoli. As always MAKE IT YOUR OWN!

So, in closing I would like to say... Love You All, and never forget GOD IS GREAT!!!!

*Chris*

## Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Confirmation Retreat

*"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows Him" - 1 John 4: 7*

**October 20th-22nd**

Email [delta@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:delta@rainbowtrail.org) for any questions!

## Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Senior High Retreat November 17th-19th, 2023

Don't miss this opportunity to be immersed in community on the mountain, in which we will discover and affirm the gifts that God has given us.

Email [delta@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:delta@rainbowtrail.org) for any questions!

## Words with the Wise

By Delta Wise - Director of Retreats



Hey y'all! My name is Delta Wise and I am your new Director of Retreat Ministries! Ten years ago I came to Colorado for the very first time as a camper at RTALC. Not only did I see mountains and snow for the first time, but something in my heart felt wildly different and new. From that week on, my life as a small town Texas girl flipped and God said "I have a plan for you." Eventually I joined summer staff in 2017 and began the start of my tug-of-war between Texas and Colorado.

After countless years, flights and drives, Colorado won my heart. I always felt God's pull to Rainbow Trail, stronger than any call in my life. I remember at the end of the summer in 2017, Dave saying to us "... ships in a harbor are safe, but that's not what ships are made for." Even then I knew camp wasn't my harbor, my harbor was back home in Texas. Camp is my mission field or rather 'sea' in this analogy. The past two years I've had the opportunity to help at retreats and float around camp during the summer again. Being engaged to Cam, it only made sense for me to spend more time there. Now I see the dots connecting behind me as I am blessed to join full-time staff. Starting this job during its busiest season is definitely a feat, but this staff has been so gracious in helping me catch my footing.

With that said, we kicked off retreat season with Labor Day family camp, followed by two camp alumni weddings, and our annual Men's Fly Fishing retreat. We have a retreat every weekend until AdventFest in early December! If you have never been to a retreat at camp before, you need to! It's a time to slow down from all the summer craziness. Enjoy the Rocky Mountains in their fall glory with snow covered peaks. RTALC programmed retreats include normal camp activities like high ropes, woodcarving, archery, crafts, and hikes, but have the added value of cold weather activities not offered during the summer. Christmas lights cover Columbine, a giant fir tree is placed in the back of Aspen and covered with ornaments, Chris makes special meal. If that interests you, register for AdventFest and more on our website!

As for me, Cam and I just moved into a house in Colorado Springs. We've also started to plan for our wedding which will be at camp next September! Hosting two camp weddings this fall sure helped show us a glimpse into what it could be like. Weddings at camp are so special, and Dave told us we would officially be his 68th couple to get married who worked together at camp under his tenure as Executive Director. I'm most excited for my family back home in Texas to come see why I love this place so much and dared to move out of the great state of Texas. If Ralph Waldo Emerson can find reason and faith in the woods, so shall I!

*Delta*

# Simonton Says

By Sands Simonton - Director of Site and Facilities

Greetings from the site of Rainbow Trail! If you're reading this, I hope you're doing well and making it through school, work, or whatever life is throwing at you. I also hope you're already preparing for another trip to our fantastic site! We're on the tail end of our summer months and at the beginning of an incredible winter season. I love the retreat season up at camp and the quieter days in between. If you haven't experienced a camp retreat, I highly recommend it.



As I said, we just wrapped up the summer. I'm happy to say that it was another fantastic three months in almost every single way. This was my eighth summer working on maintenance up at camp, and I'd be lying if I said I didn't constantly feel blessed beyond words to be able to have this job. Each year, we hire the best staff imaginable. Each one of the Camphands crushed it this summer and met just about every expectation I had for them. They are all very hard workers, and I really hope they all decide to continue coming back for more great ministry and fun. My two maintenance assistants, Max Marold, and Anna Saathoff, made this summer a manageable one. Their leadership and knowledge about the site and how we take care of it went a long way to ensure a successful season. It's a bit of a thankless job at times, and they carried themselves with professionalism and initiative. And I can't say thank you enough to those two.

This summer was full of all kinds of great projects that really did make our site better. Our work on the site directly backs up our goals as a place of ministry. Knowing that we create spaces for learning and for fun is an awesome motivator for us on the maintenance team. Throughout the summer, we did a lot of landscaping, sanding, oiling, painting, and countless other things to keep up with the wear and tear of the busy summer months. Luckily, this summer didn't come with any massive issues pertaining to the site. There are always things to do, but avoiding things like water leaks and essential equipment issues simply makes the summer that much more enjoyable to be a part of. Our summer this year actually came with some consistent rain in the beginning and, in the end, keeping us comfortably off of the fire ban! I am not a fan of the bone-dry, hot summer days, so the cooler weather is always welcome.

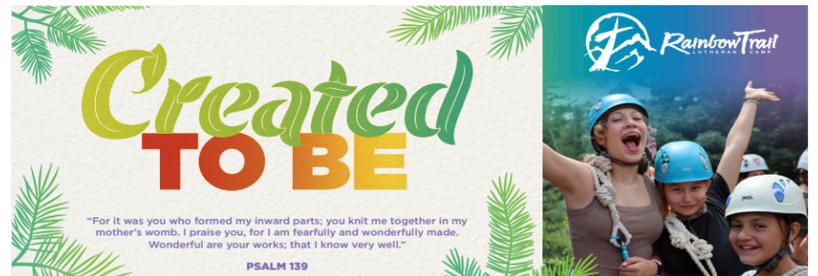
As always, Memorial Day weekend is what truly kicks off our season of renovations, upgrades, and repairs. As always, we were able to put on yet another wildly successful work weekend.

Most of the big-ticket items on the list were completed, and I got the sense that everyone involved had a really fun and productive weekend. Some of the major projects included an almost full remodel of the shower house with new paint, lighting throughout, and a new shower stall orientation to make it easier for guests to have more privacy, brand new windows and trim in Columbine, new decks on the last two cabins Geranium and Shooting Star, new nurses station ramp to match the cabin decks, New tongue and groove ceilings in the back bunk rooms of the Eagle Peak Lodge (same as the cabins), a new Great I AM, and a new/rebuilt cross at Equis. Each of these projects was led by our amazing crew of contractors who have consistently proven their worth to this organization with the quality of work they produce and the leadership they provide. Thank you to each and every one of them for working with us to improve our site. Of course, many other smaller but just as important projects were completed as well. Lots of branches and logs were chipped and spread, trees were cut up and split for firewood, and we had multiple crews going around log oiling the pavilion, parts of aspen, and most of our natural wood railings and benches. Multiple electrical projects were completed around the site, and of course, lots of cleaning and organizing happened as well. As always, on behalf of the organization and all of us who work to keep it running, thank you from the bottom of my heart to each and every person who came up for the work weekend. The time and effort we spend each year on this weekend really does enable us to positively impact countless campers' lives. I can't wait for next Memorial Day and to see what awesome improvements we are able to achieve.

As for me personally, I really can't complain about anything. Bode (my dog) is doing great; I think he also likes the less hectic days at the camp. Gives him more freedom to explore the forest. My family is doing great as well. Mom and Dad are still in Eagle, and they still love it, of course. I just got back from a giant family wedding in Flagstaff, AZ, which was really fun, but I'm eager to continue my work on the site so you can all come to enjoy our beautiful camp just like you've always done. I can't wait to see or hear from each of you again!

-Sands

# 2024 Summer Schedule



The Rainbow Trail summer 2024 schedule has been set. The fee will be \$520 for all youth camps, with the exception of Intro Camp, which will be \$295. Family camp fees are \$520 for adults (ages 19 and older), \$390 for teens (ages 13-18) and \$260 for ages 4-12. There is no charge for kids under age 4. **Be sure to register early!**

May 24-27.....	Memorial Day Work Weekend
May 27-June 8.....	Staff Training
June 9-15.....	Junior High #1
June 16-19.....	Intro To Camp #1
June 16-22.....	Junior #1
June 19-22.....	Intro To Camp #2
June 23-29.....	Confirmation #1
June 30-July 6.....	Family Camp #1
July 7-13.....	Senior High #1
July 7-13.....	Into the Wild
July 14-20.....	Open Sr. High Compass Points
July 14-20.....	Confirmation #2
July 14-19.....	RTL South
July 21-27.....	Senior High #2
July 21-27.....	Open Jr. High Compass Points
July 28-August 3.....	Mixed Junior #2/Junior High #2
July 28-31.....	Intro To Camp #3
August 4-10.....	Family Camp #2
August 11-17.....	Beloved Community
August 30-September 2.....	Labor Day Family Weekend

### Grade Levels as of Fall 2024

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, 2023 This applies to all camps, including family camps.

## 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 2021 of \$35,000 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 Thrivent's 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!!

## WANTED: RTLC AMBASSADORS

Normal, Everyday People who Love RTLC and Want to Serve as RTLC Ambassadors for their congregations. Ambassadors meet at RTLC 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 RTLC

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).

## TRAILBLAZERS

The following individuals are members of the 2023 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 \$500 - \$999

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### Base Camp \$120-\$249

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First Lutheran, Colorado Springs, CO  
Holy Trinity, Littleton, CO  
Lord of the Hills, Centennial, CO  
Mt. of the Holy Cross, Vail, CO  
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Greenwood village, CO  
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Pastor Paul and Jana Oman  
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Severt and Mary Kvamme  
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## PATHFINDERS

The following individuals are members of the 2023 Pathfinders' Club. Pathfinders is RTLC's next level giving club that keeps the ministry at Rainbow Trail growing and expanding. These individuals have given \$1,000 or more to this great ministry. To join, contact Dave Jarvis 719-276-5233 or find out more and donate online at [www.rainbowtrail.org/donate](http://www.rainbowtrail.org/donate). Many thanks to the following supporters:

### Challenger Peak

**\$1,000-1,499**

Alisa and Jim Thomas  
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Aurice and Bob Worley  
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Ruth and David Ryll

Susan and Dave Fisk  
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### Mt. Princeton

**\$5,000 -\$9,999**

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Steve Jurrens  
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### Crestone Peak

**\$10,000-\$19,999**

Bob and Margie Dugan  
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Finnin Family Charitable Trust, Jeff and Kim Finnin  
Holly and Nick Massie  
Katie Dugan  
Roger and Mary Riekema  
Steve Flessner  
Tara and Chad Sawinski

### Pikes Peak

**\$10,000-\$14,999**

Estate of Ruth Ericson  
**Mt. of the Holy Cross**

**\$20,000+**

Bill and Charlotte Dausses  
Bock Family Fund, Mike and Julie Bock  
Randy and Lisa Schrader  
Robert and Judi Newman

## GIFTS IN MEMORY

### In memory of Kelsey Rohrbaugh

Anonymous

### In memory of Grama Ruth Ericson

All Saints Lutheran Church  
Anne Marie Raftshol and Michael Emery  
Bob and Joyce Witte  
Carl Hansen  
Catherine Simmelink  
Damon and Anna-Marie Larson  
Dave and Nellie Jarvis  
Fern Knudsen  
Janice Ehlers  
Jean Larson  
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Lucy Archambault  
Steve and Karen Brugge  
Susan Blue  
TAI Modern  
Timothy and Lucy Elder  
Vivian Woodall

### In memory of Willy Reusser

Anonymous  
Cathy and Bill Goss  
Cheri Ferguson  
James and Sharon Reuter  
John and Julie Reimers  
Richard and Marylen Anderson

### In memory of Caroline John

Stanley and Evelyn John

## GIFTS IN KIND

Anonymous - Shark upright vacuum cleaner  
Art Kraus and Michelle Stone Kraus full mattress pad; towels and washcloths  
Bill and Charlotte Dausses - tool clips for the six-wheeler  
Bob and Joyce Witte - blankets and gloves  
Bob and Margie Dugan - queen mattress pads and sheets; lighters; tape; paintbrushes; towel sets  
Brian and Lorinda Laabs - hand sanitizer  
Ellen Riley - light bulbs; tape rolls; painting supplies; lighters  
Janice Ehlers - small freezer  
Jay Davis - office supplies  
Karel and Tom Hemler - plastic top hats, pack of magician wands, staples,

binder clips, kitchen supplies  
Mark and Diane Sather - portable auto jump starter  
Mary Shimp - 40 legal pads and 200 9x12 self-sealing envelopes  
Matt and Sami Meline - exit signs, cleaning supplies, digital multimeter, spray paint, smoke alarm, broom and dustpan  
Mike and Julie Bock - 40 twin mattress covers, 10 queen mattress covers, 10 full mattress covers  
Phil and Traci Dorth - Closing banquet groceries and supplies  
Sarah and Joshua Voigt - various sizes self-sealing envelopes  
Steve and Lewanne Graeber - portable oil heater

## GIFTS IN HONOR

### In Honor of Kathy and Dirk Hogue

Ben Hogue and Marshall Monda

### In Honor of Betty Lenz and Waverly Machamer

Linda and William Carlisle

### In Honor of Matt and Sami Meline

Anonymous

## Organizational Partners

Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.  
Scheel's  
Thrivent Financial

## DESIGNATED GIFTS

Anne Herbig - new push lawn mower  
Bert and Dolly Lager - Soker Campership Fund  
Carl and Emily Sauey - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund  
Charlie and Claire Pineda - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund  
Charlie and Claire Pineda - Vimeo  
Cheryl and Stephen Mahon - Soker Campership Fund  
Corey and Paula Carlson - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund  
Faith Lutheran Church - RTLC Joshua Station Ministry  
Jean Van Ordstrand - Soker Campership Fund  
Jim and Kim Gonia - Summit Retreat Welcome Party  
John Rasmussen - RTLC Joshua Station Ministry  
Kristin and Mike Saathoff - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund  
Mark and Diane Sather - Charlie's Fund,

Staff Discretionary Fund  
Mark and Heidi Peterson - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund  
Paul and Kathy Edstrom - RTLC Joshua Station Ministry  
Prestyn Nietfeldt - Soker Campership Fund  
Randy and Lisa Schrader - Beloved Community  
Randy and Lisa Schrader - Two commercial outdoor grills for Aspen  
Randy and Lisa Schrader - New Dell laptop and new Dell desktop  
Randy and Lisa Schrader - new push lawn mowers and new riding lawn mowers  
Samantha Johnson - Compass Points  
Scott and Emily Dalen - Charlie's Fund, Staff Discretionary Fund

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church  
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St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Marble Falls, TX  
St. Philip Lutheran Church, Littleton, CO  
Tabor Lutheran Church, Pueblo, CO  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Boulder, CO  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Fowler, CO  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Monument, CO  
Zion's Lutheran Church, Trinidad, CO



# Events Calendar 2023 - 2024

- November 1.....Registration Opens
- November 17-19.....RTLCL Senior High Retreat
- December 1-3.....AdventFest
- February 28.....Summer Staff Applications Due
- April 1.....Summer Volunteer Apps Due
- May 24-27.....Memorial Day Work Weekend
- May 27-June 8.....Staff Training
- August 30-September 2.....Labor Day Family Weekend
- September 19-22.....Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
- October 5.....Grace Race

## 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 120 volunteers to make major improvements to our site and prepare for summer. What some might not know is that Rainbow Trail spends around \$20,000 in materials for the weekend! With the help of experienced contractors and careful planning, we believe we receive between \$40,000 and \$50,000 worth of labor in just three days! Rainbow Trail is seeking donors that are passionate about site improvements and would be willing to fund part or all of our annual Memorial Day work weekend. If interested, email [dave@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:dave@rainbowtrail.org).

## Are You Willing?



If you could make a gift that literally impact generations of future campers at Rainbow Trail, wouldn't you jump at the chance to do that? Well, there is a very simple way you can do that. Rainbow Trail depends on the support of generous people to do its ministry. A very simple and easy way to make a difference is to include Rainbow Trail in your will as the beneficiary of an estate gift or as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy. By naming Rainbow Trail in your will, you will become a member of the Sangre de Cristo Society. This group becomes the foundation upon which the future of the ministry of Rainbow Trail is being built. Your gift will reach beyond your lifetime and ensure that the Gospel will continue to be shared through this ministry for generations to come. Two great examples of this are the estates of Pauline Hammond and of Maxine Johnson who provided gifts that helped build our ropes course. If you have already included Rainbow Trail in your will, let us know so we can include you in the list of members of the Sangre de Cristo Society. For more information, please contact Dave in the Canon City office.

## Craving Color?

Rainbow Reflections is available in a paperless, color version! Visit our website to find this edition and many previous editions of Rainbow Reflections in full color. You can also email Tricia at [info@rainbowtrail.org](mailto:info@rainbowtrail.org) to get on our e-newsletter list for more Rainbow Trail information!

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.

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           | 10x13 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)     |
| Nalgene Water Bottles (40)            | 12 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables |
| Masking tape                          | Rain Jackets & Rain Pants              |
| Scotch Tape                           | On-Site and Compass Points Day Packs   |
| Duct Tape                             | Foam Brushes - 1"                      |
| Packing Tape                          | Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive  |
| Postage stamps                        | 2 Cases of Lysol or Clorox Wipes       |
| 8.5x11 Yellow Tablets                 | 5X8 note pads Junior legal             |
| 8 ft. Rectangle "Lifetime" tables (5) |  |
| Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)     |  |
| 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.



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

## Shop Online

It's easy to give a gift from RTLCL'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. There is also a Compass Points specific list online. You can even ship directly to us!

[www.rainbowtrail.org/donate/needs-and-wish-list](http://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

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Westcliffe, CO 81252  
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