



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 37, Number 1 Winter 2025

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.

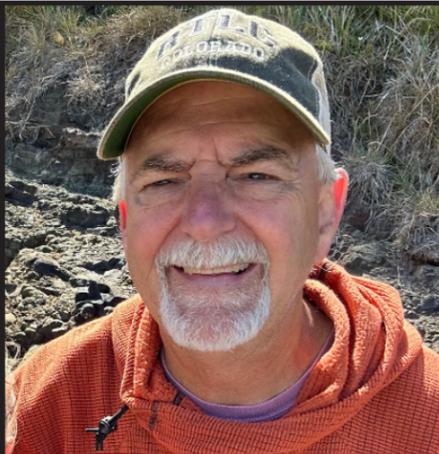
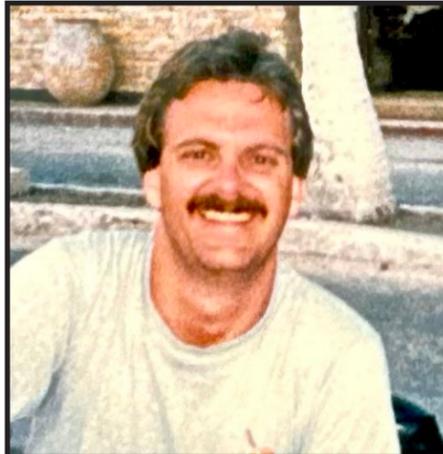
In January, 1989, almost 36 years ago to the day, a 32-year-old Dave Jarvis and his pregnant wife put a “for sale” sign in front of their home in Houston, Texas. Their intent was to have a Colorado adventure... to do ministry together at a Lutheran camp for 5-10 years, away from the city that had become their home. After all, they had met at a Lutheran camp in Nebraska back in 1980, and Dave’s dad had been a camp director at several Lutheran camps while Dave was growing up, so Dave had always been a “camp kid.” It was in his blood. So, they moved from the 4th largest city in the country to Hillside, Colorado, population 8. (That’s an exaggeration, but you get the idea.)

Now, after 36 years—that includes nearly 2,000 summer staff, tens of thousands of campers, an estimated 3,500 campfires, conservatively 3,240 gallons of personally consumed coffee (I did the math...), 3 golden retrievers and a single pair of cargo shorts—Dave will be retiring from camping ministry. His last day will be December 31, 2025.

When Dave arrived at Rainbow Trail in 1989, the camp had already been a thriving ministry for 32 years. It had a rich history, loyal supporters, and a beautiful site that was impossible to compete with. But camper numbers had waned a bit and the camp was in a little bit of financial stress. The board was anxious for the camp to remain a valuable asset to the Synod. The camp had a 10-week summer season which included on-site and backpacking programs, as well as a few retreats in the fall. Dave took the job and never looked back.

Since that time, a lot has

END OF AN ERA Jarvis to retire at the end of 2025



remained the same, but much has changed under Dave’s leadership. In addition to the already established onsite and backpack programs, there is now a robust Day Camp program, Bridging Borders serviced based mission trip program, and a full year-round retreating ministry, each of those programs having its own full-time director. Several buildings were added, including the new Columbine Lodge, Juniper Lodge, Golden Banner cabin, and the Pavilion. Every building has been refurbished, including Aspen Dining Hall and Bristlecone Lodge, in addition to all of the cabins. Rainbow Reflections newsletter was established to keep people in the loop regarding RTALC happenings. The High Ropes Course was added. Grace Race was born. A tradition of Thanksgiving Dinners serving the people of the Wet Mountain Valley began. Trailblazers and Pathfinders giving clubs were established and now

are financial pillars upon which the budget is built, and the Ambassadors program has helped to keep congregations across the synod informed as to the camp’s news and needs. And Rainbow Trail is well on its way to owning the land upon which it rests by the end of the year. All of Dave’s efforts have been an attempt to offer the people of the Synod access to a safe place where they can connect with one another and with God. Above all, to provide a place where kids can hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

But now Dave is ready to move on to a new chapter in his life, triggering a new chapter in the life of Rainbow Trail as well. Dave and the RTALC board have been working together for some time now to establish a plan that will help to make this transition as seamless as possible with the least amount of disruption to the programming, financial status, and general opera-

tion of camp. The board is committed to ensuring that the camp’s ministry remains solid, focused on sharing the Gospel with kids and families in our Synod and beyond.

As retirement looms on the horizon, Dave has begun to make his own plans. First on the list is that he will be a grampa for the first time in March! He looks forward to that new role, and to spoiling that little nugget with attention and adventure. Additionally, he looks forward to more days of travel and recreation but will also be doing some camp consulting work on the side. And of course he has a list of “honey-do’s” to attend to around the house! Although he is looking forward to the time ahead, he is not wishing away his final months at Rainbow Trail. He is cherishing each and every day at that sacred place. RTALC has been his life for 36 years, and it has been a blessing, a source of joy, a family, and a home for him. There is still ministry for Dave to do at RTALC, and he is confident that God has the next era well in hand!

As always, Rainbow Reflections and the RTALC website will keep the RTALC community informed as this transition moves forward.

From the Editor:

In an effort to not blow up Dave’s phone or email and to allow him to focus on camp ministry, we ask that you direct any questions or comments to board@rainbowtrail.org. Or if you have a story or memory you want to share, you can email that to memories@rainbowtrail.org. Thank you for your partnership!

Giving Like None Other!

We want to thank the Rainbow Trail Community for the unbelievable support you showed this organization during 2024. Through your regular giving, specific designated gifts, gifts in kind, Colorado Gives Day, and end of the year giving, our donors have truly blessed the ministries of Rainbow Trail. We are humbled and give thanks to God for a community that loves this place and believe in the power of this ministry. Dave says this often: “Because of the incredible financial support we receive for this ministry, we can focus on *doing* our ministry instead of how we are going to *pay* for our ministry.” As a community, you have given like none other, providing over \$1.1 million to Rainbow Trail. We don’t know many camps who are receiving this kind of support on a regular basis. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and please know the impact you are having on the campers that will be joining us this summer!

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

I love the new year. It's a fresh start full of enormous possibilities! 2025 has begun with a flurry of activity. By the time you are reading this, we are already out on the recruiting trail, looking for our 2025 summer ministry team. Between a Board meeting, the Bible Study Writers' retreat, Colorado recruiting, the winter newsletter, and sneaking in five promotion Sundays at several churches before we leave for the mid-west, we have been moving fast!

We have had incredible registrations for our summer on-site programs. Five weeks are already full with three more getting close to full. We have over 1000 campers already registered for this summer and it is still early.

Don't wait to register! Take a look at which week will work for your child and register now. It will be a life-changing week for your kids! We also have 26 day camps scheduled that will be happening out in the congregations. There is still room for your senior high youth to go on a Compass Points backpacking trip or Bridging Borders service trip this summer. Contact Will Johnson or Cam Regennitter respectively for more information on these programs.

Many people still think that church camp is a nice "add-on" in their child's summer. But a week at camp can be both life-changing and faith transforming. I hear from campers over and over again about how camp has solidified their faith and really equipped them to be Christ's light in the world. Camp changes people in some amazing ways. I want every child to experience this wonderfully loving and grace-filled community. Money should never be the reason any child doesn't come to RTLCL. So, don't let that be a barrier. The first question to ask is "Do you want your child to go to camp?" That is a yes/no question. If your answer is yes, then, together, let's figure out a way to get them there. If you are in a position where finances will prevent you from sending your child to camp, please contact me—we'll find a way to get your child to camp! We have very generous donors that have given specifically to provide camperships for this exact reason. Do this for your child. We'd love to see you on the mountain!

You know that phrase, "I can see the light at the end of the tunnel." I think we are finally there with the land exchange. The field work is complete. The monuments have been set for the corners of what will be our new property. And we have begun the final work on the conservation easement. This should be that last big hurdle. If all goes well, we will finish this land exchange in the Fall of 2025! Yes, that is this year!! Please continue to keep this Land Exchange in your prayers. Help Take Us Home!

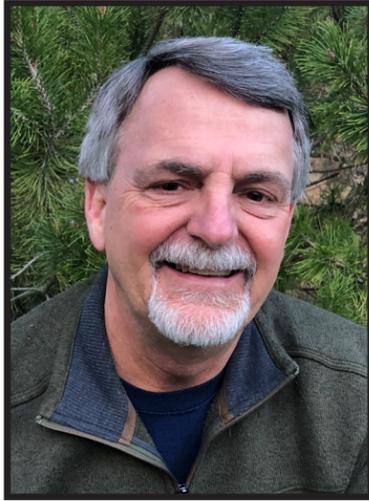
I am humbled by the phenomenal support that this community has shown this ministry. 2024 was another incredible year of ministry, and the financial gifts that we received from all of you have set us up for a quick start in 2025. Colorado Gives Day was beyond anything we could have imagined. Every year this just gets better and better! Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will say there is no greater return on your investment than a gift to this ministry that is used to shape the faith life of a child. Kids are experiencing God's love in a huge and tremendous way. I truly do believe these experiences are life-changing. Campers leave camp changed to live God's love and grace in the world. Can you ask for more than that?

We started our recruiting for summer staff in late January. We did a small loop through the Colorado schools during the week of January 20th and then we'll head to the mid-west on February 3rd. I am optimistic about this year. We already have over 60 summer staff applications either completed or in process. It's going to be a powerful year of service with this new ministry team!

I am beginning my 37th year at Rainbow Trail. I could not have asked for a better place to serve and use all of my gifts. As you read in the lead article, I am planning to retire at the end of 2025. It is time. This was a huge step for me. Nell and I took a week at the end of summer and really talked about life and our next steps together. You know this place is deep in my soul and RTLCL will always be a part of me. I love the people that make up this ministry so much. You have become my circle of friends. I so cherish all the donors that have given to make this ministry thrive. I continue to marvel and praise God for the generosity of so many that believe in what we do. But here is the reality - I'm not retiring right now. That's for later. We have a whole lot of ministry that still needs to happen this year and I am excited for that!

The RTLCL community is our family. You have all become an integral part of our story. Thanks for being my partner all along the way! I am so excited for 2025! Let's make this the best year ever!

Until next time!

Thank You Sands and Bode, And Good Luck!



After five years of dedicated service, we say goodbye to our Facilities Director, Sands Simonton, and his loyal four-legged companion, Bode. Sands has been an integral part of Rainbow Trail, keeping camp running smoothly through every season. From fixing pipes in the dead of winter to ensuring every building was ready for summer, his hard work and problem-solving skills kept camp in top shape. Endless amount of hours leading Memorial Day work weekends, to helping kids imaginations come to life in the summer with his creations.

But beyond his craftsmanship, Sands brought a servant's heart to this place. He always willing to lend a hand, share a laugh, and make life at camp a little better for everyone. And of course, wherever Sands was, Bode was never far behind, trotting along with his boundless energy and love for the people of this community.

Sands, we are grateful for the countless hours you've poured into this place, the friendships you've built, and the legacy you leave behind. You and Bode will always have a home here at Rainbow Trail. We wish you both the best in this next chapter—know that you'll be deeply

Colorado Gives....and Gives and Gives!!!

THANK YOU COLORADO GIVES DAY!
\$199,143

We experienced another incredibly magical day during our 2024 Colorado Gives Day. At the encouragement of our donors, we set our 2024 Colorado Gives Day base goal at \$150,000 but also set a challenge goal of \$175,000, and super challenge goal of \$200,000. We didn't dream we would even come close to the \$200,000 super challenge goal. But the overwhelming generosity of the RTLCL community far exceeded what we could have imagined. This year's Colorado Gives Day was off the chart! In a short 24 hours on December 10, 2024, the Rainbow Trail community responded to the challenge, blew past our base goal and our challenge goal by 6:00pm and came within inches of the super challenge by giving \$199,143! An impressive 344 donors participated in giving to Rainbow Trail that day. The response to this day of giving not only shows the incredible generosity of this community, but also shows that Rainbow Trail is a place where so many people invest their hearts. For that, we are truly grateful beyond measure, and hope you all will accept our deepest thanks. Your gifts have set us up for a great start to 2025. These funds help support the day-to-day operations of camp including program equipment, summer staff salaries, our full-time staff, and site and facilities maintenance, to name a few. In all, Colorado Gives Day raised \$54.6 million for 4,183 non-profits in Colorado. We are already setting our base goal of \$175,000 for next year! Colorado Gives Day 2025 is set for December 9, 2025. Mark your calendar now! Thank you again to those who joined us in this Spirit-filled day and to those who gave gifts to help support this ministry and all those it impacts.

Camp Vibes

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

“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy!” – Psalm 126:3

Hello everyone! Life has been a roller-coaster lately, but in the best way possible! Between big life changes and gearing up for another incredible summer at Rainbow Trail, there’s a lot to celebrate.



First and foremost, Delta and I are overjoyed to announce that we are expecting our first child in June! This has been an incredible journey for us, and as we prepare to welcome our little one into the world, we are filled with gratitude and excitement. The support from our camp family has been overwhelming, and we truly appreciate the love and encouragement we’ve received. We know that balancing camp life and parenthood will be an adventure, but we couldn’t be more thrilled for what’s ahead! We are not finding out the gender until Baby Reg is born, so we are taking bets if you think Baby Reg will be a boy or a girl.

It’s hard to believe, but summer 2025 is right around the corner, and it’s shaping up to be another fantastic season at Rainbow Trail! Our registration numbers are filling up quickly, a testament to the incredible experiences that our campers and families continue to have year after year. If you haven’t signed up yet, now is the time! We’re looking forward to another summer filled with deep connections, unforgettable adventures, and faith-filled growth. One of the biggest focuses right now is finding the right people to join our summer staff. Recruiting is in full swing, and we’re looking for passionate, faith-driven individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of campers. Working at Rainbow Trail isn’t just a summer job—it’s an opportunity to be part of something bigger. It’s about leading, learning, growing in faith, and forming lifelong friendships. If you know anyone who might be a great fit, send them our way!

Another exciting part of this summer is the return of our Bridging Borders trips! This year, we’re heading to both Ecuador and Appalachia, providing incredible opportunities for service and cultural exchange. These trips allow participants to step outside their comfort zones, serve communities in meaningful ways, and deepen their faith through hands-on ministry. Our teams will work alongside local leaders, helping with service projects, community outreach, and faith development. It’s always amazing to see the transformation that happens when young people engage in these experiences—both for the communities they serve and within themselves.

With so much happening, it’s easy to feel overwhelmed, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. This is a season of growth, both personally and for our camp community. Delta and I are navigating new territory as we prepare for parenthood, and at the same time, we’re excited to see another summer come together with an amazing staff, eager campers, and impactful service opportunities. As we move forward, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you who make this work so meaningful. Whether you’re a camper, staff member, parent, or supporter of Rainbow Trail, you are a vital part of this ministry. Your prayers, encouragement, and commitment make all the difference, and I can’t wait to see what this summer has in store.

If you have any questions about summer camp, staffing opportunities, or Bridging Borders, please don’t hesitate to reach out. Let’s make this summer one to remember!

Cam

SUMMER STAFF 2025



Do you know anyone interested in working at camp this summer? Recruiting for 2025 staff has already begun! If you know someone who loves kids, is passionate about Young Adult Christian community, and would be a great fit for Rainbow Trail, encourage them to apply for a position on our summer staff! We will be interviewing for the next month and hiring in March. Send those interested to www.rainbowtrail.org/summerstaff for more information! Applications are due February 28th.



Weeks are filling up but spots are still open in the following sessions.

DON'T WAIT! Register today, or you may not have a spot!

Junior High #1 June 8-14

SH Compass Points July 6-12

Junior Camp #1 June 15-21

Senior High #2 July 20-26

Intro to Camp #1 June 15-18

JH Compass Points July 20-26

Intro to Camp #2 June 18-21

Young Adult CP July 27 - Aug 2

Senior High #1 July 6-12

Check www.rainbowtrail.org for up-to-date status of each week and register today!

Words with the Wise

By Delta Regennitter - Director of Retreats



Hey y’all! It’s been roughly four months since I last wrote to you, and as usual, so much happened in the meantime, I have a lot to catch you up on! Where were we... Cam and I had our camp wedding, and then what I couldn’t tell you just yet back in October was that we are pregnant! We are due in June, 2025, so I am a little over halfway as I write this. Our summer baby will be the start of the new ‘Generation Beta’, and will likely talk about how their parents were born at the turn of the century (crazy). And if you’re wondering, we are not going to find out the gender of our baby until they make their debut into this world!

We feel so blessed to bring a child into such a loving community like camp. Please keep us in your prayers, as you may know June is a very busy season up at camp and we are going to have to make some lifestyle adjustments. For one, I’ll need to slow down quite a bit. If I don’t get to see you this summer, it’s even more of an excuse for you all to come retreat with me in the fall, winter or spring.

Speaking of retreating, we also left off in October with the Confirmation Retreat, where we hosted 60 people including our speaker, Bishop Aelabouni, and her children. We are grateful Bishop Aelabouni got to spend some time at RTLCL! Next up was our Ambassadors Retreat where camp ambassadors from churches in our synod come to camp to learn about all the ways they can get their church communities and kids involved here. That week McKinley Elementary School out of Cañon City brought about 40 students for a mini-camp, and Bethany Lutheran from Denver had their young adults retreat. Following another church’s women’s retreat, we got hit with our first big snow storm. It was November 4th, and normally the fall snows aren’t that bad. But this one was relentless. We ended up with 4 feet of snow on a completely white-out site. Reggie worked to plow and shovel as much as possible all week but eventually I had to cancel the Fiber Arts Retreat because if our trucks are getting stuck, it’s bad news for our guests trying to get up here. It’s the nature of working at a camp at 8500 feet in the mountains, down a dirt road, in the winter. When Sands calls and says “it’s no bueno”, you know it’s real! It sure is beautiful though.

It worked out because the next week we all flew to Baltimore, Maryland for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Conference. It’s really interesting to see what other camps are up to, and meet people who also have the very niche jobs that we do. There was even a session on parenting with a full-time role in outdoor ministry, where people shared how they had babies or raised kids in this environment. The conversation was a resounding “worth it.” After some crab legs we flew back home and prepared for 75 people to arrive at our Senior High Retreat (which is always the weekend before Thanksgiving so go ahead and get that in your schedule now!). A special thankyou to our speakers, Deacon Kellie Lisi and Pastor Jason Davis, who drove from Iowa to be here. I met Jason and Kellie while I was on summer staff seven years ago, they also met at camp and married here too! So it was fun to come full circle and ask them to speak at Senior High, at which they did a fantastic job. I told the summer staffers who came to work that weekend that I was pregnant, because let me tell you, the nausea was real and their help was paramount!

Cam and I flew to Austin, Texas for Thanksgiving to see my family for the holidays. I miss them, and having a baby is just another excuse for them to come out here. The last retreat of the fall was of course, AdventFest, serene and beautiful as always. We ended up counting about 1,100 people who were served at Rainbow Trail retreats in 2024. It felt good to wrap up the year knowing that, and also wondering how I’d met so many people this year!

By the time our Christmas break came around I was ready for a lot of shut eye. And after the hectic holiday season, I welcomed January. January at camp is quiet, very quiet. There’s something hauntingly fantastic about it. When I drive up the mountain with my little dog, Penny, the slower season reminds me of how stunning our camp is and how great our God is. When there aren’t any people on site you’re reminded of the enormity of the mountains, the power of nature (specifically snow), and that we are but visitors while the animals nest in their permanent homes. I obviously read a lot of Jack London while studying English Lit in college. As January and February are a little slow on site, we haven’t slowed down with recruiting and preparing for the upcoming summer. The latter half of March will bring back energy to site with retreats leading all the way up to the arrival of summer staff. I invite all of you who are reading this to rewire your brain and ‘ignore the haters’ of mid-winter. Follow the natural cycle of the seasons we are given! Take pause, rest, enjoy boredom and solitude, take a drive, read, write a poem, PRAY, because the next thing you know I’ll be writing to you again, with ample updates, summer will be here, our baby will make their debut, and life will keep on churning!

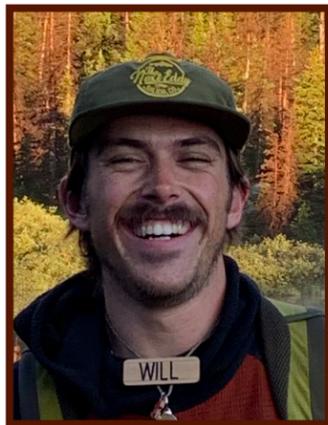
Happy winter, *Delta*



Into The Wilderness

By Will Johnson - Director of Compass Points & Day Camp

Hello and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is starting the new year off strong! My holiday season was packed this year. I started off with an early Christmas celebration in Iowa with my girlfriend's family and what a great time that was! I was then able to fly home to Austin to be with my own family and friends to celebrate our own Christmas. I then flew back to Colorado where my girlfriend, Annika, and I spent New Years Eve on the town in Salida! After all the festivities my aunt and uncle, Clay and Suzanne, had invited us up to Steamboat for the week! We spent a few days up there skiing and shopping around and just relaxing with family and friends before heading back home to start work for the new year. Thanks for having us, Clay and Suzanne! It was such a great time!



Looking forward to summer we are preparing to send out 15 Compass Points trips and 26 Day Camps! We are also making some huge upgrades to our Compass Points Program! These upgrades include: 10 brand new Nemo Dagger 3 person backpacking tents which are lightweight and they pack down very well; 3 brand new cooksets that are lightweight and are larger than our previous cooksets which will help when we reach our maximum of 15 participants on trail; 12 new sleeping pads; and 3 new MSR stoves. A big thank you to our donors Bill Dausess and Steve Jurrens for the new tents and cookware. These donations will greatly improve the on-trail experience and create a sense of hospitality and well being for our groups out on trail this year. If you would like to contribute to the Compass Points program then please reach out to me at Will@rainbowtrail.org. No gift or gesture is too small and every gift impacts the campers experience.

As for the rest of the winter, Dave, Cam and I will be hitting the road for the Midwest soon to recruit some summer staff! Excited to see what this summer brings and can't wait to see so many of you up at RTALC. Pop on down to Eagle Peak Lodge if you'd like to say hi or see what's new with Compass Points!

-WILL

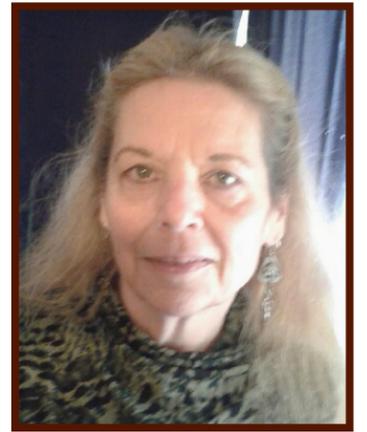


...as of February 1st.

Chris' Corner

By Chris Seaman - Food Service Manager

Hello To My RTALC Family! This has been, for the most part, a Great Retreat Season! Mrs. Delta Reginniter has done an exemplary job as Director of Retreat Ministries! Congratulations on the upcoming addition of their family! I can't believe how excited I am! I must tell you all that I took a fall at work during the Bible Study Writers Retreat. It involved 14 stitches and some very appreciated love and prayers of all present! Dave Jarvis and Will Johnson went above and beyond to provide love and security in a very scary situation. I will be forever grateful!



I've been reading quite a few articles about the hardships that anyone with specific dietary needs endures. There are so many ways in our society that we discriminate! I would like to thank RTALC for giving me a way to help people in a way that makes me and them smile! When I make my version of something a child has never been able to have before, and I get a big hug, I have to say every time, "Thank You God, for that 1-inch ad in the Wet Mountain Tribune for a Retreat Cook!" And for Dave Jarvis, having a sense of humor!

This is my 22nd year, and I love my job more now than ever! I hope I will be allowed to continue to be a part of this family, which means the world to me.

I don't know if you all know that Zach Regennitter has not only been our only PGA but is also filling in (with many calls to Sands) as site manager! Great job, Zach!

I would also like to give a shout-out to someone who was essential to RTALC: our most precious bookkeeper, Aurice Worley! If you never got the chance to meet her, let me tell you that she was the epitome of caring, love, grace, understanding, and a wicked sense of humor! We were Blessed to share the years with you, my friend!

Cam Regennitter: Thank you so much for being the retreat guy that never let us down when we needed that extra set of hands! I really can't wait to meet Yours and Deltas' baby!

So my Family, be good to each other and try to do one kind thing every day!

Always Remember... GOD IS GREAT!!!!

- Chris

Program Assistant

Internship Positions

The Program Assistant (PGA) internship is designed to equip and nurture young adults interested in full-time Outdoor Ministry through experiential learning and professional development.

- > Retreat Hosting, Promotion, Recruiting, Administrative, Special Events
- > Training sessions each month lead by Full Time Directors to enhance practical experience
- > Training Topics Include: Philosophy, Budgeting, Staffing, Program Development, Marketing, and more!
- > 9 Month (late August-early May) Commitment
- > Lodging, Food, Bi-monthly Stipend
- > Apply for the 2025-2026 season on our website. Applications due February 28th!

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Thank You for Being Part of the 2024 Ministry of Rainbow Trail!

Rainbow Trail is blessed to have a great cloud of witnesses that give their time and talent to the ministries that happen. The staff at Rainbow Trail work very hard to offer quality programs, food, and facilities, but it would never happen without the amazing support and dedication of all these volunteers. We've made every effort to include all those who have volunteered in 2024; if we inadvertently left you off the list, please forgive us and call the camp office at 719-276-5233 so we can make a correction. Thank you for your amazing service to Rainbow Trail!

Presenters & Writers

RTLTC is blessed to work in partnership with several of the finest pastors, youth directors, and lay leaders in the Synod. These people provide much of the spiritual guidance during the year through Bible study and large group presentations. Your efforts help open the hearts of many in this special place!

Bible Study Writers

Rev. Adam Berndt
Rev. Pam Challis
Rev. Jane Jebesen
Rev. Nicole' Ferry
Rev. Brad Doty
Nellie Jarvis

Mens Fly Fishing Retreat

Rev. Dave Risendal
Rev. Roger Thompson
Stuart Andrews - Ark Anglers

Senior High Retreat Presenter

Rev. Jason Davis and Deacon
Kellie Lisi-Davis

Confirmation Retreat

Presenters

Bishop Meghan Johnston
Aelabouni

Retreat Hosts

Ben Hizer
Maddie Parker
Kylie Brown
Lindsay Smith
Brynn Harnett
Chloe Foust-Peterson
Connor Foust-Peterson
Sophie Fowler
Zach Burggraaf
Kobey Mojzis
Leah Jarvis
Jordan Jensen
Halee Hayden
Claire Fisk
Lisa Regennitter

Riley Sawinski
Kenzie Ross
Hunter Resley
Evan Fowler
Lynn Dohle

Staff Training Presenters

Rev. Adam Berndt
Rev. Pam Challis
Rev. Jane Jebesen
Rev. Nicole' Ferry
Rev. Brad Doty
Julie Miller
Rev. Jared Parker

Raft Training

Arkansas River Tours

Camp Grandparents

Kris Mitchell
Bob Witte
Joyce Witte
Pam Wagner
Cheryl Jebesen
Rick Green
Lisa Meyerdierks
Elizabeth Hargreaves
Janet Weisheit
Susan Roach
Ranelle Lang
Robert Hammond
Mark Sather
Diane Sather
Bill Dausses
Charlotte Dausses
Cheryl Mahon
Larry Davis
Luanne Davis
Cathy Jacobs
Randy Adolf
Mary Koepp
Janice Ehlers

Family Camp Presenters

Rev. Jay Gamelin
Rev. Meta Carlson
Nellie Jarvis – Art
Heidi and Mark Peterson – Art
Andrew Peterson - Art
Sands Simonton – Art
Richard Walker – Art
Jesse Crock – Art

Meg Erke and Dave Holliday -
Art
Charlie Pineda – Musician
Nick Ehrhardt – Musician
Paul Bogart – Musician

Labor Day Leader

Rev. Brad Doty

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Michelle Okes, President
Austen Smith, Vice President
Brad Doty, Secretary
Bill Ernstrom, Treasurer
Julie Miller
Rev. Stephanie Lord
Chris Lieber
Phil Dorth
Sandy Elvington
Rev. Jane Jebesen – Ex Officio
Rev. Nicole' Ferry – Ex Officio

Joshua Station

Dee Ann Lord
Jane Jebesen
Angie Weishart
Mark Peterson
Heidi Peterson
Leah Jarvis
Lisa Regennitter
Sonja Iverson (staff trainer)
Benjamin Armas
Zach Regennitter
Nellie Jarvis

Ambassadors

Brandon Baker
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DeNae and Jim vanWestrienen

Ambassadors are our direct link to congregations. Rainbow Trail Ambassadors serve as information sources for those in their congregations, and keep the camp abreast of important events within the larger church. Their most important function, however, is helping to get information about camp out to the masses! We are grateful for your partnership and support!

Thank You Schraders!



Thank you to Lisa and Randy Schrader for the donation of the 2019 Ford F150 Limited pickup that is now the Executive Director vehicle for Dave. This has been a great addition to the RTALC fleet!

A Great Way to Support RTALC: Thrivent Action Teams

Thrivent Financial has moved to use Action Teams to encourage more people to be involved in more great projects. An action team is easy to organize. All that has to happen is a Thrivent member identifies a worthy project, finds a group of people to help with the project, and then goes to the Thrivent website and establishes the project in the system. Thrivent will provide \$250 in starter funds for the project in hopes that it can be used to generate more. For example, if your church wanted to buy something from the RTALC wish or need list, you could host a breakfast using the starter funds, and all the proceeds from your breakfast could be used to purchase that item for RTALC. Or you could do something similar to raise campership funds for your youth to go to camp this summer. Or you could use several action teams to buy materials for a congregational work weekend at Rainbow Trail. The sky is the limit for what projects can be done to help Rainbow Trail. Consider forming an action team and make a difference in this fun and worthwhile community effort! Contact Dave Jarvis at dave@rainbowtrail.org if you have any questions or need more details.



Want To Make A Difference?

There are so many ways to give to Rainbow Trail and invest in the faith lives of thousands of children and families. Make a donation online, buy Rainbow Trail Blend through our online Popshop, volunteer, or take a look at our Needs & Wish List to get ideas for a lasting and important donation!



Online Anytime

Qualified Charitable Distributions and Donor Advised Funds: Great Additional Ways To Support RTALC

The support from our donors is key to our ministry thriving and growing. There are a multitude of ways that you can give to this ministry. Stocks, bonds, mutual and ETF funds, checks, online, and gifts to annual support or specific projects like the land exchange or camperships are just a few. However, there are some other tools available of which you may not be aware.

If you own an IRA and are over the age 70 1/2 you may be eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (ie. a contribution to RTALC) directly from your IRA and not include the amount given as subject to income tax. And such charitable gifts reduce the amount of Required Minimum Distribution you must take for yourself every year! Because of recent law changes, it is always good to consult your tax advisor, but if you are eligible for this, it is a very good deal!

Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) are tax-advantaged investment accounts used for charitable giving. You can fund a DAF with cash or other assets and take a tax deduction for doing so. Usually, people opt to contribute their appreciated investments so they don't have to face the tax consequences of selling it themselves. Once inside the donor-advised fund, your contributions continue to grow tax-free until you elect to issue a grant to the IRS-approved charity of your choice.

The beauty of donor-advised funds is they're available to anyone. Donor-advised funds are "designed to be a simple, turnkey way to execute your philanthropic wishes, whether you're giving \$500 or several million." You can give as much or as little (as long as it's at least \$50) as you want to one charity or dozens whenever you choose. Many charitable gift experts call donor-advised funds "flexible philanthropy."

Take advantage of these tools to help our ministry grow. Talk with your financial advisor and/or your tax consultant for more details. Or contact Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org and he can help you get connected to an expert.

WANTED: RTALC AMBASSADORS WANTED

Normal, Everyday People who Love RTALC and Want to Serve as RTALC Ambassadors for their congregations. Ambassadors meet at RTALC for a retreat once a year to:

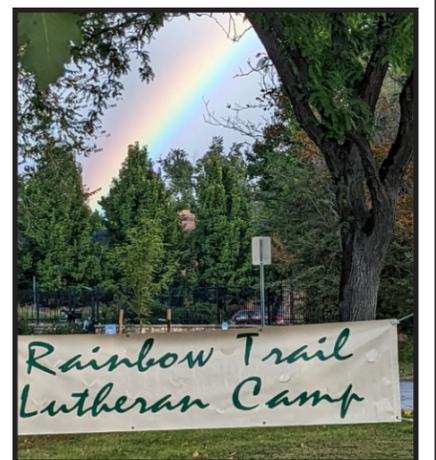
1. Find out what is new at Rainbow Trail
2. Build a display board for their congregation
3. Become equipped to pass along important information about what is happening at Rainbow Trail to their congregations.
4. Ambassadors are an important key to the ministry at RTALC

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

Remember Your Friends and Loved Ones in a Lasting Way

Want a great way to remember or honor a loved one... and make a difference in the faith life of thousands of children? We have a way! Rainbow Trail now has Memorial, Honor, and Thanksgiving packets that we can send you that make it easy to celebrate the life of someone you love.

Memorial gifts can be made at the time of death of a loved one or friend, on the anniversary of the person's birth, or of a couple on their anniversary. Thanksgiving and Honor gifts can be made at any time in celebration of a person, couple, or group of people. Marriages, wedding anniversaries, confirmations, and retirements are just some of the events that provide occasions for honor gifts. The packet includes a card to send to the family or individual, letting them know that you have made a special gift to Rainbow Trail and an envelope to mail your gift to us. We will list the names the memorialized/honorees in Rainbow Reflections along with those contributing the gift. If you would like a packet sent to you, email Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org and we'll send one out right away.



COLORADO GIVES DAY

Thank you to all of those who gave on Colorado Gives Day, December 10, 2024

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The following individuals are members of the 2024 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" tab on our webpage at www.rainbowtrail.org. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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The following individuals are members of the 2024 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. Many thanks to the following supporters of Rainbow Trail!

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Aurice and Bob Worley - Office Supplies
Lisa and Mike Regennitter - Maono Caster Starter Kit

ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS

Thrivent Financial
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Community First Foundation
Expeditors International
Scheels
CDW
Mount Calvary Legacy 125 Endowment Fund

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Bill and Charlotte Dausses - Compass Points Tents
Bill and Charlotte Dausses - Log Splitter
Cheryl and Stephen Mahon - Soker Campership Fund
Bert Lager - Soker Campership Fund
Carol Donachy - Soker Campership Fund
Ethan Roberts - "Charlie's" Staff Discretionary Fund
Charlie and Claire Pineda - "Charlie's" Staff Discretionary Fund
Steve Jurrens - Red Mugs and Compass Points Equipment
Chris Seaman - Turkeys for RTLCL Thanksgiving
Mark and Heidi Peterson - Turkeys for RTLCL Thanksgiving
Ray and Nicolé Ferry - Turkeys for RTLCL Thanksgiving
Janet and Scott Harrison - Turkeys for RTLCL Thanksgiving

ANN (JARVIS) SMITH MEMORIAL

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Annie and Jeff Heath
Anonymous
Arnie and Kay Wehofer
Austen and Christina Smith
Benevity Community Impact Fund
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Chris and Stephanie Frankle
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Mila Paul
Paul Schauer
Ray and Nicolé Ferry
Robert and Judi Newman
Rosetta Bidne
Ruth Von Mosch
Stanley and Evelyn John
Todd Engdahl
Wayne Arden

GIFTS IN MEMORY AND HONOR OF

In memory of Grama Ruth

Ericson

Ede Ericson
Lois Howard

In memory of Grama

Ruth and Grampa Dave

Ericson

Kris Ericson
Leif and Peggy Ericson

In memory of Kelsey

Rohrbaugh

Anonymous

In memory of Sandy Olson

Anonymous

Pamela Maier

Peder and Noel Hansen

Rev. Michael Mortvedt

In memory of Jean Larson

Bill and Linda Shaddock

CDW

Craig Mueller and Ernest

Vasseur

Dan and Darlene Nehls

Douglas and Dorothea Ekx

Fred and Nancy Dorth

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James and Jeanette Vyduna

James Gale

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Leslie and Martha Williams

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Michael and Virginia Shaw

Randy and Marilyn Williams

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Richard and Bonnie Swanson

Roger Person

Sally Harvey

Shannon Elrod

The Chaparral English

Department

Veryl Bohn

In memory of Laurence

(Larry) Danielson

Anonymous

Evelyn Ternstrom

F.A. and R.V. Helgerson

Jean Hoos

Jen Moore

Mark and Ruth Peterson

Martha and Michelle

Kuhlman

Ronald and Ann Olson

Susan O'Grady

In memory of Bruce and

Ruth Masters

Cheryl Masters

In memory of Dolly Lager

Bert Lager

In memory of Ed Mansfield

Dave and Nellie Jarvis

In memory of Gene Heath

Annie and Jeff Heath

In memory of Rev. Harold

G. Skinner

Mark Skinner and Lou Ann

Cheslock Skinner

In memory of Jean Colburn

Kim and John Olson

In memory of Jerry Nelson

Patti Nelson

In memory of Jessica

Hunter

Bill and Shelly Hunter

In memory of Margaret

Patton

Connie Steiert

In memory of Penny

Newman

Richard Newman

In memory of Philip

Nesting

Lynn Nestingen

In memory of Ray Cellan

Amy and Fabian Enriquez

In memory of Richard and

Judith Meyners

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Heffernan

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Anonymous

In honor of Dave Jarvis

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In honor of Ernst and Hazel

Adolf

Randy Adolf

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Mariel Spengler and Matthew
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Harpin

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Ferry

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In honor of Pawnee

Leah Jarvis

Ashley Procanyn

In honor of the RTLCL Staff

Ray and Nicole' Ferry

In honor of the Brown

Family Campers

Jack and Phyllis Brown

In honor of the Massie

Family

Patti Nelson

In honor of the Miller

Family

Deana and Andy Miller

In honor of Shelly Clemen

Jay Ackland

Turkeys For Thanksgiving

City Market

Rick & Charlene Coulson

Coleen & Jim Doughty

Aurice & Bob Worley

Melissa Neff

Sara & Daniel Romanski

John & Pam Marietta

Randy Adolf

Dave & Susan Fisk

Becky & Rick Romano

Bob & Margaret Curnow

Dave & Nellie Jarvis

Blazing New Paths!

Trailblazers and Pathfinders are Rainbow Trail's annual giving clubs that sustain and allow our ministry to grow. For as little as \$10 a month, or \$120 a year, you can become a Trailblazer and make a huge difference in everything that happens here at camp! Pathfinders are those that would like to give a little more. For \$1,000 or more a year, you can become a Pathfinder and can make a bigger difference in this incredible ministry. From Day Camp to Bridging Borders to On-Site ministries to Compass Points to RTLCL South to camperships, Trailblazer and Pathfinder dollars help to make a difference in countless lives through wonderful faith experiences. Support from the Rocky Mountain Synod to Rainbow Trail was reduced to \$14,754 for 2025. We need your help in covering that difference. You can join by simply making your gift to Rainbow Trail. If you are interested in knowing more about Trailblazers or Pathfinders, please contact Dave at the Canon City office (719-276-5233) or by e-mail at dave@rainbowtrail.org.

CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following friends of Rainbow Trail who gave a gift in 2024

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Don't Forget *Rainbow Trail*
2025 Events Calendar

February 28.....Summer Staff Applications Due
 April 1.....Summer Volunteer Apps Due
 May 23-26.....Memorial Day Work Weekend
 May 26-June 7.....Staff Training
 August 29-September 1.....Labor Day Family Weekend
 September 18-21.....Men's Fly Fishing Retreat
 September 26-28.....Womens Retreat
 October 4.....Grace Race
 October 10-12.....Confirmation Retreat
 October 17-19.....Fall Ambassadors Retreat
 November 21-23.....Senior High Retreat
 Dec 5-7.....AdventFest

www.rainbowtrail.org

2025 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. We'll be sure to have another busy and memorable weekend! The dates for 2025 are May 23-26, 2025. Call the Canon City office at (719) 276-5233 or email Dave at dave@rainbowtrail.org to reserve your spot



at this fun and rewarding weekend. This weekend does fill up quickly and typically has a waiting list. Reserve your spot today!

Go Green



Rainbow Reflections is available in a paperless version! By opting to receive it in an electronic form you will help us save printing and postage costs, save paper, and reduce waste. You will also get Rainbow Reflections with color photos and information about RTLCL programs and events. If you want to receive the newsletter via e-mail contact at info@rainbowtrail.org and let us know that you would like to "Go Green." Don't want to give



up the paper, but like the idea of color pictures and a copy of the newsletter letter delivered to your inbox? E-mail "Get Both" to info@rainbowtrail.org. Be sure to include your full name and the e-mail address(es) that you would like to receive it at.

Craving Color?

Rainbow Reflections is available in a paperless, color version! E-mail 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!

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

ALSO FOLLOW RTLCL ON...



A different, yet significant way to support the ministries of Rainbow Trail

Needs List



These are essential items needed for our day-to-day operations. A designated monetary gift would certainly be welcome as well. You can bring these items with you any time you come to camp or call us to arrange a drop-off or pick-up. Thank you for your continued support!

- White 20# copy Paper (Laser quality)
- Reams of colored copy paper
- Nalgene Water Bottles (40)
- Masking tape
- Scotch Tape
- Duct Tape
- Packing Tape
- Postage stamps
- 8.5x11 Yellow Tablets
- 8 ft. Rectangle "Lifetime" tables (5)
- Long barreled fire lighters (Bic)
- 9x12 Manila envelopes (no clasps)
- 6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)
- 10x13 Manila Envelopes (no clasps)
- 12 - 5 ft. round white Lifetime tables
- Rain Jackets & Rain Pants
- On-Site and Compass Points Day Packs
- Foam Brushes - 1"
- Paintbrushes - all sizes, inexpensive
- 2 Cases of Lysol or Clorox Wipes
- 5X8 note pads Junior legal

Wish List

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



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

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

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
 Phone: 719-942-4220
 Fax: 719-942-4000

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