



Dear RTLC Parent and Camper,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity this summer to love and care for your incredible children while they are with us at camp. I want to take just a moment to introduce myself. My name is Dave Gunnlaugsson, and I am humbled and honored to serve as the new Executive Director at Rainbow Trail. I'm so excited to meet you and your kids this summer and to share with them such an incredible place of worship, adventure, laughter, joy, and community! I want you to know, as the new Director, that I am working to take every precaution, safeguard, and safety standard to make sure your child is safe and encouraged while at camp!

I also want you to know that we hope that every camper will have the opportunity to grow, laugh, learn, make new friends, develop new skills, be challenged as leaders, grow in their faith, and learn more about the Jesus who loves them deeply!

I have had the humble privilege over the past few months to interview, select, and begin training the 50-plus summer staff who will be caring for your kids this summer! This is a wonderful group of young people who will care for the well-being of your child 24 hours a day this summer as they share their faith, joy, laughter, and love with each camper they serve. We are so honored that you would entrust us with the incredible honor of caring, protecting, and encouraging your children. And please feel free to reach out and let us know if there is information or things you'd like us to know about your child. Thank you again for supporting RTLC and sharing your amazing kids with us!

The following information should be very helpful in your preparation for your week.

- **“Everything You Need To Know For Your Week At Camp”** Please share this enclosed brochure with your camper.
- **HEALTH FORMS (MANDATORY):** Health forms are found in the registration portal, and completed forms must be uploaded in the registration portal. **FIRST**, sign into your family registration account and complete the **RTLC ONLINE MEDICAL FORM**. **NEXT**, download the Health History and Physical Exam forms from the box marked “DOWNLOAD PDFs.” Parents-complete and **sign the HEALTH HISTORY FORM for all campers**. **Print the PHYSICAL EXAM FORM for the Physician or APP to sign**. **Upload the forms to the portal. IMMUNIZATIONS: CO Campers must be submitted on the Colorado Certificate of Immunization or Approved Alternative. New this year: Out-of-state campers may submit forms for their state. Certificates of Medical and Nonmedical Exemption must be obtained using Colorado’s process and documented on Colorado’s forms.** Failure to comply with these important requirements may result in your child being denied admittance to camp.
- **REMINDER!!!** All forms need to be **UPLOADED TO YOUR ACCOUNT two (2) weeks prior to arrival at camp**.

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Camp Office
3056 County Road 198
Westcliffe, CO 81252
(P) 719-942-4220
(F) 719-942-4000

Administrative Office
107 S. Ninth Street, Ste B
Cañon City, CO 81212
(P) 719-276-5233
(F) 719-276-5235
info@rainbowtrail.org

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- **MEDICATIONS:** State regulations require that all medications, including over the counter medications and supplements, are brought in their original container and listed on the signed Physical Exam Form to be administered per Healthcare Provider instructions. Please discourage your physician from using camp as a “medication vacation” for your camper. **Please list all allergies – medication, food or environmental – on the Health Form and whether your camper will self-carry an EPI-Pen and/or inhaler.**
- **NUTRITION SERVICES AND FOOD ALLERGIES/PREFERENCES:** Please list any food allergies/intolerances on the health form so we can accommodate camper needs. **Rainbow Trail’s Kitchen is peanut free.** We are **NOT** 100% tree nut free. Please note dietary preferences such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free so alternative menu items can be provided.
- **HIGH AND LOW ROPES:** These activities are available for all junior high and senior high campers with a form signed by a parent or guardian. There is a Ropes Permission Form on your family account. Complete and e-sign this form in the registration portal. If you have any questions about the ropes course, please contact me. There is no additional charge for this activity.
- **RAFTING TRIPS:** Half-day whitewater rafting trips on the Arkansas River are available for all junior high and older campers at the camper’s expense. If you’d like for your camper to participate, you will need to complete and e-sign this form in the registration portal. **NOTE:** Helmets will be provided and are required. Cost of rafting is \$85. **NOTE: The rafting company will NOT let campers wear CROCS to raft.**
- **REGISTRATION/ARRIVAL: Registration begins no earlier than 3:00 p.m. on Sunday.** Our staff is busy until that time preparing for campers. Please don’t arrive before 2:30 pm. Upon arrival, campers and their parents will go directly to the Nurse’s check-in station for a general health screening and to drop off medications. Once they have cleared the nurse’s station, they will go to the registration table where they will select their counselor and cabin on a first-come, first-served basis. If your son or daughter wishes to room with a particular friend, they need to come to the registration table together, and as soon after 3:00 p.m. as possible. As much as we’d like to, we cannot 100% guarantee cabin mate requests. No one will be allowed to register before 3:00 p.m.
- **YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE COFFEE WITH THE DIRECTOR** beginning at 3:00 p.m. Sunday as your camper arrives. The coffee pot and iced tea will be near the registration table, so feel free to come and have some whenever you arrive. I will be available to answer questions and address any concerns that you may have.
- **END OF WEEK DEPARTURE:** Please also plan to pick up your camper no later than 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, unless special arrangements have been made with the camp office. You are invited to join us for worship at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. For your child’s safety, you will need to sign your camper out with their counselor on Saturday morning.
- **EARLY DEPARTURE FROM CAMP:** If for any reason your child needs to leave camp between 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Saturday, you must notify me with a signed letter. Also, if your child is to be picked up by someone other than yourself, I will need a signed letter stating who will be picking up your child. Otherwise, I will see that each camper is always on site and a part of the camp program continuously without exception.
- **TREATS/POPSHOP: PLEASE DO NOT SEND CANDY OR ANY OTHER FOOD TO CAMP WITH YOUR CHILD. FOOD ATTRACTS MICE INTO THE CABINS.** Any food or gum sent to camp with your child will be collected at the beginning of the week and returned before he or she leaves for home. This is for your child’s health and safety. Our Pop Shop will be open daily with snacks and camp souvenirs. T-shirt and hat prices average around \$20, water bottles are \$15, and sweatshirts are \$27. Also, All-Camp photos will be available for \$5. “My Week at Camp” video downloads are \$15. **Check out the on-line Popshop!**

- **SUBSTANCE USE POLICY:** Rainbow Trail has adopted a **no tobacco or controlled substance use policy for all youth campers**. Campers choosing to smoke, chew tobacco, or vape will have their parents notified, and will be asked to leave with no refund offered. This policy applies to alcohol and drugs as well. If you have any questions regarding this policy or need further explanation, please contact me at the camp office.
- **PHONE PROTOCOLS:** Campers are **strongly** discouraged from making or receiving phone calls during the week. We have found that many times it disrupts the child's enjoyment of camp and can also lead to homesickness for your child or others in their cabin that may be away for the first time. **Please do not bring cell phones**. Be assured that we will notify you in the event that your child needs to be seen at the clinic in town or if they spend the night in our nurse's station due to illness or injury. If there is a family emergency and you need to reach your camper, please call the camp office 719-942-4220 and rest assured that we will get you in contact with your camper as quickly as possible.
- **SPECIAL OFFERING:** We are collecting a **SPECIAL OFFERING**. We are hoping that through this type of offering, kids will realize our lives as Christians extend far beyond the borders of Rainbow Trail. Encourage your child to bring an extra \$5 or \$10, or whatever they care to contribute.
- **PETS:** Rainbow Trail requests that you please **leave your pets at home** when you bring your child to camp on Sunday and when you pick up your child on Saturday.
- **PAYMENT: Balances** are due May 15, 2026. We have included your camper's statement in this packet. Please sign into your family account to add session options such as popshop spending, rafting, video, photo, offering, or campership donation by clicking "Add people, sessions, or options" on the summary page.

In its effort to create a welcoming environment for all, the Rainbow Trail Board developed our **Welcome Statement** for RTLCL:

As a part of our call to justice, in relationship with our community of guests, campers, volunteers, and staff, Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is committed to practices that enable opportunities for full participation in our programs and activities. We welcome all people and their ideas with the love of Christ; however, we will not tolerate behavior that discriminates based upon race, religion, color, creed, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, age or ancestry. Such discrimination is demeaning, destructive and directly at odds with the Gospel of Christ. In light of this Gospel, 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.

(Rainbow Trail Board of Directors – January 2021)

The Staff, Pastors, and I promise a rewarding experience for your child. We regard each camper as a sacred responsibility and a precious creation of God. Please let me know how I may best serve you or your camper.

Sincerely,



Dave Gunnlaugsson
Executive Director