



## **Report of Cathedral Ridge to the 134th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado October 7-9, 2021**

**Mission:** to provide both a sanctuary and a stimulating environment where people can connect meaningfully and find their lives transformed through relationship with God and one another.

### **Core Values:**

- to provide innovative, transformative, creative Christian formation for all ages
- to embody excellence in hospitality
- to bring people together—to give life to all
- to offer sanctuary
- to be holistic stewards of all creation

### **Board of Directors:**

Mr. Brian Bennett, President – Chapel of our Savior, Colorado Springs

Mr. Jay Swope, Treasurer - St. John's Cathedral, Denver

The Rt. Rev. Kimberly Lucas, Bishop of Colorado

The Rev. Melissa Adzima – St. Stephen's, Longmont

The Rev. Krista Dias - St. Luke's, Fort Collins

The Rev. Wendy Huber – St. Peter's, Basalt

Ms. Nancy Jones – St. Michael's, Colorado Springs

Ms. Erica Pomerenk – St. Timothy's, Centennial

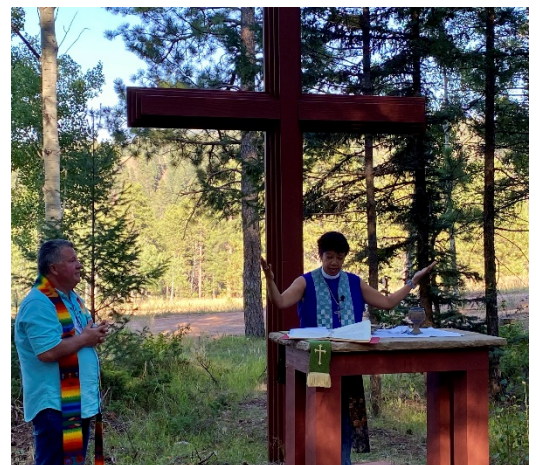
Mr. Bill Sweet – St. Bartholomew's, Estes Park

Mr. Jim Wolfe – Good Shepherd, Centennial

### **Executive Summary:**

Camp and retreat ministry exists to gather people together, so this time of physical distancing prompted reimagining how the Center could live into its core values of Christian formation, connection, creation care, sanctuary and hospitality. Individuals and families continue to enjoy cottage hospitality and respite stays. Family Camps were a highlight of 2021, welcoming 60 families over 5 long weekends for a time of connection, worship and recreation. Two Payroll Protection Loans helped offset losses to reduced and cancelled bookings.

### **Scenes from Family Camps**





While we missed hosting youth camps, Cathedral Ridge had a great summer with several highlights and lessons learned:

- 1) The Family Camp program received strong positive feedback for intergenerational appeal. Many participated who had never been to Cathedral Ridge before. We will offer two Family Camp weekends next summer, in addition to three weeklong youth camps.
- 2) Our first summer with paid residential camp counselors demonstrated the value of hiring young adults for the entire season: the training, consistency and rapport they brought to the guest experience was key to a safe and meaningful camp experience. Their residency also provided a venue for young adult formation and leadership development.
- 3) Requiring vaccinations or negative tests, masking indoors and gathering outdoors proved successful in mitigating risk.
- 4) Clergy chaplains had a positive experience. Two clergy served each family camp weekend, offering a pastoral presence and leading worship.
- 5) Our Latino family camp welcomed leaders from Intercession Episcopal and Cristo Rey Lutheran congregations, equipping disciples and strengthening the shared Lutheran-Episcopal mission.
- 6) Children and youth ministry leaders around Colorado convened for a weekend of community building and collaboration, providing space for conversation around future diocesan gatherings.

**Personnel:** None of this would be possible without our staff. Their love for this work and their call to camp and retreat ministry is what makes the Cathedral Ridge difference for all our guests. From left to right, Ryki, Katie, Paul, Alan and Renzi are pictured on our challenge course tower. With all staff now in residence, we are learning to be a community that works, learns, plays and prays together.

**Budget:** Because ministry took a different shape, the budget evolved as well. Unable to serve large groups or offer youth camps significantly reduced anticipated revenues, as well as expenses. Cathedral Ridge did receive relief through the Payroll Protection Program, and regional grants and individual donations have been generous. The deficit will be less than originally budgeted, and people have experienced Cathedral Ridge in a new way, laying the groundwork for a fresh start in a new decade.



**Master Site Development Update:** The Sage Dining Hall upgrades are complete, and well-suited for COVID precautions: ample outdoor seating on the wrap-around patio and roll-up garage doors that convert the interior into a screened-in porch provide safe gathering space. A new entrance road to Lupine Lodge shifts traffic flow and parking, creating a pedestrian only zone between the lodge and dining hall. A new concrete path and seating area improve accessibility and outdoor gathering space. One final addition of an outdoor covered patio at Lupine Lodge is in the planning for 2022. This project is the culmination of the Generation to Generation campaign. Further progress on the master plan will require another capital campaign, inviting discernment of programming priorities.