

Report of Cathedral Ridge to the 135th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado October 13-15, 2022

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

Mr. Robert Bach – St. John’s Cathedral, Denver

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

Ms. Erica Pomerenk – St. Thomas, Denver

Ms. Deborah Smith – St. Peter’s, Basalt

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

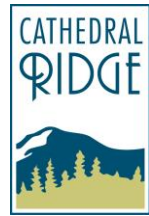
Mr. Jim Wolfe – Good Shepherd, Centennial



Executive Summary:

Camp and retreat ministry exists to gather people together, and in 2022 Cathedral Ridge served this purpose as people emerged from pandemic isolation seeking connection with God, each other, and nature. Highlights of the year included 5 Abound Retreats bringing clergy and laity with similar ministries together to reimagine church; 4 Family Camps offering youth and their parents unique opportunities for connection, worship, and recreation; 3 Youth Camps giving our youths a safe space to make new friends, play, eat s’mores, and learn the Way of Love. Cathedral Ridge also hosted nearly 70 retreats held by parishes, vestries, secular groups, and families.





- 1) Abound Retreats were offered for the first time. Clergy and laity from across the Diocese with ministries in common gathered for times of conversation, rest, prayer and worship. These retreats were held for parish administrators, clergy and lay leaders of small congregations, clergy of mid-sized and large congregations, and child and youth leaders. Attendees could come at minimal cost because of the generous grants provided by the Diocesan Regions.
- 2) We held 4 Family Camps, each with a unique focus: one for families with LGBTQIA+ members, another with “The Way of Love” as a theme, the third about Care of Creation, and the fourth for Latino Church leaders from Intercession and Cristo Rey Lutheran congregations. Each camp had chaplains available for conversation, formation, and worship. We give thanks to the Oakes-Home and the Shepard Holton trusts for funding support to the LGBTQIA+ and Latino Family Camps.
- 3) For the first time since 2019, we held 3 weeklong Youth Camps for elementary, middle school, and high schoolers, with “The Way of Love” as the theme. Every day, youth engaged in activities such as the ropes course, field games, hikes, table games, and crafts. Chaplains were present and led the youth in times of reflection and worship.
- 4) In addition to our regular staff, we were able to hire 4 camp counselors, an assistant summer program director, and 2 seasonal staff who all resided on campus. Their presence 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.
- 5) We continued to follow our COVID policy to ensure the safety of our staff and guests. Considering the number of people who came to the camps and retreats, and how rare someone tested positive, we believe that our practices proved successful in mitigating risk.

Personnel: None of this would be possible without our staff: Renzi, Paul, Ryki, and Katie. Their love for this work and their call to camp and retreat ministry are what make the Cathedral Ridge experience different for all our guests. With all staff in residence, we learned to be a community that works, learns, plays and prays together. We give special thanks to The Rev. Kim Seidman who served as Vicar and Executive Director of Cathedral Ridge for 2.5 years. Her presence advanced the vision of what Cathedral Ridge could become. The Rev. Linda Brown and Jesse Brown acted as Interim Co-Executive Directors during the search for a new Executive Director.



Budget: The 2022 budget was prepared in anticipation of a more normal year with increased bookings and larger groups. Revenues for retreats and summer camps were lower than projected due to smaller numbers of participants and group cancellations, primarily due to COVID. These shortfalls were partially offset by lower staffing levels and lower direct costs. Based on the booking requests we are starting to receive, we are hopeful for a busy 2023 season including growth in staff and in numbers of attendees.