

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

A Year of Change and Transformation



“The ministry of Sky Ranch exists in context, being the influencer as well as being influenced by events. Yet by the grace of God, we always give witness.”

2020 was an unforgettable year in the life of Sky Ranch, a year full of surprise, grace, and resurrection. It is a year that will forever be remembered for COVID and the Cameron Peak Fire. It is a ministry that shaped the faith of tens of thousands over the past 57 years. 2020 was no different...although it looked radically different.

Despite Covid restrictions and fire evacuations, summer staff were hired, trained, and empowered to share the gospel in new, creative ways. Campers, who were unable to gather on the mountain top, were still touched by this ministry. And because of your incredible support to help restore and rebuild, campers will be able to join us again in 2021.

Sky Ranch continues to focus on our commitment to *“Facilitating an encounter with Christ on the mountain tops.”* During last summer’s Black Lives Matter movement, our summer staff asked the board to consider if camp really was open and welcoming to all. The board could have given an excuse of having other important matters to attend to, or simply said we affirmed we are welcome to all, instead the board created a task force to explore what actions we could take to address this question.

We engaged pastors Barbara Berry-Bailey and Richard Gianzero, to lead *Courageous Conversations* for the task force, staff, board, and members of the Urban Servant Corp. We met twice a month, September 2020 through February 2021. Through conversations and readings, we are looking to see what prevents us from being truly inclusive. Sky Ranch continues the work of ensuring **all** can have an encounter with Christ on the mountain tops.

Questions for Reflection

- What is one positive thing that has changed in your life/ministry this past year?
- Where do you feel most welcomed and why?
- How might humility help us define “neighbor” more inclusively?