

Hannah's Fall 2024 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Family,

Life here at the Ranch really flies by, and Summer is no exception! As I looked back at my previous newsletter, I was surprised to think back on all that has happened since I last wrote!

Our Solar Eclipse retreat in April was a great success! It was incredible to witness God's creation in such a magnificent way surrounded by several hundred people! My family and cousin were able to come up for it which made the whole experience even more special. The rest of April and May were filled with retreats almost every weekend. I do not have a lot of direct contact with guests during most of the retreats we hold, but I really enjoy being able to interact with them as they come through the food lines. Sometimes it's only a smile or hearing a thank you, but however small the interaction I am blessed by each one.

June arrived very quickly this year, and began our 10 week summer camp sprint. We started off by hosting an online homeschool group called The Potter's School. We hold a normal week of camp for their students as well as help run their graduation at the end of the week. The day after TPS leaves we welcomed our Summer staff for their 10 day training period. It is a fun time for them to connect and bond with each other before we turn to welcoming kids for the next 7 weeks.

Overall life in the kitchen went very well this Summer. We were able to have three students, as well as a summer staffer, and a lot of volunteers. Working with all the volunteers is one of my favorite parts of being on staff in the kitchen. I was able to lead a Bible study for the girls again and it was a really big blessing. We discussed 2 Timothy and Paul's life. It was an encouragement to hear the girls thoughts on what I shared. During staff training I was able to take the volunteer girls and kitchen students out to visit our wilderness base camp and new fort. It is during times like that I am super grateful to be where I am and have the ability to connect with and build relationships with so many people.



Girls wilderness ranchers and counselors

I was super excited this Summer that I had the opportunity to be the cook for Girls wilderness camp! I had a lot of fun building our menu and prepping for the week. It was definitely a learning experience having to build a fire to be able to cook our meals, but it was also a blast! It was a fun time getting to hang out in the woods with other summer staff and get to know some of the ranchers which I don't have the opportunity to do while in the kitchen. My puppy Gemmi stayed out with us and loved it! We all enjoyed having her there as well, except for when she decided to be a guard dog while we all tried to sleep.



My fellow kitchen staff and our students at graduation!

A week after we wrapped up our Summer season with Family camp 1, our School of Discipleship students graduated! It was once again a bittersweet time as many of them left and have moved on to other things. I am excited for each one as they go out into the world and I pray that they will use what they have learned during their time at the Ranch to be lights in a dark world. I was sad to say goodbye to my second year advisor student Emily, but as she lives nearby I hope to see her often. My first year advisor student Katrina stayed on as a second year in the kitchen which I am super happy about. It has been neat to see her growth this last year and I am excited to see how the Lord uses and grows her through another year! We will have 8 second year students for this upcoming school year. By the time you receive this letter we will have welcomed 18 new students!

I am still helping out with a youth group/kids club in Corry every Sunday evening! It has been such a blessing in my life and I really enjoy hanging out with the kids that come each week! We were able to take the group on two day outings this Summer. In July we went on a nine mile bike ride that ended with a picnic lunch and play time. In August we took a group on a canoe trip, which was a blast! We all ended the day tired, but happy!



Our bike ride group in July!



My roommates and I at graduation

This Summer I was often struck with how blessed I am to be able to leave an impact on others' lives, though someone else could do it, God has chosen me to be here at this time. It is something I try not to take for granted.

Thank you all for your prayers and support of the Lord's work here at the Ranch!

In Christ,
Hannah Landis

Praises and Prayers:

- Praise for a fruitful Summer of ministry and pray that changed hearts will continue to seek Christ
- Pray for our graduated students that they continue to seek the Lord as they move on with life
- Pray for the incoming student body that they will be teachable and build unity with each other and the staff
- Pray for the MMR staff that we will work together to serve the Lord and put our best efforts into it
- Pray for the youth group/kids club I help with. That we will know how best to serve the community.
- Pray that I will continue to grow in my walk with the Lord, even through the busyness of life.