



2021 Annual Report



Photo: Craig Palmer, Men of Grace



The Bishop's Ranch



As The Fog Lifts



Dear Ranch Friends,

2021 came with lots of change. One of those changes for us personally, is that Brooke and I now have not just one, but TWO teenage drivers.

Over the last few months I've found myself waking to this thick fog and saying to the boys as they head out,
"Take your time. Slow down. The fog is extra thick. It's difficult to see beyond what's right in front of you."

As I've reflected on the last year here at the Ranch, during yet another season of Covid, I realize what a metaphor for our day-to-day operations this lecture to my sons about fog has become. This pandemic, like the fog, has limited our vision. Never quite knowing what's around the bend, we've had to slow down, take extra precautions, focus on what's only partially visible to make sure we're still on the right path.

Since our boys began driving, I see some things differently than I did a year ago, when we were the only ones behind the wheel.

For instance, the iconic fog that blankets the ranch — pictured on the cover of this report — makes the valley feel more like the sweeping surface of the ocean than a layered landscape of hills and vines, river & forest. I love waking up to a thick fog. Not only because it's beautiful but because I understand the value and importance the fog plays in our unique topography. Fog brings much needed moisture and nutrients to our parched lands. In the summer months the fog is especially beneficial to grapes growing in the valley below the Ranch, cooling the grapes from the heat of the summer and slowing their growth. In the winter months, the Marine Layer acts as a kind of "lid" that traps the fog - creating a thicker, denser cover early in the morning that takes longer to dissipate. It also makes for more treacherous driving conditions down Westside Road!



As The Fog Lifts



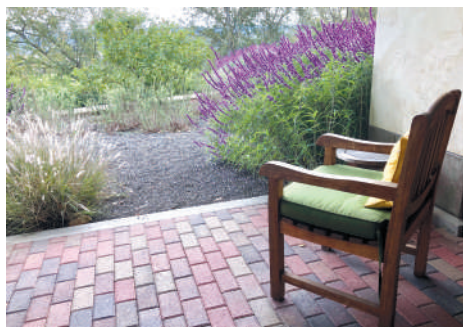
Navigating the past few years at the Ranch has required faith as we feel our way through situations that aren't always clear. It's been challenging, yes, and it has taught us so much about the value of slowing down, looking closely, and living into the unknown with faith.

Like the life-giving moisture and nutrients the fog brings to the ground, YOU, our Ranch Community, have been our source of life. You have trusted in our decisions to keep the Ranch community and staff safe. You have faithfully and generously supported the mission with your financial gifts. You have cared for this place and this land that offers needed respite and hospitality to many. You've empowered the Ranch mission and enabled it to continue to be a place where lives are changed. Your watering and nourishment of the Ranch over the last year both sustained it and helped it to grow!

As we approach Spring, the fog will begin to lift steadily until we have more and more crisp clear mornings where the sun shines brightly through the Chapel windows and the path before us is long and clear. Similarly, we're hopeful that the fog is lifting on this season and we're welcoming more and more people and groups to experience the sacred life-changing hospitality of the Ranch. I'm grateful for the opportunity to walk with you through another year and excited for what we'll witness together as the fog lifts.

With gratitude,

Aaron Wright
Executive Director





Hospitality



During the first quarter of 2021, nearly 100% of our groups were forced to cancel due to Covid restrictions and concerns for safety. Our rooms sat empty, the refectory bell silent; there were no quilters, no knitters, no dancers. The disruption caused by the pandemic lingered on.

Thankfully, over the summer we began to experience a welcome reprieve. The Ranch — fallowed under the fog of the pandemic — began to awaken.

Among the first to return were the campers, then slowly but surely everyone else. The refectory bell rang once again, singing echoed from the Chapel, and laughter was heard in the cabins. The hospitality of our beloved Ranch made a welcomed return to finish the year strong.

In 2021 The Ranch Hosted:

- 3,783 Total Individual Guests
- 2,631 Overnight Individual Guests
- 904 Individual Day Guests
- 248 Individuals on Personal Retreats
- 32 Episcopal & Other Faith-Based Groups
- 21 Ranch-Sponsored Programs, Retreats, Camps, and Events
- 15,189 Individual Meals Served



A group enjoys breakfast at the Ranch



Staff working together in the kitchen:
John Koch, Julie Miller, and Kandie Faurot



Facilities & Land



Maintenance and improvements are essential aspects of operating the Ranch. In 2021, the Ranch staff took advantage of the unique opportunity provided by Covid to expedite several Ranch Facilities and Land repair and improvement projects while closed to guests, including much needed fire prevention. During the year our staff — assisted by vendors and volunteers — made great strides to fortify and renew the Ranch, anticipating the eventual return of guests when the fog of the pandemic would lift.

Projects Completed In 2021:

- Reduced poison oak and fire fuels at the boneyard and north side of Keepo Canyon
- Reconstructed the balcony and southeast corner of Webb Lodge, repairing damage caused by dry rot
- Painted the exterior of the Chapel
- Stripped, sanded, and refinished the floors of Harrison House
- Stripped, sanded and refinished the floors of the Friary apartment
- Retrofitted the baseboard heaters of Harrison House
- Installed new gutters and gutter covers on the Pavilion
- Deep cleaned and painted the Refectory interior



Ranch Lands before fuels reduction by sheep and goats



Ranch Lands after fuels reduction by sheep and goats



Fuels reduction staff



Summer Camp



By following important health and safety protocols, the Ranch successfully offered five weeks of summer camp for 163 campers, including two intergenerational camps — Family Camp and Generations, two overnight youth camps —BREAD Explorers and Adventurers, and one day camp — READ Camp.

Throughout June and July, campers were able to return to the familiar rhythm of summer as the COVID fog began to lift. Campers engaged in daily spiritual activities, discovered poetry and songwriting, played large group games, created tie dye and theatrical costumes, and of course enjoyed pooltime. Spirits were renewed as laughter rung across the valley, strengthening the Ranch community as it began to emerge from the pandemic.

Thirty-one additional dedicated staff, including counselors, chaplains, nurses, teachers, and musicians joined the Ranch team to deliver a successful Summer Camp season.

READ Camp is a day camp for 4th through 6th graders who are enrolled in the accelerated language and free/reduced cost lunch programs of the Healdsburg School District. Thanks to the Ranch's generous donors — including the **Josephine S. Leiser Foundation** and **The Guardsmen** — READ Camp is provided at no cost to campers.

“BREAD camp is a place where people can be themselves in a welcoming & inclusive environment. I have never felt more loved than this week!”

— Molly F



Campers play the Camp Tortilla game



BREAD campers having fun untying a human knot



Programs & Events



In 2021, the Ranch was to able to offer its robust calendar of spiritual, environmental and educational programs, as well as events for individuals.

Despite challenges that persisted as the fog of the pandemic lingered into a second year, the Ranch was able to host sixteen Family Weekend Retreats. More than 248 guests experienced the Ranch's renowned hospitality and enjoyed a much-needed respite. Families safely came together to enjoy swimming, outdoor picnics, hiking, and "field trips" down the road for apple picking at our friend Greta's orchard.

In the fall and winter we safely hosted perennial favorites including The Annual Acorn Society Forum, Quiet Days in Advent, and Wisdom of the Heart.

In September, we were able to gather safely outdoors for the Swift Era Celebration. Under the shade of the Catalpa tree, we honored Sean and Caroline, their children — Calen and Brendan, along with staff that served alongside them during their 30 years of service to the Ranch — Jack Dowling and Lisa Thorpe, Robin Miller, Sarah McGowan and Eleanor Nichols.



Weekend guests picking apples at nearby Greta's Orchard



Hosted Groups



While most of our long-standing groups were not able to return in 2021, we were able to host hundreds of first responders at the Ranch through First Responders Resiliency (FRR) retreats. The FRR program was developed to decrease stress and enhance resiliency in First Responders. The organization was created for First Responders, by First Responders, and is dedicated to the psychological and physical well being of those who are serving, or have served, in the industry.

FRR guests would often arrive exhausted and unsure of what they had signed up for. Over the course of the program — supported by the safety and comfort of the Ranch environment — participants experienced life changing support.

“You are literally helping us save lives!”

— FRR Staff



First Responders found refuge at the Ranch



Volunteers



The Ranch is supported by an active and dedicated community of hands-on volunteers. We are thankful for their enduring support and stewardship.

Individuals:

- Alan Brinkman
- Sue Brinkman
- Laurie Glover
- Cass Grimes
- Jan Grimes
- Dave Householder
- Nat Lewis
- Nydia MacGregor
- Jane Marx
- Lynn McLaughlin
- John Mihalik
- Susan Pierpoint
- Caroline Putnam
- Alta Whitt
- Donna White
- Brendan Williams
- Susan Watson
- Darrell Wright
- Sheila Wright

Churches and Groups:

- Men of Grace
- St John's, Oakland
- Trinity Church, Menlo Park
- Ranch Board of Directors & Committee Members

"Volunteering at the Ranch gives me a way to be connected that I don't have anywhere else in my life. ...I'm 'with' everyone who feels as deeply bonded and committed as I do."

— Laurie Glover



Men Of Grace are long-time Ranch Volunteers



Ranch Life



Annual Board Retreat session



Scenic view from Peace Pole



Family Camp sing-a-long



Beautiful Mexican Sage flowers and the Bucher Dairy cows grazing in field adjacent to the Ranch



Rev. Dr. Fran Toy and Susan Pierpoint at the Swift Era Celebration



Ranch Kitchen Staff preparing the day's meals



Ranch Life



The Labyrinth Sun



Bishop Marc honors Sean Swift



The Rev. Father Brendan E. Williams and
The Rev. Patricia Moore offer services
at the Chapel of St. George



Sean Swift with his grandson, Solomon



Generations Campers
playing Capture the Flag



A READ Camper
reads aloud



Fundraising Summary



Guest fees cover less than 80% of the cost to operate the Ranch and care for the property and land. Generous Ranch donors are partners in our mission to make Ranch Hospitality accessible to people of all walks of life.

Annual Fund Donations	\$358,813.68
Partnership Fund Donations	\$95,976.08
Capital Campaign Donations	\$196,020.34
Number of Individual Donors	498
Average Gift from Individual Donors	\$866.51
First Time Donors	79



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Founded in 2011, The Legacy Circle ensures that the Ranch provides loving hospitality for future generations. Members include The Bishop's Ranch in their estate plan in order to secure long-term financial viability of the Ranch. At the close of 2021, there were a total of 120 Legacy Circle members.

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 Dewey & Susan Watson
 John J. Weaver * ‡
 Marisha & Paul ‡ Zeffer *

** Founding Legacy Circle Member*

‡ Deceased Legacy Circle Member



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Healdsburg

Full-Time Staff

Aaron Wright, Executive Director

John Koch, Assistant Director

The Rev. Father Brendan E. Williams,
Chaplain

Matt Kissmann,
Facilities & Land Manager

Kandie Faurot, Executive Chef

Pedro Morales, Sous Chef

Mari Gonzalez, Housekeeping Manager

Leda Wagner, Reservations Coordinator

Michelle Nadalin, Program Director

Cara Anderson,
Program Coordinator & Executive Assistant

Miguel Gutierrez,
Facilities & Land/Kitchen

Aspen Santillan, Accounting Manager

Adriana Villafuerte,
Assistant Housekeeping Manager

Rosalva Aguirre, Kitchen

Sean Dalton, Kitchen

Part-Time Staff

Kara Briggs, Kitchen

Whitney Cox, Kitchen

Leticia Gonzalez-Padilla, Housekeeping

Aech Loar, Host

Dominic Marsden, Kitchen

Julie Miller, Host

Rev. Patricia Moore, Interim Chaplain

Kiley Shanks,
Advancement Database Administrator

P. Tyrone Smith,
Interim Advancement Director

Areli Valerio, Housekeeping

Irais Valerio Eufraclol, Housekeeping

Sarah Williams, Kitchen

Brooke Wright, Communications & Events

Mac Wright, Kitchen

Mateo Wright, Kitchen



Our Mission



Roasted Butternut Squash Galette
is a guest favorite



Quilters show off their beautiful creations



The Tent allowed for outdoor
dining during Covid



Hannah and Beth Foote Reminisce with
Mark Farmer at the Swift Era Celebration

"The mission of the Ranch is to serve God by providing for people of all walks of life a place where lives are changed; a place of hospitality amidst the beauty of God's creation where renewal of spirit, mind, and body is nourished, leading to spiritual growth and closer relationships with God and one another."