

Following God's Path

*"Thus says the Lord: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. **Jeremiah 6:16***

Dear LAMA/La Montaña Family,

July 2025

Greetings and blessings all the way from La Montaña Christian Camps! I (Ray) am here while our US Interns and US Summer Teams arrive to serve others in the name of Jesus ... and to watch each of them become a deeper disciple of Jesus!

Beginning on June 15, nine college students (from four different states) joined with their new Intern Ministry Directors, Lincoln & Katie Brackett, for a summer of serving and learning here at La Montaña Christian Camps. They will be here at camp until July 26. Together with our L.M. camp staff, they are learning & discovering what it means to be a follower of Jesus in practical, day to day community building, selfless serving, and personal times of discovery through the Scriptures about what God's path is for their lives. They have been plugging into serving with our L.M. camp staff team from serving in the kitchen and hospitality departments to helping with program and recreation support. Shortly, three groups from the US (Florida, Minnesota & Washington State) will be with us for a week of ministry. They will be led by our Interns and be plugged into the camp in the same camp service model that our interns have been trained into - Disciples building into other disciples!

LAMA's approach to short-term ministry, from Interns to Serve Teams, Family Teams and Work Teams is meant to give each person the experience of working within another culture in the name of Christ in order to expand their world view and grow in their faith. These teams also provide important resources for the camp in both volunteer time and materials. Since 2014 hundreds of young people in scores of ministry teams and over 45 College Students have been through our Intern Ministry! Many of these students have been launched into full time ministry as a result of their time with us. Katie Brackett herself was an Intern just four years ago, and we praise God for her and her husband Lincoln in answering the call of God, to join our team and invest even deeper in propelling this ministry forward. Each summer, my own life has been enriched in being part of these young people's life experiences as their director and this is something I truly am going to miss.

Sadly, this is my final letter as a staff member with LAMA. In the coming weeks, I will be assuming the role of Lead Pastor in Oak Harbor, WA – and will deeply miss the La Montaña 'family' of disciple makers. I will now take on the role of a LAMA Board Member, assisting the full-time team with volunteer ministry doing representation work when asked too, leading Family Serve trips and encouraging others to partner with LAMA/La Montaña. Thank you for your prayers and support for Marjie and I over the years! I look forward to the many other ways we will partner with LAMA and La Montaña, along with all of you, through prayer and giving toward this ministry. Thank you for your generosity. May the Lord bless each one of you for all the ways that you continue to bless us!

For His Kingdom's Expansion Alone,

Ray and Marjie Schwartz - Awareness
Joseph and Lori Pent – Executive Director
Manases Padilla and Ana Viera – General Director
Lincoln and Katie Brackett – Student Ministry Directors