



## SPRING WARM UP

### FROM THE ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Hi my name is Russ and I'm new to Peak 7. I just started in January, I graduated from Houghton College in NY with a degree in biology education and hope to be able to use that to open the eyes of the youth to the wonder of God's creation. So often I have found that when I spend time in nature I grow closer to God (Job 12:7-10.) For me there has always been so much about the woods and the rivers that sings His praises. In his book, The Weight of Glory, C.S. Lewis says "We live, in fact, in a world starved for solitude, silence, and private: and therefore starved for meditation and true friendship." By taking these youth away from the racket and rush of our world (even if only for a little while) we give them a chance to know themselves and God better, to develop deeper friendships with each other and with their leaders. This is also a chance for me to use this time among the trees, rocks, and water to grow in my own walk with God and to live my life as He made me to. I'm very much looking forward to this summer and the relationships it'll bring.

- Russ Estes



### DONATE MONEY FOR

- Bibles
  - Backpacks
  - T-shirts
  - Tents
  - Food
  - Sleeping Bags
- Or donate any old outdoor gear you do not use any more.*



### WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDERS

Wilderness medicine focuses on medical problems and treatment in remote environments. Wilderness First Responder is a certification designed for guides and outdoor group leaders. Trey and Russ just finished the 80 hour course and are now WFRs (or "woofers" as Trey likes to say) which is just another way we are able to ensure the safety of the participants on the water and in the woods. Maintaining Safety has always been one of our Core Characteristics. *We adhere to and diligently enforce rigorous safety standards.* Last year we took over 600 youth, leaders, staff and volunteers out into the wild without a single incident. We hope and pray that we will be able to duplicate that record this year. Your donations help us to get and maintain certifications (like WFR) that are necessary to ensure our trips are safe.

## DONATE ONLINE WWW.PEAK7.ORG

Phone: 509-467-5550

Fax: 435-487-5550

### SEEING GOD'S HAND

- *God is putting together an incredible staff line-up for this summer.*
- *We have been awarded a matching grant for 2008 from our "angel donor" that will be 50 cents on the dollar up to \$50,000 in individual donations.*
- *God provided an incredible office space for us.*
- *God has already lined up over 450 participants to go on rafting and ascent trips.*
- *We received a grant from the Alpine Education Foundation that covers the cost of two Ascent trips and gear.*

### TURNING AN OFFICE INTO A NURSERY

We moved out of the hoffice (home office) in December and into an office. Some friends in the area were kind enough to share their office space with us. The timing was great because as Peak 7's office moved out of Ryan's home it was just about when his newborn son moved in. With a warehouse, office, and more staff we are looking forward to a great season. It has been a great help to us with administration and our over all organization. God has been faithful to provide us with what we need. We are thankful for His provision and to you, our supporters, for your prayers, gifts, and time. You play a big part in helping us to serve. The new office address is 6710 North Pittsburg St. Spokane, WA 99217.



Dane Kerrigan is another new face around Peak 7 this year. He was born on January 10, 2008 to Loran and Ryan. He'll start his guide training soon.

### NEW SUMMER STAFF

I am excited to become a part of Peak 7 to see God work in the lives of youth this year. I'm a native of good ol' Spokane, Washington and graduated from Eastern Washington University. I have a BA in Outdoor Recreation with an emphasis on 'having tons of fun in God's incredible creation'. I love the northwest and have grown up enjoying the beautiful outdoors. I enjoy rock climbing, trail running, mountain biking, wrestling with my little brothers, and just hanging out with friends and baking the best cookies you'll ever have. I love to travel and have backpacked with friends in some unbelievable places

like Hawaii and New Zealand. Over the past few years, God has grown my heart for ministry and for reaching out to youth. He has blessed me with opportunities to serve in Venezuela and Indonesia, introducing youth to Jesus through Bible programs and sports. One of my passions is helping kids experience God in new ways by introducing them to God's awesome creation. I am so excited to continue to grow in the Lord and am looking forward to being used by God to help further the ministry of Peak 7.



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-Katie Kimball