INSPIRING AND DEEPENING FAITH

A CAPITAL PROJECT FOR HYDE, DANNEN AND SARAH SMITH CHAPELS

YMCA of the Rockies Chapel Ministry seeks to honor God and embody the teachings of Jesus Christ through the fostering of relationships, stewardship of the natural environment, and creating faith-based programs that are spiritually engaging and respectful of all.

PROUD HISTORY

Hyde, Dannen and Sarah Smith Chapels are critical parts of the spiritual experience at YMCA of the Rockies. Our guests and members turn to these places for respite and renewal, as well as for key life events, like weddings and baptisms.

Hyde Chapel is a heritage building boasting a history of over 100 years and year-round faith programming. Sarah Smith Chapel is an outdoor chapel, popular for vespers and weddings. Dannen Chapel, located in the lower level of Hyde, is open as a 24-hour prayer chapel and used for intimate faith programming including complimentary small wedding services.

"We attended chapel services at the Estes Park Center when we were here on vacation and when we moved here several years ago, it became our ‘home church.’ The chapel program lifts up the C in YMCA and reminds us that we need to be the hands and feet of Christ in this world. The chaplains and programs provide many different opportunities for people to connect to God. Chapel staff are very welcoming to families and groups and show compassion, caring and respect for all.”

Lyle and Marlys Polson
Chapel Leadership Cabinet

MINISTRY PROGRAMMING

• More than 10,000 people of all faiths worship annually at YMCA of the Rockies.
• More than 30 marriages being in Hyde, Sarah Smith and Dannen Chapels each year. The chapels also host baptisms, dedications and memorial services.
• 1,000 guests are inspired each year through Bible studies, movie nights and musical performances.
• Each summer nearly 100 attendees build confidence through adventure ministries such as archery and the climbing wall.
• Over 100 college students work at the YMCA each summer while growing their faith in partnership with Collegiate Leadership Training (LT).
• 159 conference groups used Hyde Chapel as a gathering space in 2019.
• Chapel services were offered online in 2020 and are both in-person and online as of spring 2021.
VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Total Renovation Cost: $2M
The project will be completed in two phases.

HYDE CHAPEL

By improving accessibility and installing technology needed for worship events, Hyde Chapel will be primed for its future, while honoring its legacy. To enhance the connection to nature, the mountain chapel will receive a larger window, offering views of the stunning surroundings. New wood flooring, a new audio/visual system and a redesigned parking lot will create a more accessible space.

SARAH SMITH CHAPEL

As a popular wedding venue, Sarah Smith Chapel will continue to connect people from generation to generation. Vespers is held here during the summers and is an important part of many guests’ visits to YMCA of the Rockies. By adding electricity and improving accessibility, Sarah Smith Chapel will be made more functional. New benches with back rests will be installed for a more comfortable experience for wedding guests and worshipers.

DANNEN CHAPEL

Used for small ceremonies and individual worship, Dannen Chapel is open 24-hours a day for faith and worship needs. Renovations, including enhancements to the flooring and walls of Dannen were completed in summer 2020.
ENDOWMENT

By endowing ministry programming in perpetuity, programs including adventure ministry, worship services, spiritual formation series, Christian education scholarships, and chaplain staff positions will continue to impact lives well into the future.

More Chapel Ministry Activities

- Interactive prayer trail
- Labyrinth
- Bible Point trail
- Concerts
- Guest preachers
- Sunday school
- Pastoral care counseling for guests and staff
- Weekly outreach to local food pantry
- Bible study
- Family movie nights
- Vespers communion service
- Weddings and vow renewals
- Funerals
- Baptisms

“Many years ago, when our daughter was a camp counselor, we were sitting in the second row of Hyde Chapel. There was a young girl up front for children’s moment and she spotted her counselor from the past week. As you can guess it was our daughter. With a giant smile on her face, the camper’s excitement was evident. Another young girl sitting next to us whispered to her mother ‘someday I want to be a camp counselor.’ Just one of our great memories at Hyde Chapel. Hyde Chapel is such an important part of the YMCA of the Rockies. Attending Church on Sunday is just one aspect. Hyde Chapel helps define YMCA of the Rockies as an organization. It makes us so much more than just a vacation spot.”

Curt and Debbie Lanham
Co-chairs, Chapel Leadership Cabinet
Our chapel programming touches the lives of thousands of people each year. Some of the most important and lasting memories are made here, and because of that, we have the responsibility to make sure we are serving visitors in the best way possible.

"We have been blessed to be a part of the chapel ministry for over 10 years. Hyde Chapel is a special place to us, and for YMCA guests, staff, and local residents. There are many Christian based programs and counseling services that are offered throughout the year to any and all who wish to participate. Many people have been positively affected since it is such a special place of peace, solitude and hope. The Bible is preached and God’s Spirit blesses those who are there. Join us as we support the refurbishing of some of the major needs to our precious Hyde Chapel and extend its useful life well into the future."

Dave and Sybil Eberhart
Chapel Leadership Cabinet

Chapel Project Volunteer Leadership Cabinet

- Curt & Debbie Lanham – co-chairs
- Dave & Sybil Eberhart
- Calvin & Gail James
- Steve & Lesta Johnson
- Jami Kay
- Chuck & Laurel Krider
- Lyle & Marlys Polson
- Jennifer Sayler

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

At YMCA of the Rockies, faith is an important value to staff and guests alike. We learned through a feasibility study that many of our supporters think of our chapel ministry programs as vital to the future of the organization. With the plans for improvement and expansion made, we are excited to see what the future will bring to Hyde Chapel, Sarah Smith Chapel and Dannen Chapel. Thank you for considering a gift to the Chapel Project.

Julie Watkins
President and CEO
YMCA of the Rockies

For more information or to make a gift, contact Carrie Rossman, Vice President of Philanthropy
(P) 970. 586.3341 x 6018  (E) crossman@ymcarockies.org