

Loaves + Fishes

He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. They all ate and were satisfied.

—Matthew 15: 35-37 NIV

This familiar story from the gospels of Jesus feeding thousands (the loaves and fishes) has been on our minds lately; partly because Josh feeds us too well and we have both gained weight, despite being extra busy opening the camp and getting ready for the summer season. But, the real reason this passage resonates is that we have been struck by ‘the multitudes’ connected with the camp who are both being fed and are feeding others through their love and care for Gracefield.

We all know we are truly blessed with one of the most beautiful settings in God’s creation, but the true miracle of Gracefield is all of you. The two of us feel called to serve and offer our talents to the camp, but our meagre ‘loaves and fishes’ are multiplied a thousand times over through the hard work of our dedicated and skilled staff, and each and every one of you who love this place and contribute in any way you can.

We feel blessed to serve this wonderful ministry, and look forward to living out our shared call to ensure “They all ate and were satisfied”.

In Christ’s service,

Diana + Owen Mahaffy

Interim Managing Directors



2019 Camp Theme:

PEACE WORKS—EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PEACEMAKERS

This summer, campers will have the opportunity to discover what peace is, beyond a ‘best case scenario’.

The Peace Works curriculum allows campers to question peace and conflict. Why do we have conflict? How can we move towards peace? How does my faith fit into all this?

Each daily theme invites campers to think about peace and peacemaking from a different perspective: hospitality, community-building, conflict, peace through modelling God’s love, active (and radical) peacemaking, and Jesus’ assuring benediction.

While either Bible study sessions or worship are scheduled daily, all camp activities reflect meaningful opportunities to serve, explore God’s creation, and embrace the gifts of Gracefield Camp’s community.

Our prayer for this summer is that campers return to the world having learnt how to serve their communities to promote and build peace through firmly rooted faith.



Campin' at Camp Cairn

This spring some of our senior summer staff had the opportunity to attend the annual Ontario Presbyterian Camp Conference (OPCC) located at Camp Cairn outside of Baysville, Ontario. This conference is an opportunity for various camps to come together to share ideas for running a successful kids camp. The Gracefield staff had the opportunity to try out new games, learn new songs, and connect with other young adults through times of worship. Discussions were held regarding important topics such as gender inclusion, marketing, waste reduction, wilderness programming, session planning and much more.

Callum "Zazu" Richardson, Gracefield's Wilderness Director, had this to say:

"It was cool to see how the other camps were run. I attended a session on wilderness programming, and not only did I get some new ideas about how to run our wilderness program, but I also learned about the strengths and weaknesses that Gracefield has in comparison to the other camps. OPCC definitely gave us some good long term information."

The program staff weren't the only ones who attended the OPCC. Interim Managing Co-Director, Diana Mahaffy, also attended to learn about the operational side of the other camps. In Diana's words, "It was good to make connections with other camp directors. It was comforting to learn that the other camps face very similar operational problems. Our operations seem very comparable to much larger camps."

This experience has brought new insight and connections to our staff, that will be used to better our camp as a whole.

Thanks, Camp Cairn... See you next year!

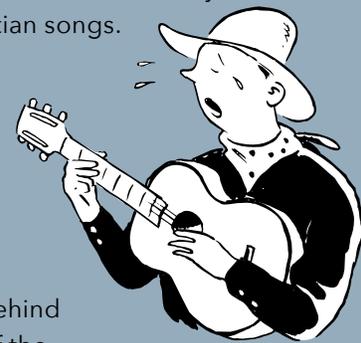


One, and a two, and a one, two, three, four...

Music is a fundamental aspect of Gracefield as a whole. Whether it be evening campfires, Sunday Worship, or jovial staff members, it is not uncommon to hear songs being sung all over camp.

Over several months, a mix of staff and volunteers have put together a new and improved Gracefield song book! This "Revised Edition" includes a variety of modern Christian songs.

Featured artists include Chris Tomlin, Rend Collective, Joel Houston and many more.



The reasoning behind the revamping of the songbook is to introduce campers and other members of the Gracefield community to modern Christian music. Several Gracefield staff members, both this summer and in previous summers, listen to modern Christian music to keep a strong connection with God, even when camp is miles away. By introducing them to this genre of music, campers will have the tools to strengthen their relationship with God, even after Camp is done!

Don't worry, we kept the camp classics as well!

Garden Party at Billings Estate

On Thursday, June 20th, close to 70 members of the Gracefield community—including staff, volunteers, alumni, campers, parents, T+Ters, board members, and friends—participated in the launch of our new monthly donation membership program called **Gracefield Guardians**.

The event, despite being doused by rain (under the protection of a garden tent), was a grand success in terms of attendance and outcome.

Josh the Cook designed and prepared over a dozen varieties of bite-sized canapés, circulated amongst guests by Board Chair, Ellie Bennett, Josh Bennett, and Adam Cameron. Conversations were happily interrupted for 'ooh's and 'ahh's with every bite.

Lifetime Gracefield family members, David and Elizabeth Campbell, contributed their lovely acoustic stylings through guitar and vocals.

Glenn Ogden recounted the historic connection between the Billings family and Gracefield.

Joanne Lauzon personalized bandanas for Gracefield Guardians.

Silent and live auction items fetched record bids, thanks to a dozen boxes of Josh's fresh cinnamon buns, a carved mushroom sculpture, and Alan Herbert's donation of an \$800 bottle of Scotch!

Thanks also to Claire Mahaffy for tending bar, Barb Draper for tending the donations, Manon Campbell for helping in the kitchen, and Diana and Owen Mahaffy for introducing themselves to the Gracefield community in their new roles as Interim Managing Directors.

2019 is a blessed year for the Gracefield community and guests!

Thank you to ALL who participated.

All about the Gracefield GUARDIANS PROGRAM

A 'Gracefield Guardian' is someone who currently donates to GCCRC using pre-authorized remittances (PAR), also known as a 'PAR donor'. This document defines the discounts to which Guardians are entitled and how they are to be administered.

1. Monthly donations of \$5 or more qualify.
2. Guardians are entitled to 10% discounts on:
 - a) Tent and trailer site rentals, except for seasonal trailer site fees;
 - b) Lodgings, including White Pine, Beaver, Jolly Roger, the Manager's Cottage and the eventual Cabin Village; and/or
 - c) Meals taken in dining hall.
3. Discounts are not provided to PAR donors for other items such as merchandise, equipment rentals, children's or Family Camp fees, or firewood.
4. To receive a Guardian discount, the Guardian needs to be currently enrolled as a PAR donor when the Guardian or family members visit Gracefield.
5. The discounts are applicable to discountable costs incurred by the Guardian, his/her spouse/partner, and his/her children under 19 years of age whether or not the Guardian is one of the Camp guests on a particular occasion. Guardian discounts do not apply to other guests who may visit the Camp with the Guardian.
6. To receive a Guardian discount, the Guardian needs to self-identify as a PAR donor when making a booking or, at the latest, when making a payment. Camp staff will make best efforts attempt to identify Guardians when preparing invoices, but are not obliged to identify all Guardians.
7. Once an invoice has been paid, refunds or credits unfortunately cannot be provided for Guardian discounts that were missed.
8. Guardian discounts are only applicable when the Guardian or an immediate family member books and pays directly rather than via a third party such as a church. Guardian discounts are not available for group rentals.
9. When charitable tax receipts are issued for PAR donations, the following CRA rules will be applied:
 - a) If the value of the discounts received in the tax year exceeds 10% of the total of the PAR donations or \$75, then the value of the discounts will be deducted from the PAR donation amount to arrive at the 'eligible charitable donation' for tax purposes.
 - b) If the value of the discounts received in the tax year exceeds 80% of the total of the PAR donations, then no tax receipt will be issued at all. A letter will be sent to the PAR donor explaining why no receipt is issued.
10. Guardians may decline to take applicable discounts.

For information/registration, please contact the GCCRC office at 819-463-2465

Join us to celebrate Canada's 152nd—Sunday June 30th

CANADA DAY 2019

at Gracefield Christian Camp & Retreat Centre

Worship | 10:30am

Turtle Rock Swim | 11:30am

Slip + Slide

Canoeing

Hiking Trails

Field Challenges

Wide Games

Archery

**Fireworks
& Campfire
at Dark!**



Potluck Picnic
with Pulled Pork
Sandwiches
at 5:30pm

Kindly bring a salad
or dessert to share,
BYO pop + chairs.

*Cash donations to refurbish
our Boulder Climbing Wall
will be greatly appreciated*



Gracefield Christian Camp & Retreat Centre
37 chemin des Loisirs, Gracefield

FOR INFORMATION:
info@gracefieldcamp.ca or 819-463-2465



Keep in Touch!

If you have any questions,
suggestions or concerns please
contact us!

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819-463-2465

*BeaverTales is generously
curated and edited by Jen Buie-Richardson,
and designed by Joanne T. Lauzon.*

Please Donate

The ministries at Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre depend on a variety of fundraising efforts and generous donors. You may choose to contribute to Gracefield for a specific project, or on a more general basis. You may also consider donating to the Campership Fund which helps children and young adults enjoy our camp experience, who would not otherwise be able to do so.

You can donate by mailing a cheque, calling the office with your credit card, or online through our [website](#). Monthly donations are possible through our Gracefield Guardians program, which grants members to discounts on meals and accommodations. Please call the office for more information.

A tax receipt will be issued for all monetary donations.