

BEAVERTALES



Official Newsletter of Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre

My Gracefield

Sometimes I like to think of Gracefield as my home away from home, away from my parents, especially with one of my sisters on staff.

The counsellors are so much fun and the food is sooooo good. Josh is a really good cook. As a camper this past summer, I liked the breakfast sandwiches and my favourite meal at lunch was mac & cheese with ice cream for dessert!

In the evenings we played 'wide games'; my favourites were Capture the Flag and Kangaroo Hut. I didn't enjoy playing Man Hunt as much because there was A LOT of running.

We got to hike in the woods and sleep in tents on the last night. It was really cool to hear the owls. The rest of the time I slept in a cabin with a bunch of other girls who became my friends. Once, in the middle of the night, the boys started banging on the outside of our cabin. It was a bit scary at first but then we got them back the next night. That felt good.

I was a bit sad to go home at the end of the week. I wanted to stay at Gracefield forever. Lucky for me, my parents sent me back for another week of fun!



Maisie Heath
Age 13
Brockville

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Plan your escape at The Cottage

Are you looking to escape the city this year? The Cottage offers year-round lodging, with the possibility of self-catering, for individuals and families looking for a quiet retreat.

You can reserve The Cottage on our webpage *Book Online - Let's Camp*. Check out our availability for 2023!

Giving Day for Peaceful Sleep

What would you be willing to pay for one night of peaceful sleep?



Quality sleep is key in experiencing the restoration of body, soul, and mind - as seen with Elijah under the broom tree in 1 Kings 19: 3-8.

Gracefield is hoping to improve its beds for the benefit of its guests - you! Join our Giving Day for Peaceful Sleep campaign on Saturday, March 25th, by donating what you would be willing to pay for one night of peaceful sleep. Think of the difference this could make for your group retreat or family vacation!

More information on how to donate will be shared via email, on our website, and Facebook page.

Sweet dreams!



Summer Program Offerings

Bring friends or family, or come on your own to experience all the fun and fellowship at Gracefield, whatever your age!

We offer a variety of accommodations and various meal plans to suit everyone's needs. You don't want to miss Josh's homemade cinnamon buns and fresh bread.

Summer camp registration is now open as well. Check our website for more information on each camp, and our new tiered pricing system at <https://gracefieldcamp.ca/children-youth/2023-summer-camps/>



Camp	Weeks
Explorer (Ages 7-9)	July 9 - 14 July 30 - August 4
Pioneer (Ages 10-12)	July 9 -14 July 23 - 28
"MADD" Camp (Ages 10-15)	July 16 - 21
Woodlander (Ages 12-14)	July 16 - 21
Frontier (Ages 13-16)	August 13 -18
Adventure (Ages 10-12)	July 30 - August 4
Voyageur (Ages 14-16)	July 23 - 28
"LIT" (Ages 16-18)	July 9 - August 4



Spring Cleaning

With spring around the corner, we are searching for volunteers to help with our Spring Cleanup to help get camp ready for the summer season.

This year, work weekends will be :

May 5-7

May 12-14

If you are interested in lending a hand for a weekend, please contact the office to register for your party, with the number of volunteers, meals, and accommodations.

Please note that children 14 and under need to be supervised by a parent or guardian while performing volunteer duties.



We're Hiring!

Seasonal staff applications for 2023 are open! We are looking for lifeguards, program and wilderness staff, an office administrator, operations staff, and more.



Take this as your sign to apply right away at gracefieldcamp.ca/employment/



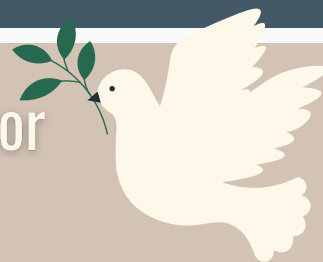
Paddle-a-Thon 2023



Last summer's Paddle-a-Thon was a great success and a blessing to see Gracefield's community come together to contribute generously to improve the camp experience!

You can participate this summer, August 26th, to help us raise \$15,000 for Boat House renovations and some of its water safety equipment. Register as an individual, as a team, or simply donate. More information to come on our Website and Facebook page.

A Note From the Managing Director



Michelangelo was a prolific Italian sculptor, painter, architect, and poet who spent many years dedicated to his works that were so carefully crafted over a long period of time. Today, I am struck by the amount of time he invested in his works, and am in awe at the beauty created by his slow and methodical process.

It's easy to get impatient in this world, with what feels like slow-moving progress. We can become frustrated with those around us when we feel like they are holding us back or slowing us down. This same issue can impact our spiritual lives, when we can wonder what God is doing and why the challenges we face and changes that we seek don't get resolved in our desired time frame.

Michelangelo is quoted as saying "The sculpture is already complete within the marble block, before I start my work. It is already there, I just have to chisel away the superfluous material."

Although sometimes we may feel impatient with progress, we must trust that the sculptor sees the finished work in us that will be revealed in due time. It might not always be a comfortable process, but we can have confidence in the promise of freedom in Christ.

This summer we will be learning about that promised freedom in Christ through the fruit that Galatians 5:22-23 tells us about. As we grow we will show the characteristics and bear the image of the Creator, in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control. In our lives, we may not create tangible works of art, but we can bear fruit that may impact those whom we come into contact with.

Grace & Peace,
Mark Hamilton
Managing Director

