



Spring Musings



Rev. Jurgen Rausch
President,
Board of Directors

Becoming a Safer Place!

Bethel Park has always been an oasis and refuge for many people. Children and youth have always felt it to be a safe place as have their parents. Over the years, our insurance provider has encouraged us to implement policies meant to protect vulnerable people. More recently, our insurance provider has mandated that Bethel Park implement stricter guidelines around the supervision and programming involving the vulnerable sector.

We will be implementing what is known in most of our churches as "Plan to Protect". We have worked to create a specific policy for Bethel Park that is not only very robust but is also workable in our camp setting. At all events where we or our church partners take responsibility for vulnerable people such as at Youth Camp or Kids Camps, or at child and youth focused event during the Retreat Weekends and Family Camp everyone will be required to implement guidelines meant to provide protection for our children and volunteers.

CAMP WORKDAY

SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011

PLEASE BE THERE AT 8:30 AM SHARP, LUNCH
WILL BE SERVED AT 2:00 P.M.

FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO PLEASE BRING A
DESSERT. DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR
RAKES AND RAGS!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday July 23, 2011 at 2:00 PM
in the Chapel at Bethel Park Camp.
All Members Welcome!



MESSAGE FROM
THE
Camp Pastor

We hope that you take advantage and participate in the various functions and camp activities at Bethel Park. During July and August, besides the scheduled Camp Services, we have weekly Sunday morning services in our climate controlled sanctuary. Should you and your family be there for a week or weekend of rest and relaxation, I invite you to join us at 10:30 a.m. for a time of worship, Bible teaching, prayer and fellowship. I look forward to seeing you, meeting you and welcoming you to our Summer Camp.

RETREAT WEEKENDS

Be sure to mark your calendar for our long weekend retreats meant to be the bookend events of Bethel Park.

Joining us this year at the Victoria Day Retreat on May 21 and 22 is Pastor Jay Davis from Barrie, ON.

The other bookend event is the Labour Day Retreat on September 3 and 4 with Pastors David and Jessica Di Sabatino from Toronto, ON.

SERVICES: SATURDAY: 7:00 PM

SUNDAY: 10:30 AM AND 6:30 PM

BEST YEARS RETREAT

If you're between the ages of 40 and 59, we invite you to come to the **Best Years Retreat**, Friday, September 23 - Sunday, September 25, 2011. The cost is \$75 per person (accommodations not included).

Leave the kids at home and come enjoy a weekend at Bethel Park designed especially for you. A time to reconnect with old friends and a chance to make some new ones. Brochures are included in this package. For more information and additional registration forms check out www.bethelpark.ca. If you have any questions, please contact Michael and Brigitte Krause at bestyearsretreat@live.com

Bethel Park Leadership Team - 2011

President: *Rev. Jurgen Rausch*
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Camp Pastor: *Rev. G. Rittmeyer*
gtrittmeyer@sympatico.ca

Heritage Camp: *Rev. G. Rittmeyer*
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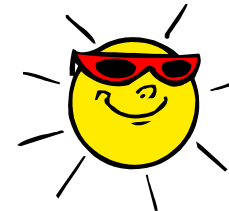
Family Camp: *Rev. Michael Krause*
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Student Ministry: *Jeff Mantej*
director@bpnextgen.org

Facilities: *Gerhard Weidelich*
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Secretary: *Horst Mielke*
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Camp Administrator:
Norma Scherer
bethelpark@goto.net



Head Office:

100 Hoffman Street
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(519) 885-3212
bethelpark@goto.net

Check out our web site at
www.bethelpark.ca

Camp Phone:
May to September
(519) 785-2090

However most of our events and times together are within the context of individuals coming and going as they please with no supervision and assurance of safety. For example, most of Family Camp times including our sports or late night activities are self directed with Bethel Park assuming no responsibility for incidents. To assume vulnerable people are safe just because they are at Bethel Park is dead wrong. Therefore, guardians must employ the same safety measures as at home including:

- ✓ Guardians should know where their children are at all times
- ✓ Parents should be talking to their children about safety issues i.e. Talking to strangers, staying in public open places, playing in group settings, appropriate and inappropriate touching by adults etc.

Let's do our best to provide a happy and safe environment for our vulnerable while at Bethel Park!

GROUNDS AND FACILITIES

Bethel Park is blessed. Even with the bad winter, we have seen only minor damage from trees affecting some of our hydro lines. I am happy to outline some of the projects lined up for 2011 including:

- ✓ the completion of the councilor dorm,

- ✓ the bell tower renovation,
- ✓ handicapped accessible washrooms upgrade,
- ✓ Dining hall exterior patio to provide overflow and accommodate those who like to eat outside and at the same time enjoy God's beautiful nature.

Please be reminded that if you are planning any changes, additions or renovations to your cottage, you need building approval. Please contact John Kehl at 905.835.8559 or j.kehl@live.ca We look forward to seeing everyone at the Workday on Saturday April 30, 2011. I am looking forward to a year of fellowship with all of Bethel Parks people, working together to forward Gods Kingdom.

G. Weidelich,
Director of Facility

FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you for your continued interest and support of Bethel Park. Without your financial partnership, Bethel Park would not be what it has become over the years for young and old. For us to maintain what we have, we need to raise \$350,000 every year from our cottagers and friends. While we appreciate the offerings we receive at our various events, perhaps you would consider putting Bethel Park into your monthly budget? Do you realize that even \$50 a month adds up to a \$600 annual donation? For more information on how to do that contact Norma at

519.885.3212 or email
bethelpark@gto.net .

GERMAN HERITAGE CAMP

JULY 17 - 20, 2011

Guenter Rittmeyer will lead this year's German Heritage Camp. Our speaker is Pastor Guenther Kaupp from Germany. Also joining us this year are Reinhold & Elsie Herms from Chilliwack, BC who will serve as our worship leaders.

FAMILY CAMP

JULY 23 – 31, 2011

Although it's only April, the warm weather has already given us a hint of what's ahead. With the Spring, comes the wind and the rain and with the onset of the camp season we hope to experience grace like rain and the fresh breeze of the Holy Spirit. We have a great ministry line up for Family Camp this year. On the first Saturday, Masters Bible College and Seminary students will be ministering at our opening concert. The first Sunday will feature Scott Bullerwell. Van Johnson will be our morning Bible teacher. Lorrie Gibbons, is our evening speaker during the week as well as the final Sunday of Camp. Reverend Murray Cornelius will speak at our Missionary Service on the second Saturday. In the German Services Rev. Guenter Kaupp will be

speaking. Amber Smith is heading up our children's ministry team and Nathan Albrecht will lead the Junior High ministry team. Brigitte Krause will be leading worship for all the English services this year. Come prepared to hear from God.

Michael Krause, Family Camp Director

STUDENT MINISTRY

A snap shot of what you should know; First, we have launched a new website and I encourage you to come check it out at www.bpNextgen.org. Secondly, the ReFrame Young Adult Retreat - June 10-12. Reframe is a weekend geared to students and those beginning the next stage of their life, the focus group is people 18+, and those in their 20's and 30's. Our speaker is Jason Small, Worship lead by Dani Stong and a range of other guests. Third, is Youth Camp - August 21-26. Youth Camp is geared for ages 13-18. Our speaker will be Randy Gill and Worship lead by John Halliday.

This camp season is truly exciting one for me. God has been and is doing amazing things in the Student Ministries at Bethel Park. We are focusing on a season of growth and are expecting great stories of lives changed by Jesus through the ministry events we will be hosting. If you have a heart for students I'd like you to pray about sponsoring us this year in our time of growth. Contact me if you feel lead this way.

Jeff Mantej, Student Ministries Director