

MARCH 2009

Issue II



BETHESDA RENEWAL CENTRE (OTTAWA-CARLETON) INC.

WINTER/SPRING 2009 AT
BETHESDA

“BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD” PSALM 46:10

*Red & Yellow, Black & White they are
precious in his sight Jesus loves the
little children of the world.*

One of the tidying up things I did today involved Indian corn. We had on our shelves a cornucopia containing red, yellow, black, and multicoloured ears of corn. Last time Jeannine popped in she moved the corn to the stair case, to display them. They were dusty but still beautiful. Today they almost ended up in landfill, but then I remembered...

Alison and Catherine popped in a while ago. Catherine spent a PD day with me (about 8 years ago) and we decorated the living room with pine and cedar boughs and created some wonderful candles. We layered different coloured lentils and beans into mason jars, stuck candles in them and tied a bow around each one. They were beautiful, and it made a memory that Catherine and I still share. So – my brain said, why not again?

So I took the corn out of the garbage bin and proceeded to take the kernels off the cobs. Each colour I layered into mason jars, and though of ... Black and Yellow, Red and White they are precious in his sight, Jesus loves the little Children of the world. (Are you humming yet)? I coiled some of the dark red and golden husks into the top empty space. The kernels have been dry a long time, and I'm not sure if they'll grow. But what a thought to have a couple of rows of beautiful Indian corn growing outside – I will certainly give it a try.

It wasn't easy removing the kernels from the corn – but was restful to stand at the sink and think of many others before me preparing the kernels for seed, for meal and how beautiful all the colours were. So I picked up my bible to see if there was any mention of corn. Quickly in my NASB I turned to the back and looked up corn – nothing. Ray suggested I look up maize – nope. So I looked up crops

and found,

Leviticus 24:22. “When you are sowing the eighth year you can still eat old things from the crop, eating the old until the ninth year when its crop comes in.”

We are beginning our ninth year at Bethesda. Is it time for Ray and Lorna to see Bethesda's crop to come in?

Last year the word I received from the Lord was “To get out of His Way”. I took that to mean that we didn't have to do anything but keep Bethesda open and presentable and use our gifts of Hospitality to welcome guests. God allowed Bethesda to be severely tested in 2008. (I'm not going to dwell on those things here) We just kept on going. Ray and I tried not to get frustrated, but many of you saw and heard our exhaustion. This fall we saw the beginning of the crop coming in – sending us new friends, inviting old friends back into the fellowship, and financially blessing Bethesda time and time again.

Our next year is full of promise. In June James turns 19, on October 3rd Liz & Joseph get married, in December Ray and I celebrate our 25th Wedding Anniversary and my Mother turns 90. Huge stops in our life journey.

And in 2009 we are really excited about the ministry of Bethesda. So this letter is to let our friends know that the Brule's are doing great. That Bethesda is still the place we love to call home. That we truly appreciate everyone who prays for us, for our helpers both the practical and the purposeful, and for the dreamers and schemers who help us and our Board keep things fresh.

Continuing to claim the verse to, “Be still and Know that I am God” Psalm 46:10,

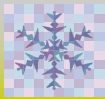
I remain ...

In His Service

}<> Lorna

Coordinator of Ministries, Bethesda

<http://www.bethesdarenewalcentre.org>



ROSE CHAPEL



'A rose by any other name ...'
Okay the walls will not be rose coloured stucco (see summer newsletter)... but the glow from the Chapel is indeed Rose.

Heather and Keith Guild have painted the inside of the chapel. The Douglas Fir ceiling has been stained a deep blue, the walls have been painted in Alabaster White (soft, soft hint of rose) and the inside wall over the doors has been painted Rapture Red. The windows have been trimmed in midnight blue to match the pews and we are ready for visi-

tors. Now here's the exciting news. Heather had a vision in 1997 that resulted in a great move of the Holy Spirit. She has created a tableau of "the Last Supper/A Vision of Jesus". This life sized mixed media sculpture will be in residence until Easter Sunday. Our locked doors of the Chapel policy for this period will be changed in order to protect the tableau from the elements.

Heather's story—and the journey of this work of art is an amazing adventure.

Matt 26:44

Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "**Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near,** and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners."

On Maundy Thursday, the night before Good Friday we will be holding an over night prayer vigil in the Chapel, please join us. All Welcome.

JESUS

People are hungry for your bread of life
they are thirsty for your living water
they are longing to be of real service
they truly want to extend your love.

JESUS

Bethesda is your healing pool
the shelter for soaking in your love
purifying, cleansing, invigorating,
transforming love
so that every soul can deepen their
contact with you.

JESUS

We want to recommit ourselves
to brightening the light of your truth
to reigniting the fire of your love
to revealing the beauty of your grace.

JESUS

You are all our hearts are longing for
please reveal your will to us
for greater things have yet to come
and greater things have yet to be done
in Bethesda!

**JOY TO THE WORLD
OUR LORD HAS COME!** Keith Guild

Keith at a Thursday soaking prayer evening was given the title for an upcoming weekend workshop.

Stay tuned for further information

Theme "Ultimate Jesus"

**BETHESDA HAS BEEN
REGISTERED AS A
SOAKING PRAYER
CENTRE WITH THE
TACF INTERNATIONAL
NETWORK SINCE
DECEMBER OF 2003**

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Vision: Having a vision for your life or ministry can be a strange thing. Is it really from God or just the dreaming of a fool? A dream to keep you getting up every day—a safe place to go because you don't have to do anything with the dream. A vision is something more that doesn't leave you. When you talk about it, you actually get revved up with the possibility.

A vision though is usually not going to become reality without the tests and the patience to wait on God's timing. This is

not an easy time. One pushes ahead and encounters obstacles and so doubts form—Is this really of you, God? How can I be sure? Why isn't this working? Where are the people and the money?

In 2001, I believe I received the vision for Bethesda, although I couldn't articulate all that I 'saw'. A 'Virtual Holy Land' where people would come to relive the stories of the bible and walk Holy Ground.

In 2008, God put an urgency into us to finish the chapel. We thought this urgency

was just to get it off our to do list. But God brought Heather and Keith and The Last Supper. Keith also had read 'Wild Goose Chase' in which 'Geographical Spirituality' is revealed. This is exactly what I was trying to articulate—experience bible stories outside the church building. Bethesda is now in that vision of 2001. Come to the chapel and read about and SIT IN the Last Supper. Then take up your cross and walk to Jerusalem. Jesus will meet you there!

A WORD FROM OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR ... GARRY REMUS

If there is one prevailing opinion abroad in our world, and held both by spiritual people as well as secular people, it is that society is heading for disaster because of the greed that is gripping so many people, in both high and low position. Never has there been such a spirit of putting the rascally ME in the vanguard of life. As the world Christian family moves forward to one of the two most established Christian celebrations, we are called to renewed self-examination to determine whether or not we are on the mark in our discipleship. Now it is virtually impossible to separate the two events, presently on the horizon, Good Friday and Easter. They must be seen as a unit even though they evoke such contrasting emotions.

Good Friday honours the wretched death on the cross to which Jesus was subjected and which alone becomes the foundation stone of our hope of heaven. His rising on Easter morning, assures us that all the potential of Jesus' atonement is available to us. But the virtue of our Lord in his earthly journey, gives the lie to any kind of selfish ambition that discolours the purity we enjoy through trust in Jesus' sacrifice. His selflessness in dying for us both opens up the promise of eternity. But, as well, it becomes a model for our life style and a call to selfless service.

SPRING DAYS

Standing open invitation to Bethesda is Sunday afternoons. We find many of our weekend guests leave shortly after lunch.

If the house is still busy or locked feel free to visit the Chapel and enjoy the grounds and trails.

Pack your mittens and boots and discover your special place on our 82 acres.



On behalf of the Brulé family we extend our thanks to all of you who sent cards, prayers, meals and kind words as we mourned the untimely passing of Ray's father, Jacques.

Jacques passed away
22 Jan 2009.
He was greatly loved.

... BOOKS WE ARE READING

Wild Goose Chase

Author: Mark Batterson

Multnomah Books

Reclaim the Adventure of Pursuing God

The Shack,

Author: Wm. Paul Young

The Search for the Twelve Apostles, Author:

William Steuart McBirnie, Ph.D.

The Year of Living Biblically

Author: A.J. Jacobs

Marketplace Miracles

Author: Rick Heeren

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We give thanks to God for Darell Small who in stepping down as Treasurer will remain as a Director and we warmly welcome the return of Rob Milnes as our Treasurer.

We give thanks to God for John Milburn who as a Director helped to organize our fund raisers, work days and who was always ready to organize a bonfire!!!

We say goodbye and give thanks to God for Jill Wilson, who has been our Secretary for the past year (and a very busy one at that!).

We also thank God that John and Jill continue to support Bethesda as members of our Fellowship.

Please keep our Board of Directors in your prayers.

2009 Board of Directors

Chair: Ray Brule
Vice Chair: Gord Walt

Treasurer: Rob Milnes
Secretary: Rob Andrews
Directors: Darell Small,
Frank Friedrich & Philippa Wilson

Spiritual Director: Garry Remus
Prayer Team Leader:
Jeannine Milburn

**BETHESDA RENEWAL CENTRE
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**Registered Charity
867947970 RR0001**

Bethesda is a Christian place of renewal in a quiet rural setting where people of all ages and conditions of life may be restored in body, soul and spirit by the power of Our Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

MEDITATION

**BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD
BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM
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BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM
BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD**

Psalm 46:10

BETHESDA FELLOWSHIP . . . HOW TO BE INVOLVED? PRACTICALLY, PRAYERFULLY & FINANCIALLY

Bethesda can only continue to hear, discern and act on God's plans for ministry with the help of a large enough group of Christians committed to making a difference for the Kingdom of God.

We count on prayerful discernment by individuals who hear God's call; and want to use their gifts to support this ministry.

Should you join the Bethesda Fellowship?

The invitation to join our fellowship is especially requested of you who have been to Bethesda and been blessed by the ministry.



Volunteer: Volunteering doesn't stop in the winter. Now is the best time to clear fallen trees, and split wood for maple syrup time. And right now the sap is running - come and see how producing maple syrup is done.

Financial Support

Bethesda is financed by individuals, churches, other not for profit organizations, and weekend retreats. You can help financially through monthly donations on our PAW program, by mailing a one time offering or by credit card through

www.canadahelps.org

Search on:
Bethesda Renewal

Directors Meetings

We ask for your prayer covering for all of our meetings held the second Tuesday of each month.

Fellowship Meetings

(All members invited, alternate months- May, July, Sept.)



Ray & Lorna Brûlé
Host Family