

February 7, 2013

## The Bethany College Connection

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Photos courtesy of Erin Bader & Jeff Williams, Bethany College students



## “YIELD”- Youth Advance 2013



Bethany Place transformed for Youth Advance 2013; wall hanging for YA2013 (left) by Matthew Bergen; speaker/alumnus Phil Wiebe on stage

For what event would over 100 youth come from across British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan? To the one and only yearly event at Bethany College called Youth Advance! This event was put on by a highly dedicated team of students, under the direction of the Dean of Men, Dave Carey. This team came together from the beginning of September until the event on February 1-3 to be creative with how they transformed Bethany College into a place for youth to come learn, grow, and be shaped by God through interactions with college students and participation in various activities. From hanging out in the dorms with students, playing games in the games room, and watching a Dinner Theatre production, to engaging in Worship times, Main Sessions, Workshops, Hockey Night in Hepburn, a Dodge ball Tournament and more — this is an annual event you don't want to miss!



Worship time at Youth Advance

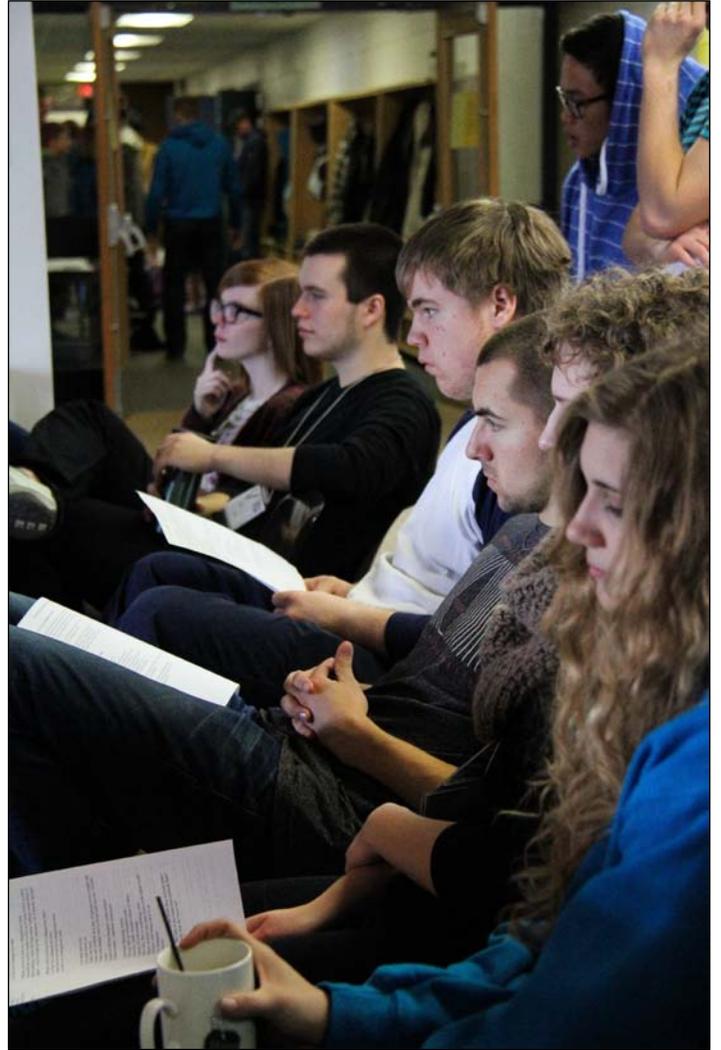


Students, “Advancers” cheer on the action in streets of Yieldsburg.

This year was no exception; as you walked into the school to come to Youth Advance, you saw a completely remodelled student centre with different shops and businesses in a town called ‘Yieldsburg.’ The various shops were meant to draw the Youth Advance student to embrace the theme of “Yield,” with the theme verse of the weekend being: *“If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.”* Matthew 16:25



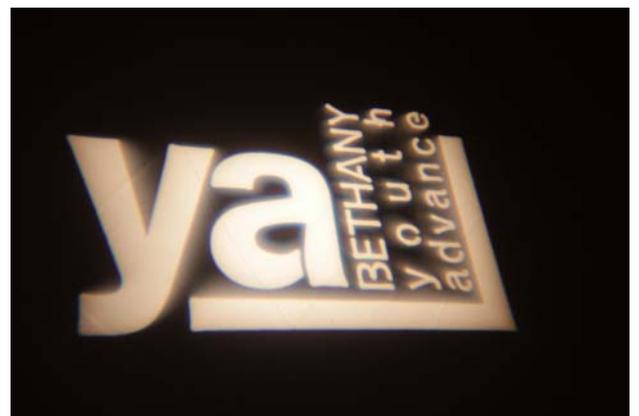
First Year Student Treena Newton with “Advancer.”



Students and YA attenders at Workshops.



First Year Students Dylan Peters and Wyatt Doerksen with “Advancer.”



In the last session of the weekend before the Youth reluctantly prepared to return home, Phil Wiebe, the Youth Advance Speaker and Bethany Alumnus, shared the pain of having his eight month old son die of SIDS. The silence in the room was overwhelming as all listened to Phil share about this painful journey. He challenged us all to know that the pain of death and suffering does not come from God. Phil stated that God does not will death, but God does welcome those who love Him into His arms. “My little boy is in heaven right now, making lots of people laugh. So the exciting thing is that death is not the end, death is a new beginning in heaven if we have that hope.” Phil stated, “We are here on earth

to reconnect with God and bring people closer to Him.” He challenged everyone that to do something in this life for eternity, you have to yield your life to God. How are you caring for the people around you? How are you yielding your life to God? Make a difference in this world by taking even just one step to influence those around you! “Remember, the only thing you can take to Heaven with you is people!”

Thanks to all who helped make this year’s Youth Advance a success! If you were unable to make it, put it on your calendar for next year, for the first weekend in February 2014 — you don’t want to miss it! For more details on this event and other Bethany College activities, please check out our website at: [www.bethany.sk.ca](http://www.bethany.sk.ca).



Second Year Student, Spencer Epp leads worship with Houseband

**Nurturing Disciples and Training Leaders to Serve**

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