

Peniel Postings

PENIEL HOLINESS CAMP · CONNEAUTVILLE, PA



So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared." - Genesis 32:30

UNCLUTTERING LIFE

President's Message by Dan Segool



I have a post-Christmas tradition of doing a bit of a purge following Christmas. It is a good time to clean out the closet and part with things that aren't being used much anymore. I don't think I am alone in this, because when I drop things off at Salvation Army or Goodwill, I see that they are extremely busy this time of year. This is not always an easy process. One thing I have discovered is that clothes that haven't been worn for a while tend to shrink. They fit fine the last time I wore them! But, if I can figure out a way to unshrink them, I could wear

them again. So, I won't get rid of them in hopes that I can reverse the process! I'm also very resistant in parting with any clothes with my favorite team's logo.

You might remember my column from our last newsletter about cleaning out my Mom's house. This led to several loads of things coming to my house. Things were piled up in my shed and my basement. I've been trying to go through everything during the winter months. Very hard decisions, as there are a lot of memories attached to this stuff. But, it was also more than I could keep. I encouraged my kids to take what they could use. Then came the tough decisions about what to keep and what to donate. All in all, I thought I did a decent job with the hard decisions. The areas where I struggled the most were with pictures. My parents took lots of pictures when we were growing up. This was back in the day of film and physical prints. So, you can't just store them on a flash drive. I have a huge plastic bin full of hundreds, perhaps better than 1000 pictures. I haven't had the time to go through them all, and it's tough to think about throwing them away. They are packed with memories.

It is also true that once I have done a purge, I feel good about it. I feel like my life is uncluttered. There is a certain amount of freedom that comes from it. Also, like so many things I do in life, I am often thinking about the camp while I work away. Recently, a thought came to me. I think that is what camp meeting is all about!

We all come to camp carrying various things that have built up in our lives. Camp is an opportunity for us to spend some time with God and to separate ourselves from the daily grind of the world. It is a process. What does God want to show us? Is there something in our life He wants us to get rid of? Is there something in our life that He would like to see more of? It is not an easy process. Most of us are resistant to change, and we want to have our way. I think that is also the reason that people are sometimes resistant to come to camp. We are afraid of what God might ask of us. But, it is important to remember that when God wants to affect change in our lives, it is ALWAYS for our good. God isn't in the business of making our lives miserable. He wants to see us become everything he has designed us to be. Yes, it can be hard letting go, but we need not be afraid.

It might not seem like it when you look out the window, but camp will be here before you know it! I hope you are making plans to come to camp this summer. What is cluttering up your life? Bring it to camp with you, and let God sort through it. He will show you what to keep and what to pitch. When camp is over, you will go home with a burden removed and be ready for service!

Thanks for reading *The Postings*! Our next mailing will be our annual camp brochure, coming in early May. We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming workdays and at camp meeting in July! God Bless!



PENIEL HOLINESS CAMP INFORMATION

Phone: 814.387.8438

Dan Segool, President
President@penielholinesscamp.com

Mailing List Updates
mailing@penielholinesscamp.com

Donation Information
finsec@penielholinesscamp.com

IMPORTANT DATES 2025

Work Days

Saturday, May 3

Saturday, May 17

Friday (eve)/Saturday, June 13-14

Friday (eve)/Saturday, June 27-28

Friday (eve)/Saturday, July 11-12

Also most Mondays with Jackie and Lisa!

129th Annual Encampment

Thursday, July 17 through

Sunday, July 27

WE ARE FAMILY

Philippians 1:3-6

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my request for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Family, that is what I think about when I think of Camp Peniel. We all come from different

walks of life and different church backgrounds, but the one thing we all have in common is our love for God and His camp. Some of us may only see each other once a year, but when we all come together, there is a bond that cannot be broken. The love and heart I see in this camp family for those who do not have that personal walk with the Lord, is real. May our walk with the Lord continue to grow through the year so we can all gather together again

to show God's love to those who join us at Camp Peniel.

- by Jody McCue

REST AND ABIDE

By Dr. John Oswald



This is a day of upheaval and chaos. There are wars around the world: Ukraine, Sudan, Israel, Congo, Myanmar. Here in our own country we have political unrest, as some see the purpose of government to protect our freedoms, and others see its purpose as taking care of us. We have cultural unrest as well, as some people seek to deny God-given biological

nature, and generally deny that there is any creation principle that we humans cannot alter. Even in nature there seems to be chaos: massive wildfires, devastating hurricanes, howling blizzards. All this being so, it is very easy for us to come to live in a constant state of anxiety. What will happen next? What will come apart next? Who will do what next?

It certainly was that way for the ancient Israelites. Their lives had been pretty stable: "Make more bricks!" Now everything was up in the air. They were out in this howling desert, headed toward a place where none of them had ever been before, where they had to depend on food dropped from heaven (suppose one day there wasn't any?), where they had to struggle from one undependable water hole to the next. Rest? Hardly!

But what does God say? Moses saw it clearly and spoke of it as something already done. "With your unfailing love you lead the people you have redeemed. In your might, you guide them to your sacred home (Exod. 15:13 NLT). That word translated "home" connotes "resting place," a place to settle down, a place to abide in. As is normal in the Old Testament, God uses physical things to convey spiritual truths (think of circumcision). So Moses is thinking of the land of Canaan, a place where the Israelites could stop wandering around, and could, with a sigh of satisfaction, rest. So what is the spiritual truth that the land of Canaan was pointing to? The writer to the Hebrews caught it: "Now if Joshua had succeeded in giving them this rest, God would not have spoken about another day of rest still to come. So there is a special rest still waiting for the people of God. For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world (Heb. 4:8-10 NLT). What is he talking about? He is talking about the message of Peniel: every person is intended to come to that place of complete surrender and absolute trust where it is God who is working in their lives and not they themselves. We have surrendered our desires and our wills and are His completely. We can settle down in, abide in, him, knowing he does all things well (however they might look to us), and REST. Is that a reality for you? It can be.

NOTE: *Dr. Oswald will be ministering at Peniel Camp this summer.*

PENIEL YOUTH NEWS

Counselors wanted

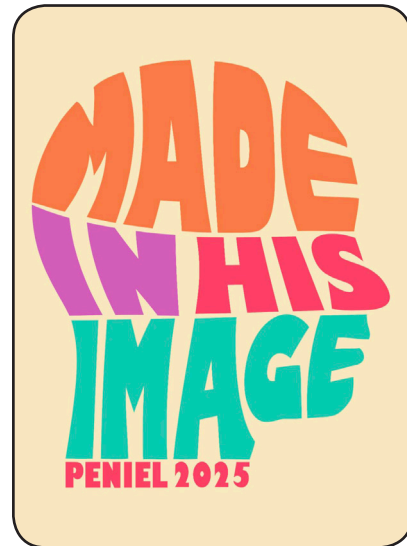
Applications are NOW OPEN for youth counselors and counselors-in-training. Individuals 18+ who are interested in sharing their faith with youth by walking alongside them during camp are encouraged to apply. Peniel offers an exciting program for counselors which includes not only the development of spiritual leadership skills but the participation in a high-energy and fun camp environment. Please share this information with anyone who may be a good fit for the position! More information about these positions can be found at www.peniellholinesscamp.com/counselors. For any questions, please contact Joe & Courtney Wambach at courtney@peniellholinesscamp.com. Applications are due by May 1, 2025, so don't wait and APPLY NOW!

Peniel Youth Leadership Team announced

Over the last few years, God has greatly worked in Peniel's youth program! Last year, the camp had 50 youth campers, and that number is expected to grow. With the increased number of youth attending Peniel, the camp has recognized a necessity to grow the youth leadership team. With this in mind, Peniel is thrilled to announce the additions of Benny and Megan Shaffer as Assistant Directors and Dj Segool as Set-Up Manager. Adam Godbold will be returning as the 2025 Youth Evangelist. Joe and Courtney Wambach are excited to work alongside a great team who are committed to sharing the love of Christ with many youth! Please pray for the youth leadership as they work diligently to prepare for camp in the months ahead.

2025 CAMP THEME REVEALED

"Then God said, "Let us make man in our IMAGE, after our likeness." - Genesis 1:26



As we grow up, we are faced with the question of "Who Am I?" How we answer this question defines our identity and impacts how we view ourselves and the world around us. When we look at the creation of mankind, we see that God had a special intention when He created us. God made us to be in relationship with Him and to reflect Him to others. We are MADE IN HIS IMAGE.

Launch



Party

Youth gather for Launch Party

The Peniel Youth launch party occurred over President's Day weekend. The launch party signals the opening of summer camp registration for the youth program. They celebrated with an overnight event featuring traditional camp games, activities, and sharing about summer camp. It was great to see a number of campers at this event and meet some new campers as well! At the end of the launch party, summer camp registration opened and is off to a great start! Several youth have already registered for the summer. Please share information about the program to others who may be interested! Be sure to check out the Peniel social media platforms for more pictures and videos from this event!