

MEET PEGGY “AUNT PEG” SINGER



Peniel's new Kitchen Superintendent

Warning: After getting to know Peggy's heart, you may be inclined to believe that being a Christian camp's "Head Cook and Bottle Washer" is a spiritual calling! To help

you get to know our new Kitchen Superintendent, we enthusiastically share Peggy's story in her own words:

In 1994 a friend entered me in the Youngstown newspaper as "Cook of the Week." When my mother showed the paper to our minister, Rev. John Wiseman, of the United Brethren Church, he asked if I would consider helping in the kitchen at Oak Hill Camp, in Franklin PA. So I went to the Oak Hill Camp kitchen for a few days and got hooked...When the head cook retired, my sister Donna and her husband and I asked if we could have the job...and here I am! I was head of Oak Hill's kitchen until 2004, when the camp was passed onto another church. That next summer was depressing: I missed the kids and the kitchen. Thankfully, in 2009 I received a call to serve in the kitchen at Portage Camp. I went and never regretted a minute of it.

Of course, knowing what kind of FOOD to expect is very important to our introduction of the new Kitchen Superintendent. What are Peggy's favorite meals to make? *For the kids, mac and cheese and my own pepperoni rolls. For the adults, homemade bread and soups. And caramel nut rolls for breakfast are always appreciated. (I love to bake!)* Incidentally—and to our delight—Peggy is not a fan of anything instant. Yes, we definitely can "stomach" this!

Peggy understands how important the kitchen can be to our home-away-from-home at camp: *...When I was a child, the dinner table was where you spent time together and talked over the day. That is why I love to have people come to the kitchen to help peel potatoes—and of course have coffee and talk.*

Peggy brings a lot of experience to the "table." But she has a "tall order" ahead, with figuring her way around a different kitchen/dining facility and among many faces new to her. Let's "feed" her our prayers, support and appreciation. Welcome aboard, Peggy!

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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



IMPORTANT DATES 2012

Please note these dates in your 2012 calendars. Your participation is essential for a successful camp meeting!

Spring Board Meeting: Saturday, May 5

Work Days:

Saturday, June 2

Friday & Saturday, June 22 & 23

Friday & Saturday, July 13 & 14

117th Annual Encampment:

Thursday, July 19, through Sunday, July 29

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Are You a Pusher or a Puller?

by Camp President Dan Segool



Throughout the winter I've been playing Tug-of-War for Peniel. Sometimes the game is a bit of a strain and my hands get some rope burn, but the cause makes the pull worthwhile. In this issue of *The Postings*, you will meet some folks that will be a big part of our great camp this year. They are pulling the rope with me.

Dr. Manley has inspired me with his article "Jesus Pusher," so I am carrying out that theme. We are looking forward to his ministry in the pulpit. Our new Kitchen Superintendent, Peggy Singer, is pulling her rope, which is attached to the dinner bell. Adam and Valerie Vanaman are swinging the rope for the Youth Program, looking to lasso some youth to participate in our program this year.

The purpose of this edition of *The Postings* is to challenge you. Are you a Puller? Do you have passion and leadership or organizational abilities? Peniel has some ropes you could be pulling. Or maybe you are more of a Pusher: You get behind an idea and help push it along.

God has richly blessed our camp with recent growth. Last year we increased both in service attendance and in numbers of meals served. The Children's Tabernacle is overflowing with kids. Rooms in the refurbished Cookman dorm are in strong demand. However, our youth program is not. We need to change that.

We offer a great Youth Program, and we are working hard to make it even better. Our price package for youth is already one of the best camping values in the U.S., and we are holding the line on cost. Pre-registered teens can enjoy the complete camp package for just \$75, and just \$10 per day covers all other teens. No one beats this deal!

And no one can put a price on godly teachings and friendships developed by teens at camp. Right now you might be recalling the many reasons why young people miss camp these days. Every one of those reasons pales in comparison to the tremendous

opportunity that a young person is given to build a lifelong relationship with Jesus—at camp.

Our camp brochure says we can accommodate 100 teens. I believe we can build attendance to that peak again over the next few years. How can we do that? With an army of Peniel Pushers! And how can you push Peniel for teens? Well, first I would ask you to pray that God will grow our youth program. Pause **right now** and pray, "God, please grow the youth program at Peniel Camp. Amen." Would you breathe this short prayer every day from now until camp? After you get comfortable with this prayer, add another one: "God, open my eyes and show me a teenager I can invite to camp. Amen." Once you start praying toward that end, God will bring opportunities your direction. You may have to look closely, for the teenager you're seeking may cross your path via a youth leader or a pastor, or by a parent or grandparent of a teen. We need to get Peniel information into the hands of area churches and community organizations. We could easily **double** the size of our youth program if each family brought just one new teen to camp this year. I know that God will honor our prayers and our efforts. Why? Because He never fails to do so.

Are you ready to see our youth program grow? **START PUSHING!**

God Bless,
Dan

KITCHEN UPGRADES MANDATED AND PLANNED

The state of Pennsylvania now inspects camp kitchens annually. Last summer's inspection went well and revealed just one area needing immediate attention—the final rinse in our dishwasher. Currently we are weighing two options: Either we can boost the temperature of the hot water coming to the machine, or we can use chemicals that ensure complete sanitizing.

These upgrades could cost approximately \$1,500. Fund raising for this purpose has already begun. If you are interested in helping provide for this project, please designate your financial gift for "Kitchen Upgrades."

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE VANAMANS

Peniel's new Youth Superintendents



Dan: Adam and Valerie, I'm excited to have you coming on board as Youth Superintendents at Peniel. Could you please introduce yourselves to the camp family and tell us a bit about your current ministries at Mount Carmel?*

Adam and Valerie: We are in our second year of ministry at Mount Carmel. We got married in August 2010, and we are expecting our first child this June. Our main ministry at Mount Carmel is serving as dorm parents in the boy's dorm. To sum it up, we are pretty much their parents. We make sure they get to school on time. We deal with conflicts and other issues they find themselves having once in a while, especially with cultural differences and language barriers that come with boarding children from other nations. We promote their spiritual well-being through prayer, and counseling if need be. Also, Adam coaches the boys' basketball team and preaches the chapel service every third Sunday, and Valerie teaches elementary art and serves as yearbook advisor for both the elementary and high schools.

Dan: In the past several years, you have served at a number of holiness camp meetings. Tell us about what you have done, and how God has used you.

Adam and Valerie: Mostly we have worked in dorms, since that venue is where we have the most experience. Our most important role is to take time to build relationships with campers. When they begin to open up to us, we have the opportunity to help them with their struggles and their past baggage. You would be surprised at what some of these kids have experienced, and they are only in their teens! Our main goal is to assure them of Christ's love and of the power of His blood to help them break free of the bondage and the guilt that looms over them. God has used us in many unexpected ways. Just when we have felt we were hitting a brick wall in dealing with a camper, we have seen God open the heart and prepare the way for our witness and for us to lead him or her into a (deeper) walk with Christ. One time

we even saw God use us as parents for a girl camper who needed good parental examples.

Dan: What do you think is special about holiness camp meetings?

Adam and Valerie: Holiness camp meetings are essential to the spread of the holiness message. Today this message is being lost or pushed aside for a minimalist Christianity that does not glorify God. God wants all of us, not just the bare minimum. Getting children into these camps helps them hear not only the Gospel message but the news that they can be sanctified. This way they can be all that God wants them to be. Too many Christians are struggling hard to live the roller coaster Christian life because they do not know that they can be free from sin. It's sad but true.

Dan: I know you are still very early in the planning process for camp, but could you share a few quick tidbits about what teens can be anticipating at camp this summer?

Adam and Valerie: We are still praying about the theme for Adam's sermons, but we know they will be what God leads. Teens, if you are open to God moving in your life and changing you, then it will happen. But if not, we pray for a change before camp time! As far as activities are concerned, you can expect to play fun-filled, action-packed games—like Capture the Flag and Romans vs. Christians. And always expect *water!*

Dan: We have talked about the importance of having a vigorous and growing youth program. While a key component of the program is your leadership, all campers should play a role in our program. What can we be doing to help you grow our program and let young men and women know about Christ?

Adam and Valerie: The essential ingredient for growth is support. If we are to see growth, we must have your support and prayers. The opposite is also true: If we do not have your support and prayers, growth will not happen. Prayer is the forerunner of revival. I hope you appreciate everything we do but, if you do disagree, please come tell us. Together we can figure it out before things fester. Also vital to our

success is having older teens help minister to younger teens. Being involved in ministry helps solidify the faith of the older teens. Meanwhile, younger teens are being nurtured, because they will more likely trust someone they know, someone they already look up to, rather than someone like us from out of town.

Dan: Adam and Valerie Vanaman! Let's give them a hand—even two—folded in prayer and extended in support for a tough job ahead.

**Mount Carmel School is a private boarding school in association with Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association, in eastern Kentucky.*

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THE JESUS PUSHER

by 2012 Evangelist Dr. Stephen Manley



I am a Jesus pusher!!! I have a choice. In all of life's struggles and complications, I find Him the only solution. I can turn no other place. I cry out to God when I wrestle with my temper. He gives me Jesus as the answer. I plead with God about my uncontrollable lust; He gives me Jesus. Hate fills my heart; God gives me Jesus. Each time I come to God in any searching, I only find Jesus. God is a Jesus pusher.

He does not push Jesus as a quick fix. Jesus is not an energy boost to get you through. He is not a rescuer of the moment. He is not a counselor to give advice to follow. He is not a cure for disease. He is not a bandage



CONDOLENCES

Major David Hathorn entered Glory on November 22, 2011. Saved at a young age, David had a wonderful spiritual encounter with the Lord at Peniel in August 1963. He faithfully served the Lord as a minister with The Salvation Army and at Peniel. He is already greatly missed by the Peniel family. Please continue to pray for his wife, Alice, and the Hathorn family.

Mrs. Jewel McClimans went home to be with her Lord on February 8, 2012. Jewel had served alongside her husband and our past President, Rev. John McClimans, for many years at Peniel and was well known for her kind, gentle spirit. Jewel and John are now reunited in Glory! We know the McClimans family will appreciate your prayers.

We have a wonderful heritage at Peniel Holiness Camp, thanks to the faithfulness of godly people like Dave and Jewel. We will celebrate their lives and witness for Christ at our annual Memorial Service on Tuesday, July 24 at 2:30 p.m.

for the wounded. Jesus is life. He is the stage upon which I dance. He is the set of eyes through which I see. Everything is different in His presence. I am not inviting you to seek a solution, but to seek Jesus. He is not a way out, but a way in. He is not a theology; He is a living Friend. He is the Lover of my soul. I find everything in Him. He is my destiny. I am urging you to discover yourself (the real you) in Him. I am pushing Jesus on you.

From Thursday, July 19 through Sunday, July 29, 2012, a radical group of Jesus pushers will gather together in Conneautville, Pennsylvania. Don't miss it.

- The Jesus Pusher