

PENIEL KITCHEN TEAM WISH LIST

The year 2015 was a year of transition at Peniel as we welcomed Marsha Jones as our Kitchen Superintendent and Caryn Stafford Wilkinson as our baker. Long-time kitchen helpers Glen and Linda Wilson have stayed on the team, along with Kitchen Host Jason Collins. We enjoyed some great meals this past encampment. Marsha is excited about 2016, and is already working on the menu. The team put together a list of things that could be used in the kitchen:

Big Items:

- Convection oven (a refurbished one would work)
- Freezer
- Pastry blender
- 2 moveable Cooling racks
- A Kitchen Cart
- A five inch deep large frying pan
- Chafing pans for steam table (12.5"x20.5")

Small Items:

- Big rubber spatulas w/long handles
- Large measuring cup (4 – 8 cups)
- Ziplock freezer & storage bags (quart & gallon)
- Veggie scrubber
- Mandolin
- Cake pan covers (? size)
- Large plastic trays

If you would like to donate items to the kitchen, especially "Big Items," please contact Marsha Jones PRIOR to bringing the item to camp. Also, if you have any menu suggestions, feel free to contact Marsha at kitchen@penielholinesscamp.com or call

KEY CONTACTS FOR PENIEL

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Peniel Postings

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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 2016

Please note these dates in your 2016 calendars. Your participation is essential for a successful camp meeting!

Work Days:

Saturday, June 4
Friday & Saturday, June 24 & 25
Friday & Saturday, July 15 & 16

121st Annual Encampment:

Thursday, July 21, through Sunday, July 31

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

"PASSIONS"

by Camp President Dan Segool



Matthew 6:33
But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Hello Friends and campers. I hope you are having a great winter. We are doing well, and before you know it, spring will be here and I'll be excited about seeing many of you on a more regular basis than I do during the winter.

Over these past few weeks, I have been thinking about "passions." That is a word that we hear quite a bit in our society. Passionate love stories, passionate sports fans, and passionate Presidential debates come to mind. As Easter approaches, we will remember The Passion of Christ.

We all have passions; Things that really "light our fire," so to speak. Like many believers, I have taken some time to consider giving up something for Lent, as well as perhaps picking up something that might help to focus me more on Christ. On a side note, I hope this edition of *The Postings* makes it to you before Easter! If it doesn't, I guess I wasn't passionate enough in getting it done! Anyway, this Lenten exercise has caused me to investigate my passions.

Two things that immediately come to mind are football and cars. Anyone who knows me well knows this about me. I love to watch football on TV, go to football games and play some backyard football. I enjoy analyzing strategy and talking football. As a native Western New Yorker, I am especially passionate about the Buffalo Bills, always hoping for next year! I also enjoy cars, reading about them, cleaning them, and tinkering with them. I have had a subscription to a car magazine since I was 13 years old. If you share these passions, well, we could sit down and talk on and on.

We all have passions, and in the right context and measure, this is a good thing. In fact, God will use many of our passions in His service. The important part is, as the scripture above instructs us, to seek the kingdom of God FIRST! So, what about the things of God? Am I as passionate about The Lord as I am about kickoff of football season come September? Am I as passionate about reading and knowing His word as I am about reading up on a 700 horsepower beast that I can't afford?

During this Lenten Season, I decided to delete the football apps from my phone and refrain from reading about football. Of course, Lori pointed out that this is all occurring AFTER the football season is over. I pointed out that while I can be a control freak, I don't have control over the calendars of the Christian church and the NFL. That's just the way it is. While I can't refrain from using cars, I did decide to "pick something up" while in the car, so I am listening to Christian music instead of sports talk radio. I also picked up a book by John & Sam Eldredge called *Killing Lions*. DJ and I have been reading it together. I've been enjoying this time of focus on developing God passions in my life.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of *The Postings*. I want to thank fellow campers Nathan Doyle and Jason Collins for sharing some thoughts about camping ministry. Our camp folder will be coming your way in May. Until then, you can get regular updates on Peniel at our Facebook page, Peniel Holiness Camp. Have a Blessed Easter and Spring!

GREETINGS FROM MARK MURPHY

What I enjoyed about my time at Peniel Holiness Camp is the family feeling you receive as well as great preaching and worship. The tabernacle brings that old fashioned camp meeting memory. Thanks for keeping the doors wide open. I know there have been many obstacles to try to shut those doors, but God has prevailed. He's not done with His work. Hopefully there will be many more years of proclaiming the holiness message at this camp.

PRACTICING SABBATH AT PENIEL

by Pastor Nathan Doyle, Venture Church



Recently as part of my coursework, I had the privilege of interacting with Norman Wirzba's delightful yet challenging book, *Living the Sabbath*. I was reminded of the Biblical and experiential connections between camp meeting and Sabbath. It is boldly alluded to

in the historic tagline at Peniel, "come ye apart and rest a while (Mark 6:31)." With all that is put upon us modern Americans, particularly with increases in technology, there's never been a time (at least in my lifetime) more in need of Sabbath observance with all of its refreshing. It has been observed often, according to Wirzba, that we are a "frantic, fragmented, multitasking" people who in our quest for more, "simply ignore or override the natural bodily signs – exhaustion, hypertension, obesity, anxiety, insomnia – that would otherwise alert us to the fact that something is terribly wrong with the way we are conducting our lives." Sabbath is God's solution from the beginning for this seemingly modern problem. It is clear God knew from the moment he created the world what kind of a mess we would get ourselves into and what we would need most! Sabbath is not merely taking a break from our hectic striving but rather a spiritual discipline promoting a reorientation toward a life fulfilled in God's purpose. Speaking of technology (to help the techno saturated understand), it's meant to be a reset button for human beings that clears out all the junk and brings us back online to God's intended purpose. The result is the kind of joy and delight that He always intended for humanity and His creation.

Why did God prescribe it so regularly? To be done like clockwork every seven days? For the very reason we just stated; He knows us, and if something isn't committed to the calendar it will rarely happen. So it is prescribed in the Bible as a regular practice... and practice makes perfect! The goal is that what is prescribed for practice on one day, will over time spill over to observance in every day of the week. So the practice of Sabbath, properly done, is meant to lead humanity toward worship with all of life.

If we properly understand worship we will "quickly come to crave it as the high point of our life," observes Wirzba. Essentially worship is coming to understand that all of life emanates from the grace of God and then living in a proper response to that grace. In other words, worship is relational and Sabbath helps us reset all our God given relationships. We will not be able to live in a thankful mindset and will never desire a relationship with God if we don't see Him as the source of all blessings. Truly grasping the immensity of God's goodness will lead to response. Self-centeredness and the desire to control every aspect of life will be dethroned and all of life will begin to be oriented toward joy and the experience of God. This is the essence of God's design for Sabbath that is meant to spill over to all of life - a life of worship that is more like play than anything else.

It is clear there is generally very little joy in our world; the entertainment industry is one of the clearest indicators of that reality. Wirzba recognizes, "rather than knowing the deep joy of [healthy] relationships... we have settled for being amused." We do not know how to have wholesome, life-giving relationships but have settled for artificiality and superficiality. Change and boredom are hallmarks of the modern mentality as we constantly seek out new experiences and gadgets that merely plunge us into a doom loop of failure... at finding anything interesting. Sabbath is God's antidote for this type of purposeless living and camp meeting is a Sabbath practice. So, won't you put Peniel on your calendar? Come and practice the worship of God that leads to a life of joy and purpose that God meant for us from the beginning.



Yearly Turkey Dinner at Peniel

WORKING MY WAY TO PENIEL

by Jason Collins



I first heard of Peniel Holiness Camp when I started attending Venture Church in August 2009. My first visit to Peniel was when I was invited to a work day on October 24, 2009. Dan had asked me if I was available to help with

something up at the camp so I said sure.

I remember riding up with Dan and his family in their van "Goldie." It seemed like a long ride up there, and I was thinking to myself, "Man, this camp is awfully far away. How did these people find it?... lol!"

When we arrived, I remember looking around as we were going up the drive and thinking how cute of a camp it is. When we parked by the trailer, I remember getting out of the van and standing there. I took a deep breath, and I knew right then and there I loved this place, and I wanted to be involved with it as much as I could.

Dan sure put me to work that day! I was staining the trim boards for the inside of Cookman because the remodel was still in progress. There were ALOT of boards to stain! But, I loved being a part of this work for God. There was such a beauty and calm that I had not seen before. The next year was my first Encampment. I loved every aspect of it, and I was blessed to be able to return for the next encampment and so far every year after.

It's always so hard when camp comes to a close because you don't ever want to leave and go back into "reality." I was honored and blessed to be voted in to be on the board and the association in 2014, as well as being able to help in the kitchen. I thank God for bringing me to such a beautiful, peaceful place where during the 10 day encampment, it is all about God and each other, learning and growing in Him, as well as souls being won, hearts being touched and lives being changed! God has truly blessed this camp and will bless everyone who steps onto the grounds!

CAMP RESERVATIONS; COTTAGE LEASES

Our Cookman Dormitory and cottages are always in heavy demand. If you have already booked a room for 2016, we are asking you to RE-CONFIRM your reservation no later than May 21, 2016. Also, if you have not already paid your \$25 deposit, it will be due by May 21, 2016.

ATTENTION LEASEHOLDERS: Due to the demand for lodging, we also want to make sure that all cottages are used. If you hold a cottage lease and you are not able to attend camp, please contact reservations about making your cottage available to rent.

More information is available on the "rental information" section of our website. Contact information for reservations is as follows:

Beth Charnovich
567 Walter Street
Kent, OH 44240
(330) 221-9570

reservations@penielholinesscamp.com

ATTENTION YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

Do you have a desire to lead and mentor the next generation of God's Church? Do you like to have fun and do some crazy things too? Then being a counselor for our teen program might be a good fit for you!

If you would like to apply for a counselor position for the upcoming encampment, simply go to www.peniellholinesscamp.com and click on "Ministry Opportunities," then pull up the application and carefully follow the instructions to apply. We hope to announce our counseling team in May, so apply soon if you would like to be considered.

If you are interested in volunteering for our children's program, please email or call Dan so we can assist you with the required background checks.