

Winter Encounters

Peniel Bible Conference & Camp Encounter

CONNECT *GROW *SERVE

*An Activity Update from
Peniel Bible Conference
February 2021*



Encounter Kids

We hosted another wonderful event for our 4th-6th grade students this November. We tucked a lot into one evening: We enjoyed a meal in our Restaurant, a message on the call of God to first offer thanks and then to reach out to others from our blessings, we made homemade wreaths, cards, and cookies. The cards and cookies were brought to our local VFW to bless veterans. We were able to deliver 19 bags of cookies with cards attached. Our turn out of 15 kids reached our Covid maximum and it was an absolute joy to connect, teach and craft with this amazing group of kids. Their hearts are open to God's Word and we count it a blessing to minister in this way.

Covid Impacts our Winter Events

Once again we find our plans to minister to youth impacted by Covid. We planned to meet monthly with our teens and our youth and continue our service focus for neighbors in need, but we have decided, in the face of rising numbers, to pause all in-person events. We are now planning to connect in other creative ways. It is heartbreaking that we have had to pause programming, but we know God's plan for each youth will supersede these hurdles.

Teen M@TteRs

We have begun to renovate the Meeting Hall for our Teen programming, but don't worry, the renovations will also accommodate adult conferences during the summer. Win-Win!! We have created this "hang out" space for teens that has ping pong, foosball, a game corner, an arts and craft area, darts, and cozier areas for praying, socializing or sitting quietly enjoying our beautiful Peniel Library. With the help of current, and hopefully some future donors, we will continue to make more significant renovations. We wish to paint, resurface the floor, repair window trim and porch supports so that this fantastically located building can host many events. This fall we were able to host two teen events and in doing so were able to serve our community. Our teens gathered winter coats, hats, and mittens, as well as socks and blankets to keep our homeless neighbors more comfortable this winter. They gathered 15 bags of warm items that we were able to donate to the The Open Door Mission in Glens Falls, and directly to people on the streets of Saratoga. The need is great, and we are so proud of our teens for reaching out in this way.



New Prayer Council Member

We announce with great pleasure our newest Prayer Council Member: **Dr. Grace (Vaus) Ferris**. We certainly realize that for many of you, no introduction is needed, but let us highlight the vast experience, training, and history Grace brings to our Council. Grace has a long history at Peniel going back to her camp staff experience in the 1980's & 90's. Grace brings with her extensive training and experience in education. Grace also has spearheaded many fundraising projects. But beyond all of that, Grace brings a heart for Peniel, a love for God, and a strong sense that this membership is directed by God. We couldn't be more pleased to have her in leadership at Peniel and we count this a great blessing!

In the Works:

A Maintenance Update

Under 33+ inches of snow, our new ATV plow and snowblower managed well. We were able to keep our driveways clear for our guests. That seemed a pretty good test of our snowmoving capabilities. We have also had the large pine tree near the pool taken down. The rot and damage to the tree made it a threat to our beautiful pool. We have a few more threatening trees marked to come down this spring. We are thankful for the support that makes maintenance of our campus possible.



Summer 2021

Camp Encounter

We have set our summer camp dates for our Sr. Camp from July 11th-14th and our Jr. Camp from July 16th-19th. We hold these plans loosely, knowing that the pandemic may interrupt. However, we also lift them up to a God who knows all things. Please join us in praying that summer may offer a myriad of opportunities for ministry

Retreats and Summer Rentals

We have some wonderful summer retreats and youth group rentals in the works for this summer. We have connected with a youth ministry out of Utica, an Association of Chaplains from NYC, and a youth group from a local church. We remain in prayer that our campus can be open as a place of ministry and retreat for these groups and many more.

Giving News

Although giving was down in 2020, God still insures that we have what we need to continue our mission of reaching youth to CONNECT, GROW, and SERVE. We frequently stand in amazement and honor of those who give to this camp faithfully. Some of you we have never even met, yet you give in faith and we find ourselves strengthened by such an outpouring. Thank You!

Our Facebook Giving Tuesday fundraiser brought in just over \$1000. We have set those funds aside for summer camp expenses. We continue to raise funds for the 2021 season so that we can offer salaries to our counselors and continue to steward the buildings and grounds for this ministry.

If you would like to join our faithful group of donors by giving monthly, or through a one-time gift, know that your support is our ministry's lifeline.

Yes, I would like to pledge partnership with Peniel & Camp Encounter

Enclosed is my one time donation of \$ _____

I would like to pledge a monthly contribution of \$ _____

Please mail your donation with this form to: Peniel Bible Conference, P.O. Box 369, Lake Luzerne, NY 12846, or donate using Paypal* through our website www.penieltbibleconference.org

*Note that a 4% fee is taken when using Paypal.

