

PENIEL WELSH CHAPEL NEEDS A "FACE-LIFT"



by Carolee Schultz

The name "Peniel" is defined as "**The face of God.**" Peniel Welsh Chapel is far from that! The "face," or entrance, to the building had major damage occur this spring. It needs a face-lift! A section of the concrete step has broken away. Many cracks which had been securely repaired in the past are now separated. The wooden steps are coming apart. None of the front entry is up to building code. This is a safety hazard! We need to make Peniel safer for future events.



The Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Assn. anticipated someday renovating this 1856 church front, but not this soon. We received an estimate for a composite deck and steps and new doors with opening windows, bringing the entire entrance to building code. The contractor wishes to install the concrete and posts this fall, (hopefully before November 15), and complete the project before spring. The projected costs for this project amount to \$11,500. With additional funding, we will improve the chapel to make it fully handicap accessible. The chapel is available to other organizations, businesses, and individuals. We will thankfully receive any individual, family, and business donations to provide a safer historic chapel for summer events, worship, weddings, etc. for ANYONE desiring a rural, historic venue

Peniel Welsh Chapel was built in 1856, one of the five churches of the original Oshkosh Welsh Settlement. Only two churches remain, Peniel and Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Ring. Peniel closed for regular worship services in 1977, and Bethesda still continues with an active congregation. After closing, Peniel remained open for a few meetings and weddings, as well as the annual Gymanfa Ganu (Welsh/English song

gathering.) This year marked the 93rd Gymanfa Ganu! It is always celebrated on the 4th Sunday in August, and is one of seven held in Wisconsin each year.

Renovations to Peniel began in 2011 and continued slowly as money was donated. In 2013, a new roof and dining room/kitchen ceiling were needed because of a persistent leak. God blessed the chapel and association with funds. After those costly improvements were made, we felt that God desired Peniel open more often. The Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Assn. made plans for summer outreach events to be held monthly, May through September of 2014. Those events continued in 2015. We have sponsored the Fond du Lac Women's Chorus, Scott St. Puppeteers and Puppet Patrol from Ripon, Joe & Kim Corbin and company with their Cowboy Church from Reedsburg, The Pretty Trio from Fond du Lac, Chosen young adult group from Ripon and area communities, and the Peniel Quartet. The Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Assn. also sponsored event-themed activities and food, including chuck wagon and Welsh meals. Plans are in the works for events for 2016.

Please consider a gift to give Peniel a "face-lift." You may send your tax-deductible donations to the Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Association,- Jean White, Treasurer, 1769 Creek Vu Dr., Fond du Lac, WI

For info contact Carolee Schultz 920-748-3090 joyntjesus4you @yahoo.com

www.wggaw.org/peniel-renovation

THANK YOU and GOD BLESS YOU!