

ALUMNI NEWS FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP

*A Quarterly Newsletter by the Sentinel Family
for the Sentinel Family*

SPRING 2024



1989 - Sentinel's 40th Anniversary Celebration

SENTINEL FAMILY

By Joy Hutchins

A favorite “go to” Bible verse of mine is Jeremiah 29:11. It reminds me not to get so focused on personal liabilities that I forget the many ways I can serve. My body is no longer able to tolerate a week at Outpost, hike to Blueberry, or swim to Merrowvista point. I am, however, able to return to active Sentinel service by assuming the role of alumni coordinator.

In the dictionary sense, Sentinel alumni are all those *campers* whose feet have trod the campus over the past 75 years. In the God sense, Sentinel alumni are more than the campers. All the Sentinel family - work crews, counselors, pastors, nurses, program staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, and countless other volunteers - have felt and shared God’s love at Sentinel.

While my volunteer title is “alumni” coordinator, my heart and mind think “Sentinel Family” coordinator. Yes, I will try to rally the troops to keep making Sentinel a venue where God’s love can be felt and shared.

Two communications will be arriving in your in-box on a regular basis. *Where Two Or More Are Gathered* is a monthly bulletin of events and ways we can serve. Think of

the “classified section” for those of us old enough to remember hard copy newspapers. Check it out for ways you can help Sentinel in its mission. The second communication, the one you are reading now, is a quarterly collection of submissions by members of the Sentinel family to let the rest of the family know what is going on. Think of it as the annual Christmas letter coming four times each year!

I hope you will join me as I keep us connected. If you are still in contact with people who have ties to Sentinel, please check to see if they are receiving mailings. If not, or if you remember friends but are not in contact with them, pass that information along. You can contact me with feedback, and more importantly, with your submissions at alumni@campsentinel.org.



DOCKS GOING IN - HELP NEEDED

It is that time of year again when we put the docks in. We need help!

We will be putting the docks in on **Saturday, June 8th at 9 am.**

Bring your swimsuit, a towel, and friends and family. We will provide lunch.

Please let us know by Wednesday, June 5th if you are able to help by emailing admin@campsentinel.org

CAMP SENTINEL ALUMNI MATCH

To celebrate 75 years of ministry we are raising support to honor the great things God has done and will do in the next 75 years. To date, over \$400,000 of the \$750,000 has been raised and pledged.

Every dollar realized or pledged between now and June 30th will be matched up to \$25,000 thanks to a generous donor!

Gifts may be sent to camp at 29 Sentinel Lodge Road, Center Tufonboro, NH 03816 or made securely online at www.campsentinel.org. For more information about the 75th projects and events please visit www.campsentinel.org/75.

PRACTICE OF HOLINESS

A note from PK [Pastor Kevin], Camp Sentinel's Executive Director



Practice of Holiness: *Giving God our best through our thoughts, actions, and moments.*

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’” 1 Peter 1:13-16

This spring the Camp Sentinel staff and volunteers gathered for “Staff Summit”, a weekend training to prepare for the summer ahead. During the brainstorming session around the Lodge campfire, the staff shared about the need for “more time” with the campers and “more time” for Bible study. A beautiful shift happened. These young adults wanted more. “More” was a desire for something set apart, something Holy.

Fr. William Meninger once said, *“God is calling you to great holiness. It is not something that you have to earn. Jesus already did that for you. Just accept it and run towards the Lord with open arms and an eager heart.”*

Holiness is to be dedicated or set apart for the service or worship, something worthy of spiritual respect or devotion, inspiring awe and reverence. God calls us to live lives of holiness. Holiness happens through a greater awareness of God which leads to a deeper desire for more of God in our lives. The great awareness happens when our thoughts, actions, and moments turn toward a desire for more of God. We accept it and run toward God!

What impact should the holiness of God have on our lives? This is a question we explore in the stillness of God's Creation. Take moments to be still and know that He is God. Hope to see you again soon on the mountaintop.

Savor the Savior!
Pastor Kevin

SPRING WORKDAY

By Rafe Longver

Thank you to everyone who came out to Spring Workday. We made Sentinel shine when we accomplished a wide variety of important tasks.



(Photo: Owen VanBrunt)

The sun was out. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. The temperature was perfect for working outdoors. Look what we accomplished.

- Installed the finishing touches on the new Wigwam / field bathhouse, which is now open.
- Replaced several doors and shutters on cabins.
- Installed blinds and built shelves for the fishbowl.
- Installed new screen doors on the Gate House.
- Cleaned up the grounds around the entire campus. (So many pine cones!)
- Installed new sand at the volleyball court.
- Moved 170 mattresses back into the cabins.
- Opened and cleaned up cabins.
- Cut firewood for the summer campfires.
- Cleaned the Gate House and got it ready for the summer.

Thanks again to the many hands that made the work lighter. Sentinel would not be here without your support.

If you would like to help throughout the year, there are always fun projects going on. Email [Rafe](#) with your willingness to help.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

By Brandon Woody



Sentinel hosted an amazing Women's retreat on the weekend of May 10 through 11. Wolfeboro Bible Church led a beautiful time of worship.

Sue Christian of the First Christian Church of Wolfeboro was the guest speaker. She spoke about how to give thanks to the Lord, how to recognize the blessings He has given us amidst all the different seasons of our life, and how He is always a present hope even in a time of trouble.

The women also enjoyed a hike to the Ledges, nature walks, archery, chocolate hour, times around the campfire, and experiencing the Northern Lights!

Registration is now open for the 2025 Women's retreat. Women can register by going to campsentinel.org/womens-retreat.

THROUGH MY EYES: OUR FIRST YEARS

By Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao

Although my family was one of the first families to attend family camp at Sentinel in 1949, it wasn't until 1965, when my father accepted the position of Resident Manager, that I moved to Sentinel full-time.

I was seven years old and just starting second grade. My two older brothers had graduated from high school and were away at college. Left at home were my 14-year-old brother Bruce, my 12-year-old sister Nina, my 10-year-old sister Lorna, and me.

We moved into the mini-lodge. At that time, there was only one bedroom for the 6 of us. We had a small living room, a kitchen, and a bathroom. The door from the living room went right outside, not to the basement like it is today.

With permission, my father built a short set of stairs from the bedroom to one of the dormitory rooms that was used for camp staff and weekend retreat groups. My sisters and I moved into that room.

Next came an addition to the mini lodge. This took half of a year if not a bit longer. More space was added to the cellar. Now our door went down into it instead of directly outside. Space was added to the living room. It became my mother's sewing room. A dining room was added off the kitchen. My parents got their own bedroom. My sisters and I got extra space in our room.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY YOUTH GROUP

By Brandon Woody

Christian Community Youth Group (CCYG), based at Sentinel, is a Christ-centered, Bible-based community for teens from local communities. This collaboration of local churches supports students in grades 6 through 12. We meet Wednesdays throughout the school year to “be armored with the light of Christ to live for God.”

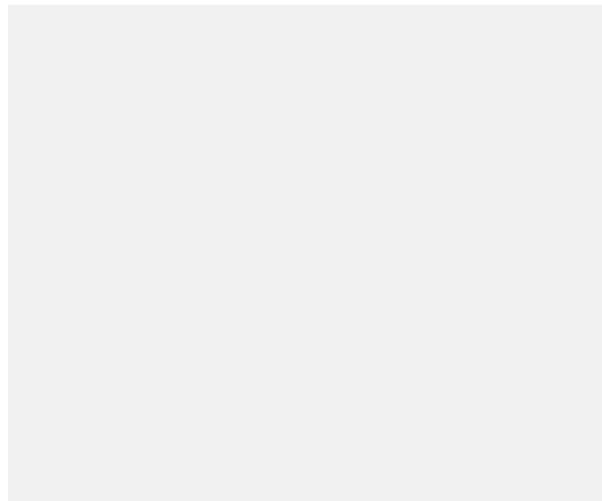
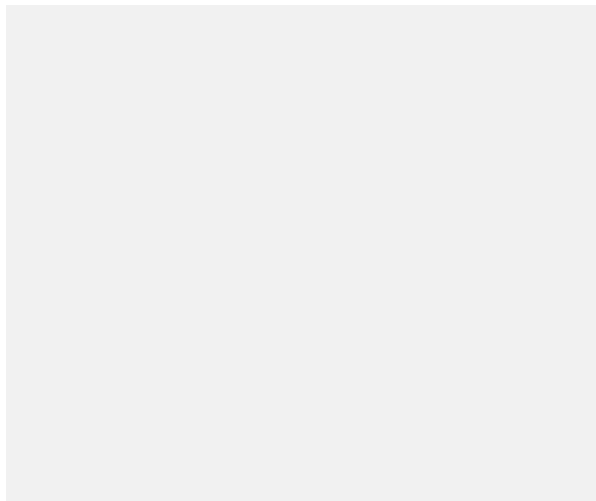
CCYG started in 2011 recognizing that some churches may not have enough youth to have their own youth group. More youth can be reached with the Gospel by coming together from various churches and communities.

Each youth group gathering begins with a team game or challenge. Youth sign up to lead these activities or to provide suggestions. This is followed by a snack provided by our partnering churches and youth families.

Three of our youth group gatherings each month revolve around our Bible study. We study the Bible verse by verse in an exegetical manner, allowing the spirit to lead us to Biblical truths and understanding. We use the SOAP (Scripture Observations, Application, Prayer) method to personally engage with the scripture and apply it to our own lives. This year we have been going through The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters 5 through 7. Youth are expected to read through the section of the week and make note of what stood out to them using SOAP. This preparation makes them ready for discussion at our weekly meetings.

SENTINEL CROSS AND BADGES

By Joy Hutchins





Faith Eldredge



The original cross with the BYF center

Many of us may remember being presented our badges as part of the final council circle events. We stood in awe as we saw years of service become tangibly visible when people like Faith Eldredge (shown above) and Shirley Dahill wore their badges to Friday night's banquet celebration meal.

Pending our memory, we may remember the meaning behind those badges as it was told to recipients. The symbolism of each badge was carefully thought out by Mrytle Auch, a/k/a Skipper, and the Youth Conference team. How many of these do you remember?

Year 1: **The Cross** - a Christ-centered program and **The Campfire** -recreation and fellowship.

Year 2: **The Torch** – a call to service.

Year 3: **The Candle** – a call to worship

Year 4: **The Lamp** – study of our Christian literature and history

Year 5: **The Bible** – study of the Bible.

Year 6: **The Sheep** – the lamb of God.

Year 7: **The Angel** – the guiding angel.

Year 8: **The Snowflake** – the gentleness of God.

Year 9: **The Rainbow** – the promise of God.

Year 10: **The Clasped Hands** - Christian fellowship.

Year 11: **The Boy and Girl** – sharing and giving.

Year 12: **The Musical Notes** - rejoice in the Lord.

Year 13: **The World** – missions.

Year 14: **The Bugle and Banner**– proclaim the Good News.

Year 15: **The Praying Hands** – prayer

Year 16: **The Landscape** – stewardship

Year 17: **The Flowers** - growth in God's love.

Year 18: **The Sentinel Indian** – wait on the Lord.

Year 19: **The Shepherd's Crook** – discipleship

Year 20: **The HIS Heart**- love.

Year 21: **The Fire** – purification and dedication.

Year 22: **The Star of David** – rebirth and renewal.

Year 23: **The Palm Branches** – celebration of the Good News.

Year 24: **The Fish** – Christianity

Year 25: **The Dove** – peace.

Year 26: **The Wheat Stalk** – the bread of life.

Year 27: **The Waterfall** – living water.

Year 28: **The Sun** – the Light of the world.

Year 29: **The Butterfly** – resurrection.

Year 30: **The Tree** – eternal life.

Year 31: **The Dove and Fire** – the Holy Spirit.

Year 32: **The Cup and Loaf** – communion and fellowship.

Year 33: **The Lamb and Lion** – heaven.

Year 34: **The Bell** – the call of God.

Year 35: **The Fisherman** – a fisher of men.

Year 36: **The Ark** - God's covenant with man.

Year 37: **Noah's Ark** – faith in God's promises.

Year 38: **The Temple** – our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit.



MEMORIES

When I think of camp, I remember:

- The peace & serenity of God's love and the life-long friendships made. (Deb Bohannen Mullen)
- The people, the beautiful camp and the fellowship in simple terms (Lori Sherwood Adams)
- Sleeping in old army tents that had holes in them! It was so fun, though, to roll up the sides and let the cool summer breeze blow through. (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- Experiencing His love simply shining through the love, friendship and fellowship of other Christ followers (Mary Remington)
- The love and being accepted for just being me! (Melodie Laber Chapman)
- Hiking to the Ledges on Sunday night & the lasting friendships I made during my time there (Amy Martinson Caswell)
- Leo, Shirley and the wooden cross necklace we made one summer. (John Bolton)

- The hours that I spent in the Hobby House making crafts with Aunt Shirley (my mom.) (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- Singing. Singing before and after every meal, singing at vespers, singing and swaying to “*day is dying in the west*” (Jon Roth)
- Brushing my teeth in the wooden trough by Shady Glen tent. (Joy Hutchins)
- Meeting amazing friends, feeling closer to God, summer set to music (Mike Russell)
- Swimming lessons, the staff, Art Foye, Donna Eldredge, Diane Schur, Nancy Urquart, Bertha Smith and Ginny Bouchard who were the very best cooks and were my surrogate grandmothers. (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- Extra special lifelong friendships, vespers on the ledges, "in the still of the night", closing fire nobody wants to leave. (Karen Harmon Parot)
- Prayer sticks at the Council Fire, Galilean Point, memorable Bible studies, intense kitchen cleanup, and building a family of friends. (Dorinda Wakeman Washer)
- Family camp, the skits we did in the Wigwam (I still remember one so clearly I can still recite what we said!) Reveille and Taps around the flagpole. (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- My first camp counselor, Joy Hutchins; the smell of the pine trees in the girls unit; life-long friends. (Mary Jo Roth Cox)
- Campfire circle with Uncle Al and his “little Indian squaw”. The songs—“day is dying in the west” still brings tears to my eyes. (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- Hiking up Shaw and Blueberry Hill (I wasn’t a fan) carrying our lunch in a paper bag. Swimming lessons and free swim. Lots more..... (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- Worshiping God at the Ledges. (Stephen Trimble)
- Forming great relationships with people at Camp as we sought to share God’s love with campers. (Mark Price)
- The way my Bible smelled (it was new) when I was at Bible study. (I still recall that when I open it today.) (Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao)
- CIT 1977 (Kim Wood)



Challenge for the summer newsletter coming your way at the end of August. Many activities have taken place in the Sentinel field. In 20 words or less (or in multiple submissions) complete this sentence. "When I think about time spent in the field, I remember..." Send your responses to [Joy](#).



1960 - Fishing in Dan Hole Pond



1989 - Hanging out on the Ad Cabin lawn

ABOUT US

Bob Schur went home to the Lord on April 5. His Sentinel shoes will be hard to fill.

Lisa Dahill DeBartolomao has agreed to be a regular writer for the quarterly newsletter. Her section, *Through My Eyes*, will share memories of growing up 24/7 on the Sentinel campus. Lisa and her family moved to Sentinel in August of 1965, after 16 years of attending camp as a family and as individuals. The youngest of 6, she lived at Sentinel for 13 years, leaving in 1978 when she was married. She came

back on weekends to help her parents with maintenance duties, and also as a camp counselor.

Melodie (Dee) Chapman is now living in Rochester close to her grandkids. Being Nana to her trio is her favorite job.

Diane Schur Jackson has been hiking in the foothills above Carson City.

Kim Wood and her sister enjoyed an exciting vacation taking in the Grand Canyon and other sites out west.

Mary Jo Roth Cox teaches collaborative piano at CMU and is the Director of Worship and Arts at First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant (MI). Son Liam recently graduated from Shepherd High School. He will attend Central Michigan University in the fall, majoring in music performance. Daughter Sarah just completed her first year of teaching K-2 general music in the Battle Creek (MI) public schools. Husband Mark is the Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at CMU.

Tim Wakeman's son will be attending Paul Smith College in the fall.

Jane Perlino Perry's daughter recently graduated from the University of Southern Maine with a degree in music education. Congratulations, Heather, as you begin your teaching career!

Things happening in your life that you are willing to share in the next newsletter? Send information to [Joy](#).

SEPTEMBER 22 - SENTINEL CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

Join in a great day of fun and fellowship.

1-3pm Tour of Camp, Games in the Field, Visit the Museum

3pm Worship / Celebration in Wigwam

4pm Dinner in the Lodge

5pm Wrap up

Silent Auction to support camp (cash, check, credit card accepted)

Looking to stay over?

Saturday 9/21 Cabin \$50 per household

Pines Family Camp \$45 per night

[RSVP HERE](#)

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Do you have a Sentinel story to share? Send your submission to alumi@campsentinel.org by August 1. Summer newsletter will be coming your way at the end of August.



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