

Dear Grandfamilies!

Welcome to Pilgrim Lodge! And if you are returning from another year, Welcome Home! Come in and sit down! You are *all* a part of the family!

Grandparent 2 camp is waiting and ready for you. This year's theme at Pilgrim Lodge is "Finding God in the Everyday." What better place to find God than on the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee with people you love—and a lot of new and old friends, along with the people they love, too! Our time together is brief, but we will fill it with great moments that will become great memories that you will share for a lifetime. Playing games, learning crafts, fishing, swimming, singing, resting, ice cream, family time, and worship will all be part of the mix of everyday things that we will spark up with reminders of the real presence of God, indoors and out, day and night. God is not just out on the lake or in the chapel, but EVERYWHERE!

Here are a few things you might want to include in your planning:

Registration on July 7th is from 2:00 to 4:00 PM.

The boardwalk is great and the wooded trails are lovely—but wear shoes with protected toes! Flip-flops can cause a real interruption in your fun, if they catch on a rock or a branch!

Nights—even July nights—can be chilly in Maine by the water. Bring warm sleepwear and sleeping bags. It is easier to leave the blankets off than it is to wish you had them!

Bring bug lotion (*anti*-bug lotion, that is), sunscreen, a hat (or get one in the Camp Store), bathing suit, towel, water bottle (REALLY!), a good book, sunglasses, sweatshirt (now, THAT is another thing to get at the Camp Store!), and your own bedding (warm enough!).

Plan how you want to make your cabin your own for three days! Family photos are a good bet. A sign with your names—big enough for everyone to read on the Boardwalk—is good. Crazy decorations are fine, as long as they don't leave a mess behind. As we turn our time together to find God in the everyday, we can also bring things from or about home that reflect our own ways of finding God: musical instruments, photos of pets, favorite games or songs, etc. Enjoy the time together to plan what you will do to make this time special for *you*.

AND plan to share, teach, and enjoy something that you do that you think others might enjoy learning! We will have sign-ups for Sharing Sessions, where we will find God in the everyday things that we enjoy—fishing, arts and crafts (beading, knitting, collages, jewelry, creative reuse, origami, lanyards, etc.), games, canoes and boats, nature walking, labyrinth prayer, and WHATEVER ELSE YOU CAN THINK OF that you can share with others in a period of about one hour. Sharing is a great way to experience God in the everyday! There will be sign-ups at registration; get there early!

Among the things *you do not need to pack* are all things electronic. No games, no vids, no Walkmen (or Walkwomen), no iPods, iPads, or phones (iPhones or otherwise!)—just time in God’s glorious outdoors with your own glorious family. Don’t worry; there will be plenty to keep you busy. You won’t miss a thing!

It is an awkward reality of Grandparent camp that many folks bring just a little extra food—no matter how much we are discouraged from doing so because of critters and bugs. So, for your sake and everyone else’s, *please*, if you are determined that you must have some sort of an emergency stash, bring only a REASONABLE amount (it is only three days, and there are always healthy snacks in the lodge) **and keep it in a sturdy, air-locked, sealed container.** Tupperware or Rubbermaid are ok, you don’t need an industrial locked box; but we do not want extra hearts beating in your cabins at night. Even better: bring no food!

All meds are to be stored out of the reach of children. If you prefer to have the camp nurse store and administer medications, you can drop it off with the nurse at registration.

You will shortly be arriving at Pilgrim Lodge, meeting up with old friends, making new ones, unrolling your sleeping bags, and getting ready to experience a wonderful, grace-filled time together. I am looking forward to seeing you then! Enjoy the planning time, and savor the anticipation. July will be here before you know it. Start practicing now to find God in every bit of every day, and you will find great blessing!

E-mail me if you have questions: peace_b2u@yahoo.com

God’s blessings and happy trails until then!

Susan Tierney

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR CAMP!

A final review for Family Camps



WHAT TO BRING:

- casual relaxing clothes
- warm clothes for cold days
- warm sleeping clothes
- rain gear
- shorts
- jeans
- sweatshirts
- Bible
- notebook or stationery and pen
- bathing suit
- beach towel
- beach footwear
- musical instruments
- 1 nice outfit (not *too* formal)
- bathroom items (towels, washcloth, soap, toothbrush, floss, comb/brush etc in an easy to carry bag or bucket)
- sleeping bag or bedding
- pillow
- comfortable sneakers
- flashlight
- laundry bag
- insect repellent (non-aerosol please!)
- a good book
- sunscreen (SPF 30 or more)
- water bottle with camper's name written on it
- items listed in your Deans' letter
- money for store/mission

Personal items policy:

Campers are free to bring personal items such as musical instruments, (larger instruments usually are left in the lodge), compact discs, and sporting equipment provided their name is written on the item. The Maine Conference, United Church of Christ is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken items.

Health Forms:

See page 17 of this guide to determine which portion of the health form needs to be submitted. Minors at Grandparent's camp, and minors who are not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian must have a doctor's signature and a parent or legal guardian's signature.

Please do not Bring:

Alcohol or illegal drugs; weapons (including pocket knives); personal listening devices; electronic handheld games, pets; valuables; jewelry; beepers; computers; fireworks, "healies," SCUBA equipment, skate boards or in-line skates

The Camp Store and Mission Offering

The camp store will accept cash during family camp events. campers. Ice cream is \$1 per day. A mission offering will be taken to support Camp To Belong.

Photo CD's: At the camp store you can order a CD-Rom of photos of your time at camp and it will be ready for you when you leave. Photo CD's may be ordered after camp but a shipping charge is added. (note: photo CD's are not offered at "A Day At Camp")

Be sure to review you deans' letter. Check online if you haven't received one or call. 207-724-3200

Mail: Please do not send food or candy

Camper's Name, camper's cabin #
Pilgrim Lodge
103 Pilgrim Lodge Lane
West Gardiner, ME 04345

Email and On-line Photos require a \$10 per camper account set up on line. A credit card is needed. Please see page 5 for details. Email cost one credit, credits are available when you set up your account. See page five for details.