

Dear Best of Both Worlds Camper,

August 3rd will be here before you know it! We hope that you are as excited we are to be a part of a group of campers that get to go to Horton Center AND Pilgrim Lodge IN THE SAME WEEK! This is going to be an amazing experience for all of us. We think we are so lucky to have this chance to experience two beautiful camps in two totally different locations - in the middle of the mountains and on the shores of a lake. We are willing to guarantee that you'll have a great time and a spirit-filled experience in both locations, so please take a few minutes to read this letter carefully as you get for the Best of Both Worlds.

Registration is on Sunday from 2pm until 4pm at **Pilgrim Lodge**. Please do not arrive prior to 2pm, as counselors and staff are still preparing for your arrival. Departure, from **Horton Center**, may begin at 9:30am on Saturday, August 9th. We ask that no camper leave prior to our closing circle time, however, even if it is later than 9:30am, and that all campers be picked up before 10:30am. Upon your arrival at Pilgrim Lodge, the counselors will ask for the name of the person who will pick you up at Horton Center on Saturday. No camper will be allowed to leave with anyone whose name is not on the counselors' list. **Please be aware of the PL/HC policy on arriving late and leaving early. Since we desire to create a community with all of its participants, we expect campers to arrive at the designated time and to stay for the duration of the program. For more information, please see the camp brochure.**

A wonderful Pilgrim Lodge tradition is one that we hope will spread to Horton Center very soon. Each year Pilgrim Lodge participates in a special mission project. We learn about an organization or special people doing God's work somewhere in the world. Sometimes these projects are across the country or overseas or sometimes they are in our own back yards. **This summer the mission project is.... "Sharing Your True Self"** The 2014 mission project is a bit different than in years past. During the week we are going to explore how we are called to make the world a better place. How does your faith in God, or the example of Jesus, or just your desire to make the world a better place play out in your own life? We will not be collecting money to give away this year, but instead be making a pledge to improve the world through our own actions and outreach. Once our time at camp is over, we're hoping that each of us will enter back into our lives committed to helping those less fortunate, or helping our communities to flourish, or nourishing creation, or some other active contribution that creates positive change, change that comes from knowing and honoring our true selves.

We will reveal more once we are at Pilgrim Lodge, but for now, we ask you to bring – 1. Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope.

As for special events during our week we plan to have the ‘fancy dinner’ on one night, followed by the dance. You might want to bring a slightly nicer outfit to wear for that night. We are planning on a “Hike Day, and sleeping out on Pinkham Ledge if Mother Nature cooperates. Here is a list of items that you will want to add to your list (in addition to the items from the website <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/document/PLParentCamperGuideYOUTH.pdf>)...

1. Flash light or head lamp
2. Reusable water bottle with your name on it
3. Backpack suitable for hiking
4. Closed –toe sneakers or hiking boots
5. Sleeping Bag and a sleeping pad for sleeping out on the ledge (it’s a large Rock) at Horton Center
6. iPods or books to read for the trip over to Horton Center on the bus

Please remember to bring sneakers or other closed-toe shoes. Candy, gum, food, internet enabled devices or electronic games are not allowed, so please DO NOT bring them to camp. Please DO remember to bring your musical instruments or anything else you may need to participate in our talent show on Friday night.

We encourage you to tell everyone to write to you at camp. However, because we’re switching camps and don’t want you to miss any important mail, we highly encourage the use of Bunk Notes, which your family needs to sign up for Bunk Notes in order to send you emails at camp and view the pictures of our week online.

Please be aware that the Horton Center road will be two lanes of traffic this year. It’s a tight squeeze in most spots, so take it slow (15mph or less), roll your windows down and listen for other cars. Cars driving up the mountain have the right of way, so when you are driving down, please pull into the turn-offs when you see other cars. A Horton Center staffer will greet you at the bottom and top of the road. Be assured, it’s well worth the drive!

We are looking forward to meeting you on Sunday the August 3rd at Pilgrim Lodge and having a best of both worlds week with you! Until then, take care!

Kristi Hikel and Sharron Champagne
Deans