

Dear Sister's in Faith,

Welcome to the Women's Autumn Weekend! Your Deans, Anne and Karen C. are excited and eager to greet you for this sacred time at Pilgrim Lodge. Karen C. has graciously agreed to step in for Deborah while she and Bryan celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary. The theme this year is "Get Real – Finding Your True Self". So we invite you to join us at Pilgrim Lodge to relax, unwind, renew and refresh before the cold winds of winter blow in.

We are not giving you a reading assignment for our time together. Instead, we will be watching a couple of films that we hope will lead to some interesting discussion times.

We ask that you do bring your favorite Pilgrim Lodge shirt with you for our camp picture. Don't have a Pilgrim Lodge shirt? The camp store has them for sale. The store will be open from 4-5pm on Friday. Or any favorite shirt will do!!

We will once again offer a variety of activities on Saturday Afternoon. If you have an activity you would like to share with the group during this option time please contact us. Other activities you might consider during this time are kayaking, a walk at the labyrinth, reading a book, playing games, take a nap or enjoy a cup of tea on the porch. You choose your activity!

Some of you may be attending Pilgrim Lodge for the first time so it's a good idea to review page 5 of the PL adult camper guide. Items listed there will help you be prepared for a safe and happy weekend. Remember to bring; bedding or a sleeping bag, towels, clothing that can be layered, swimwear, a flashlight, rain gear, bug repellent, and sunscreen. Remember that it could get chilly at night so be sure to bring a warm jacket or sweater. If you have any special dietary needs please let the camp know ahead of time. Other special food, milk or juice may be left in the kitchen refrigerator. Things not to bring include drugs, alcohol, or pets. (Service animals are welcome but we need to know in advance.) Pilgrim Lodge is a tobacco free zone as are all Outdoor Ministry sponsored events. Regarding cell phones: disconnecting from the world is part of the joy/challenge of a retreat event. If you need to keep in cell contact, please keep phones on silence and use them privately so as to respect everyone's experience. Any other questions will probably be answered in the PL adult camper guide mentioned above. But know you can always contact us or Karen S. in the PL office if you need info on something you can't find.

Speaking of mission, the project this year is "Sharing Your True Self". We will be exploring how we are called to make a difference in the world. One way that you can help make a difference is by helping make fleece mittens that will be handed out to those in need through the food pantry at High Street UCC in Auburn, ME this winter. If you would like to make a donation to the Pilgrim Lodge Capital Campaign we will collect those during the weekend.

If you have a special housing requests please send them to Anne at the email below.

Our official time together will begin with supper on Friday September 12th and ends with lunch on Sunday September 14th. You may arrive at camp anytime after 4pm on Friday to get settled in your cabin. We welcome worship leadership from church groups or individuals. Worship time should run approximately 20 minutes or so. Please let Anne or Karen C. know if your group would like to lead worship.

Finally please be sure to pay the entire balance prior to coming to camp and bring your health form with you. **You do not need a doctor's signature but still need to complete and submit the health form.**

We are looking forward to meeting everyone on Friday September 12th at 4pm. Dinner will be served at 6pm. Please let us know if you will need to arrive at a later time. We are anticipating our time together with joy and look forward to spending an exciting and relaxing time of renewal with our Sisters in Faith.

Faithfully,

Anne Hodgman

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