

Dear Middler Impact Campers and Families,

We are very excited to be deaning Middler Impact again this year! Our theme for the week is "Living in the Spirit!" Our time at camp will help us to recharge and rekindle our connections with the Holy Spirit, our inner selves, and each other. It's going to be fantastic!

We can hardly wait to see you at camp on Sunday, July 26th! Drop off is from 3-4 PM. We know you're not going to want to go home, but pick up at the end of camp is 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 1st. (Please remember that late arrivals and early pick-ups are not allowed. Parents need to call the camp office \*before camp\* if they have questions about this policy.)



We'll do all the things you expect to find at camp - swimming, boating, crafts, games, nature activities, singing silly songs, and more. But Pilgrim Lodge isn't just ANY summer camp. At PL, we live together, worship together, play together and become an *intentional community*. It is that sense of community that makes Pilgrim Lodge unique. Our *volunteer* counselors, deans, and our campers come together for just one week of the summer. No other week at camp will ever be like this one! You'll be part of a once-in-a-lifetime community! It will be more amazing than a fluffy unicorn!

This year at Middler Impact we'll be having lots of great activities. **We'll have a fancy dinner**, where campers are encouraged to dress up a bit or wear something really fun and silly! **We'll be having a Party Night**, with dancing, games, and tons of fun! If you have a song request for the party, let us know ASAP by sending a message to <a href="middlerimpact2015@theHiltons.net">middlerimpact2015@theHiltons.net</a> and we'll see what we can do. Remember, the song must be Pilgrim Lodgical and danceable! **We'll play field games, have a cookout**, and have **a campfire**. And of course **we'll have our annual Talent Show!** If you need accompaniment or special music just let us know via email as soon as possible! Bringing musical instruments to camp **is encouraged!** 

Our week will be full of joy and laughter, and we're SO excited that you're going to be part of it!

Please check the excerpt from the Parent and Camper Guide at the end of this letter for a detailed list of what to bring to camp, and also what NOT to bring to camp. (You read the Parent and Camper Guide, right? If not, please do so now. We'll wait... ...done? Awesome!) The basics are sneakers, a sense of adventure, a sleeping bag or bedding for a twin bed, a pillow, towels, clothes, and toiletries for a week. A flashlight, your Bible (this is church camp, after all), a water bottle, sun

block, and bug spray are pretty handy, too! Please bring 2 white shirts...you may have the chance to decorate a tee shirt with your Family Faith Group, and tie-dye may be an option as well! Check the list. It's amazing what everyone forgets!

You will need a set of clothes that can get really dirty and painty, and quite possibly wrecked. You WILL get dirty, or wet, or sticky, or painty, or all of the above in one of our activities. This is a great time to get one last use out of that stained T-shirt and old shorts! Bring old sneakers, too, if you have them. If you've been a Middler Impact camper before and managed to avoid getting filthy, don't count on staying clean again! Your deans are planning some new challenges! (Insert evil laugh here...) If you're having trouble finding something let us know ASAP and we'll see what we can do (middlerimpact2015@theHiltons.net).

We're excited about the mission project! Pilgrim Lodge has teamed up with "Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed" (watershedfriends.com) who work to maintain the quality of the more than 40 lakes, ponds, rivers and streams that connect with Cobboseecontee, our camp's lake. They focus on non-point source pollution and on invasive waterplant species. The "Friends" organization will be working with us to lead hands-on activities that will teach how lakes and streams get polluted and what we each can do about it. Campers will be given an opportunity to make a donation from their store account to support of the work of the Cobbossee Friends, so consider this when you set up that account at registration. Dean Kim and Zoey had the opportunity to experience one of their activities earlier in the summer. It was wicked fun and they both learned a lot! Cobbossee Friends are definitely a worthy organization!

At PL, we are "unplugged." Campers need to leave their cell phones, computers, game systems, and other gadgets at home! (If there is an emergency, we promise campers and families will be able to contact each other. Leave the cell phone at home.) One exception: you may bring a personal audio player with headphones - so long as it has no network or internet capabilities - to listen to music if you need it to help you sleep. Sorry, no phones - even if it's what you normally use to listen to music.

There's so much to do at camp you won't miss your electronics. If you're concerned about occupying yourself during down times, bring a book, a sketchpad or coloring book, or a notebook to write or doodle in.

You can write letters to your loved ones at home, and make sure to give everyone you know the camp address so they can write to you! Letters from home are awesome. (Dean Phil's mom always sent him a "note" each summer at camp... she usually chose B-flat.) Seriously, though, getting letters from home is always a treat, and writing to your friends and family is a nice way to reflect on the amazing time you're having at camp.

As of this letter, we have only 11 days until camp! We can't wait to see you all there!

Peace, Love, and Blessings from, Deans Kim, Phil & 3 year-old Zoey!

...and from all of our amazing *volunteer* counselors!



PS - Are you on Facebook? Check us out for some pre-camp excitement! http://www.facebook.com/MiddlerImpact Click "Like" today!

# IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR CAMP!

A Quick Review for Children and Youth Sessions

#### WHAT TO BRING:

- Casual relaxing clothes
- Warm clothes for cold days and nights
- Warm sleeping clothes
- Rain gear
- Shorts
- Jeans/pants
- Sweatshirts
- Bible
- Notebook or stationery and pen
- Bathing suit
- Beach towel
- Shower shoes/beach shoes
- Musical instruments
- 1 nice outfit (not *too* formal)
- Bathroom items in an easy to carry bag or
- Bucket (towels, washcloth, soap,
- Toothbrush, floss, comb/brush etc.)
- Sleeping bag or bedding
- Pillow
- Comfortable sneakers/hikers
- Flashlight
- Laundry bag
- Insect repellant (non-aerosol please!
- Sunscreen (SPF 30 or more)
- Water bottle with camper's name written on it
- Items listed in your Deans' letter
- Money for store/mission (look to the right)

### 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

#### The Camp Store and Mission Offering

Upon arrival there will be a table where you can set up an account for the store. Cash is only accepted at the store during drop off and pick up, not during the week. During the week your camper will have an opportunity to make a donation to our mission offering from that account. Parents will make the decision for younger campers. Ice cream is \$1 per day.

Photo CD's: You can order a CD-Rom of photos of your campers week at the store for \$15 and it will be ready for you when your camper leaves. Photo CD's may be ordered after camp but a shipping charge is added. Email and On-line Photos require a \$10 per camper account set up on line. A credit card is needed. Email cost one credit, credits are available when you set up your account. See the inside of the front cover for details.

Mail: (Please do not send food or candy)
Camper's Name, camper's cabin #
Pilgrim Lodge 103 Pilgrim Lodge Lane
West Gardiner, ME 04345

#### **Epi-pens or inhalers:**

In order to keep an epi-pen or inhaler with your camper new state regulations require special forms (in addition to the health form) signed by both parents and physicians. The form is available at: www.pilgrimlodge.org or by calling 724-3200

<u>Health Forms:</u> Your physician signed health forms should be mailed in to: Pilgrim Lodge, 103 Pilgrim Lodge Lane, West Gardiner, ME 04345.

**Head Check:** A health screening including a head check is being performed upon arrival. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

<u>Please do not Bring:</u> Cell Phones or other electronic communication devices (campers who bring cell phones may be sent home) alcohol or illegal drugs; weapons (including pocket knives); personal listening devices; electronic handheld games, pets; valuables; jewelry; beepers; computers; fireworks, SCUBA equipment, "healies" skate boards or in-line skates

## **Directions to Pilgrim Lodge:** phone: 207-724-3200

**Traveling North on I-295:** Take **exit 51**, turn **Left** on Route **126**. Follow Route 126 about 2.5 miles. /

at the blinking light turn **RIGHT** onto Spears Corner Road /

continue straight for 4.3 miles (through 2 stop signs) to a third stop sign: Careful: cross

traffic does NOT stop at any of the three stop signs /

at that third stop sign turn LEFT onto Neck Road/

Pilgrim Lodge will be one mile ahead on your RIGHT

#### **Traveling North on I-95** (new shorter route):

Take exit 86 and turn LEFT onto Route 9 /

drive a mile and half and turn **RIGHT** on route 126 /

in 10.8 miles at the blinking light with "Litchfield Country Store" on your right,

Turn LEFT at Batchelder's Corner (the post office should now be on your right) /

in 2 miles bear **LEFT** on Neck Road /

Pilgrim Lodge is 2 miles ahead on the LEFT

Traveling South on I-95 From I-95, take exit 109 B onto Route 202 west. Follow below:

Traveling West: Travel through Augusta on Route 202, cross over I-95

South and west continued:

After 2.5 miles, (by the Manchester Citgo), at the stoplight where route 17 turns right (don't turn right) and 202 goes straight (don't go straight) turn **LEFT onto Pond Road** proceed South for about 6.5 miles /

Pilgrim Lodge will be on your **RIGHT** 

**Traveling East:** Take 126 from Lewiston to Litchfield. At the blinking light with "Litchfield Country Store" on your right, Turn **LEFT at Batchelder's Corner** (The post office should now be on your right) / drive 2 miles/

Turn LEFT onto Neck road/

Pilgrim Lodge will be in 2 miles ahead on your LEFT