

Planting Seeds, Growing Hope 2015

Drop Off: Sunday, July 5, 2-4 PM
Pick Up: Saturday, July 11, 9:30-10:30 AM

June 1, 2015

Dear Campers,

Hi, there! Our names are Liz and Marcia, and we are the deans for your week of Pilgrim Lodge (PL) this summer. Our week – from July 5 to 11 - is called “Planting Seeds, Growing Hope.” We have been meeting all winter and spring to plan all the activities to make our week fabulous and fun and we are getting so excited for our week together! We can’t wait to see you at camp!

We both went to summer camp for the first time when we were your age, so we know what it’s like to get ready for your first week of camp, and how exciting it is to return if you’ve been before. Here is some information to help you as you’re getting ready for our special week. When you first arrive at PL, you will be greeted by camp staff who will show your driver where to park the car and unload your bags. We will be waiting for you in the main lodge, which is the big, yellow building down by the lake. In the lodge you will hop in line with all of the other campers to check in with different members of the camp staff, the nurse, and then us! We’ll be waiting to greet you and tell you what cabin you will get to stay in. You can then head to your cabin and meet your counselor. And the fun begins!

At camp we have all kinds of fun activities like going swimming and boating, doing crafts, and learning about nature. Our activities also include talking about our theme for the week. **This summer’s theme is Living in the Spirit.** Throughout our week we will be sharing our experiences of how God’s Holy Spirit is in each of us, is all around us, and works in this world through us.

Every summer Pilgrim Lodge takes part in a special mission project. This summer we’ll be participating with “Friends of Cobbossee Watershed.” We’ll be learning how we can protect the water quality of the lakes, ponds, rivers and streams that connect with Lake Cobbosee-contee that we enjoy for swimming and boating and fishing when we’re at PL. Campers, you can help in a big way by bringing donations from your families, friends and people at your church. [Mom/Dad, you can put donation dollars in your child’s store account when you register your child on Sunday] For more information you and your parents can check out the “Friends” website at www.watershedfriends.com.

On Thursday night we are going to have our **JOY JUBILEE!** Being full of joy is one of the ways we experience living in the Spirit. We have a special dinner where all the campers and counselors are invited to come dressed up in a costume of something that gives you joy. Maybe butterflies bring you joy. Maybe a favorite character of a book or a computer game brings you joy. Maybe Spiderman or Princesses Anna or Elsa bring you joy. Whatever you choose to be, we want it to be simple, silly, and especially fun.

In addition to the list of things to bring that you received when you registered, **please bring a plain, white, cotton tee-shirt** and we'll make it *beautiful*. Tie-dying is a very fun camp tradition - we'll provide the dye, so bring your shirt! (If you missed the packing list, go to page 12 of your Camper Guide:

www.pilgrimlodge.org/document/PLParentCamperGuideYOUTH.pdf

On Sunday, the day you come to camp, please arrive between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. We'll be ready and waiting for you. Your family can stay and help you get settled into your cabin until 4:00.

On Saturday, the last day of camp, your family will **pick you up between 9:30 and 10:30 am**. **Beginning at 9:30 we will be having a special closing program** right in the lodge that **your parents are invited to attend if they wish**. They'll get to hear about what made our week together so special.

So pack your suitcase (don't forget your favorite stuffed animal to make your bunk cozy!), get excited, and we'll see you at camp on July 5th. We can't wait to meet you and spend a great week together at Pilgrim Lodge!

See you soon!

Deans Liz and Marcia Charles

P.S. to PARENTS: The camp office asks that the balance of your fee be paid by June 15. Thank you!