



Dear Sisters of Women at the Well~

April 2016

Hello to you from a new voice! (and yet I've been attending Women at the Well Camp for 14 of the last 15 years!) My name is Joyce Long, Pastor of Casco Village Church UCC, and your new Dean! First let me say a deeply felt "Thank You" as we acknowledge the two who have been the Co-Deans of this camp for 9 years: Rev. Deborah Breault and Anne Hodgman! Wow! And in my opinion ~ they had the weekend schedule down to perfection. So I have no intention of making changes, just trying to carry on the wonderful traditions and sacred rituals of our beloved weekend. However, I do have a surprise!

This year's book is: "**Rosemary** – The Hidden Kennedy Daughter" by Kate Clifford Larson. Kate is a classmate of mine from Simmons College, Class of 1980 . . . And she will be with us at camp Saturday and Sunday. (I bet she'd sign your book if you'd like!) But as always – we all know how busy life is so don't worry if you can't read it before camp. Bring it with you along with your Bible, journal and mission money.

Speaking of mission, this year's mission is: Daisy's Children. The mission of Daisy's Children is to provide sustenance, education, and medical support to the disadvantaged children of Honduras. We will meet with Sharon Beckwith, a local UCC woman from Maine and founder of Daisy's Children. During our mission time together she will share her touching journey with us with pictures about how it all began with the three children of Deysi Suyapa Madrid Chavez, a 24 year old woman who sacrificed her life so that her children might eat. She captured my heart and I know she will capture yours as well.

Some details to know: Let's all try to bring a **SOLID BRIGHT COLORED SHIRT** in your favorite color, so we can be a rainbow of hope for the future of and in celebration of Pilgrim Lodge Camp as it continues to grow. I can't wait for you to see it now! Amazing!!!

For those of you who may be attending for the first time, BRING: bedding or a sleeping bag (don't forget the fitted sheet to cover the mattress!), a towel, clothing that can be layered, swimwear, a flashlight, rain gear, bug repellant and sunscreen. If you have special dietary needs or special food, they may be left in the kitchen refrigerator. Things NOT to 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 cell contact, please keep phones on silence and use them privately so as to respect everyone's experience.

Our time together will begin with supper on Friday June 3rd and ends with brunch on Sunday June 5th. You may arrive at camp any time after 4pm on Friday June 3rd to get settled in your cabin and start enjoying Pilgrim Lodge! Please do your very best to stay for the whole weekend ~ for your sake as well as the community as we gather together.

Please let me know if you are wanting or willing to participate in worship or in any

other way. On Saturday we will be offering a special craft of making a “Burden Basket”, a small basket to put your burdens in made out of basketry scraps ~ led by Karen Ellis. Also if digging in the dirt is what you enjoy, we can help with that. For the past few years many of you have blessed PL with gifts of potted annuals and perennials. Others have share their skills in planting. This effort to beautify PL is always appreciated.

If you have special housing requests please let me know at the email below. Please remember to send in your payment to the PL office at least two weeks prior to camp. You do not need a doctor's signature but we do need to have you complete and submit the health form.

So now that's all there is to it! Just come, enjoy and relax on Cobbosseecontee Lake. Bring a friend as well! Dinner will be served at 6pm Friday Night. Please let me know if you will need to arrive at a later time. I am very excited, as always, and look forward to seeing all of you

~ Sisters at the Well, Rev. Joyce Long

Call Joyce @ Church 207-627-4282 or Cell 207-240-3378
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