



Hello Faith Foundations Camper (and Parents)!

It's time to get ready to spend a few days and nights at Pilgrim Lodge (PL)! Our program this year is themed "Branching out" – which describes what you are doing as a first-time camper perfectly! We are really looking forward to introducing you to all the ways PL can help you discover more about yourself by making new friends, discovering new activities, learning about your faith, and how God is present in your everyday life! We are your Deans - Kevin and Karla Murphy - and we are looking forward to meeting all of you!

Registration is Wednesday, July 5 FROM 3:00 – 4:30PM

Some of the things you can look forward to include: swimming, boating, crafts, nature cabin, interest groups and family time.

We have a very special invitation for your furry stuffed friends: Everyone needs to bring at least one special stuffed companion from home. These companions help personalize every bunk and are invited to accompany you to evening vespers and story time. If you have a hard time choosing one to bring – bring two or three!!

Of course, remember to pack the basics, too: sleeping bag, pillow, swimming suit, a towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, clothes for the week, comfortable shoes and a bible. We do ask that you bring a pair of closed-toed-shoes (think sneakers), but you might only need to wear them once or twice. Also, be sure to check the weather for Gardner, Maine before you pack - the weather in Maine can change pretty quickly, and the temperature the day you pack may be different than what it is the rest of the week at camp! Finally, remember: please don't pack electronics or food in your bags - your iPod and mom's cookies will wait for you until you get back home.

We always try to do our best to care for God's world, so everyone is being asked to bring a reusable water bottle to camp. Make sure your name is clearly marked on it! Our goal at camp is to not use a single paper cup!!

Not sure what else to (or not to) bring? Check out the Parent and Camper Guide, on the forms page of the Pilgrim Lodge website: www.pilgrimlodge.org/forms

One of the most important things we do at camp is to focus our campers on a particular mission. The goal of our mission project every year is to spread the goodness and values that are important while we are at Pilgrim Lodge out to the rest of the world.

This year's mission will be helping the Tree Street Youth – a Lewiston-Auburn program set up to celebrate the diversity of the inner-city youth of the twin cities. They will be visiting with us during camp to tell us about their program, and explain how we can help them. We encourage you to visit their website, at www.treestreetyouth.org. If you would like to bring a donation, we encourage you to choose something off their "Wish List" (<http://treestreetyouth.org/wish-list/>) such as art supplies (markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc). Pilgrim Lodge will ensure all donations, whether they are wish list items or dollars, are passed on to Tree Street Youth to help keep their program running.

Camp will start Wednesday, July 5 and Registration will be from 3:00 – 4:30pm (please don't come before 3:00, as we need time to get things ready for you). Please let PL know if you will be arriving AFTER 4:30 pm. Pack your swimming suit on top of your suitcase or wear it, so you can take the swimming assessment as soon as you check into your cabin and meet your counselor. If you arrive to your cabin after 4:20 on Wednesday, you will be able to take your assessment the next morning.

The closing will come much too soon for most of us. Our closing program will start at 9am Saturday, July 8th. It should run less than ½ an hour; we hope all parents can attend, though it's important that the campers stay with their cabin group to share in this closing event until their counselors release the campers to the adults picking them up. Departure is between 9 and 9:30, and we have to be on-time, as the next group of campers will be coming in right behind us!

We have a great volunteer team assembled and waiting to meet you and make your time at PL so great that you will want to come back to PL for years to come. By the end of camp you and your new PL friends will be making plans to come back together next year!

We can't wait to meet you and share all the great things PL has to offer!

Dean Kevin and Dean Karla