

May 2018

Greetings to new and returning Vintage Ventures Campers,

Vintage Ventures, June 4 - 7, 2018 follows a topsy-turvy spring where February was warmer than March, which seemed warmer than April. Heaven help us, we hope summer-like weather is here for camp!

The Curriculum for 2018 - Beyond Belief! The Universe of God, is represented by the following questions and their respective scripture readings:

Psalm 139 - What if We Belong to God?

Mark 7:24-30 - What if We Speak Up?

Luke 1:35-55 - What if God is Bigger?

Matthew 5:13—16 - What if We Can
Change The World?

Mark 2:1-5 - What if Hope is Real?

Luke 10:1—9 - What if We Go Beyond?

John 6:1-14 — What if There is More
Than Enough?

The scriptures above will appear throughout our week in morning chapel, evening vespers, and other activities. Campers, in small groups (cabin, etc.), will be asked to volunteer to lead chapel/vespers Tuesday morning through Wednesday evening which can be supplemented by poems, readings, etc. from favorite sources from home. Margaret and Pat will lead Monday evening vespers; and Margaret, assisted by assorted volunteers, prepares a communion service on Thursday morning before returning to the 'real' world.

Pilgrim Lodge supports various charity organizations, a different one each year. This year's mission project, put forth by the Maine Conference UCC's Anti—Racism Resource Team (ARRT), includes four Maine community programs: Sweetland Farm Project in Starks; Lewiston 21st Century; Mano en Mano based in Milbridge; and New Mainer Resource Center in Portland.

More information on each will be provided throughout the week.

While all camps at PL support mission projects, Vintage Ventures goes about it in different ways. This year we are reverting back to our original Auction format with auctioneer Margaret! Gifts, supplied by the campers, are wrapped to disguise the contents to add extra 'mystery' and comedy. The rules are 1) a maximum of two gifts per camper and 2) value limited to \$5-\$10 each, if purchased; or re-gifted from home, if preferred. For the auction we bid using small bills and change, although checks are also acceptable. Additional donations may be placed in the collection taken at our communion service on the last morning of camp. Collective contributions may be made in cash or by check made out to the Maine Conference UCC.

The daily schedule includes wake-up at 7:00a, breakfast at 8:00 a.m., chapel at 9:00 a.m., lunch at noon, ice cream at 3:30 p.m. supper at 6:00 p.m., vespers at 7:00 p.m. The bell will ring before every important event during the day — volunteers are welcome for this.

More specifically, Monday evening will be a time for introductions and for sharing any crafts, games, or puzzles you may have brought from home; Tuesday afternoon is the Mission presentation and evening is the cookout (cook—in if it rains) followed by the Auction; Wednesday evening will be our “dress-up” dinner (be as casual or as formal as you wish!), followed by the Talent/Un-talent show - everything from singing and dancing, poetry and stories, jokes and skits, and any other talent you have to share; and Thursday morning, June 7th, we close camp with Communion after breakfast and say goodbye until next year.

Throughout the week as time and weather permit, there will be swimming, canoeing, and kayaking, as well as opportunities to experience the chapel and labyrinth as both are accessible to all. There will be free time for you to share favorite games, movies, musical instruments, songs to sing, and/or projects with the group; and don't forget to bring money for mid-afternoon ice cream! Margaret offers Bible study time, topics of her choosing for interested campers. We are flexible and no activity is mandatory. It's okay if you just want to sit on the spacious porch and relax.

For early June weather, bring warm clothing for cold days, cool clothing for warm days, and clothing for those in-between days; and don't forget your bathing suits and rain gear, just in case! All cabins have wood stoves, hot showers, bunk beds possibly requiring extra padding (such as egg crate mattresses), porches and rocking chairs for leisure time. You will need bed linens (or sleeping bags or blankets), towels, and toiletries (don't forget your prescription medication(s), and completed health forms for the camp nurse), and anything else needed for your comfort.

Registration continues to decrease across all PL camps. Vintage Ventures attendance is variable due to the time of year, competing with graduations, weddings and other family obligations. All PL camps are urging campers to bring a friend. We welcome folk from other denominations and other states, so put on your thinking caps to offer these experiences to others who have not previously had the opportunity.

On Monday, June 4th, please arrive between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be at served at noon after we celebrate our arrival and settle into our cabins.

If you have any other questions about Pilgrim Lodge, please call Karen Steelhammer at PL, 207-724-3200 (camp office). For questions about Vintage Ventures, call Pat at 207-751-2819 or Margaret at 207-645-3185.

Wishing you safe travels

Shalom,

Margaret Proctor and Pat Seaward