

May 2019

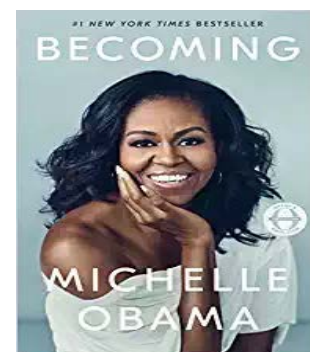


Dear Sisters of Women at the Well~

Hello to you all! I'm later getting out my Dean's Letter – I suppose I was waiting for the ice to let go on the lakes - - It's hard to think about jumping into Cobbosseecontee Lake at 7am when there is still ice on the lakes! But here we are, colder than we like, but still it's May – and June is right around the corner! My name is Joyce Long, Pastor of Casco Village Church UCC, and your Dean~ 4th Year! (I've been attending Women at the Well Camp for 17 of the last 18 years!) First let me say “Thank You” for a most wonderful year of being your Dean last year. I'm trying very hard to carry on the wonderful traditions and sacred rituals of our beloved weekend, and at the same time offer us all something new to inspire our spirits. Our Theme: “What Sparks JOY”

This year's book is: “BECOMING” by Michelle Obama

I really wanted to read her book and so I thought what a wonderful way to share it with all of you?! It was also an Oprah's Book Club 2018 Selection. I am ¼ of the way through and I love it!



“In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world’s most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, BECOMING is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations—and whose story inspires us to do the same.”

This year, PL will have two projects for the summer mission. Camps with kids will be supporting the Friends of the Cobbosee Watershed, and adult camps will be supporting [UCC Disaster Ministries](#).

Some details to know: Let's all try to bring a **PURPLE COLORED SHIRT** (I've held off as long as I could!), my color for Christ and, for many, the color of “JOY”. I can't wait to picture all the pretty, pleasant and picturesque people of PURPLE!

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 repellent 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.

*Also I'd like to open up the age on our weekend a bit--- to 18 year olds to include any daughters going off to college to come with their Moms? I brought my AFS Student, Lisa from Sweden, one year – and she was only 18. She loved Pilgrim Lodge and the WATW Weekend!

Our time together will begin with supper on Friday June 7th and ends with brunch on Sunday June 9th. You may arrive at camp any time after 4pm on Friday June 7th 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 crafts. I know many of you love having things to do with your hands and artistic spirits! If anyone has any great arts/crafts ideas/offering, please call or email me! And I read in your evaluations last year that you'd like to have Yoga? I do Yoga, but not a teacher--- but would certainly love to schedule that in in the morning. Bring your own mats and I know PL used to have some as well. 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 shared 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 at Church 207-627-4282, or ell 207-240-3378 (also text) or email rejoycewme@yahoo.com