

Clergy Camp 2018

In the Gospels, there are key moments when Jesus took time apart with his friends. He paused from the busy, sometimes hectic, often demanding life of ministry to be centered in prayer, and in the community of his disciples. It was a chance to be grounded in God's will and call. It empowered his faithful work.

Clergy Camp is an opportunity for pastors to take some time apart, to seek rest and renewal, and to prepare ourselves to return to ministry refreshed and focused in healthy, whole/holy ways. Our time apart renews us for service in Christ's church, and in the world beyond.

Please join us for a few days on the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee. Our time apart will afford us worship, singing, laughter, and conversations on topics that matter to us. We will make new friends and renew existing friendships. We'll also have time to be alone, or to be artistic, or to walk, or boat, or swim (if you think it's warm enough!). We'll have plenty of time by the fireplace, lots of coffee, tea and cocoa. We'll even toast some marshmallows.

Plan to bring your own bedding, pillow and a towel. Bring, too, your favorite translation of the Bible, and any musical instrument you play. Also bring your art supplies, your walking shoes, and an openness to sense God's spirit stirring, in you and your colleagues, to ground and inspire the next portion of your life and ministry.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly: <u>Pastor.Bill.Ingraham@gmail.com</u>

Plan now to take some time apart. You'll be glad you did!

Faithfully yours,

-- Bill

Rev. William D. Ingraham, Senior Pastor First Church Congregational in Methuen, Massachusetts Pilgrim Lodge volunteer since 2000