

Greetings Family Campers!

We are so excited to welcome you to Pilgrim Lodge later this summer. Whether you're a returning camper or you're coming to PL for the very first time, we know that you will find God's love in the beloved community we will create together.

This year your deans are: Ben Bigney, Jamie Michaels, and Will Tanner. In this team you have a life-long PL camper, volunteer, and past camp staff (Ben), and two newer PL fans who have extensive church camp experience from elsewhere (Will & Jamie.) With our camping powers combined, we will bring you a weekend of camp at its finest (and silliest), deep in PL traditions and enriched with new offerings.

Our theme for the weekend is "God's Family Reunion." While covid kept us cooped up for two years with our nearest and dearest, it also kept us physically distant from our siblings in Christ and maybe those community ties grew a little thin. Just like in God's Kingdom, the magic of camp is that you belong simply because you showed up. There's space for you at the table, plenty to go around, and you are worthy of the bounty that Love gives. So come, bring your family, and take your place in God's family at Pilgrim Lodge Family Camp 2022.

If that all sounds great but you're more of a details person, here's some of what we have on deck for you and your family: swimming, hiking, field games, arts and crafts, a cookout, a Talent/No Talent show (TNT for short), fancy dress dinner (silly costumes encouraged!), family time, alone time, worship, mission presentation, ice cream, and more!

Camp is always "challenge by choice" and that's *especially* true of family camp. We'll offer a full camp schedule from free swim at 7:00 am, to quiet hours at 9:00pm, and you get to adapt it to your family's needs. We hope that everyone will participate in worship, meals, and all camp activities. We also know that babies have nap schedules, and each person has their own right balance for togetherness and alone time. We trust you to make the right choices for yourself and your family.

Volunteer Opportunities

Building a beloved community takes contributions from everyone; we each give what we can so that everyone gets what they need. In that spirit, we're looking for some volunteers to help fill out the Family Camp offerings for 2022. To sign up for any of the following, please email Will: revwtanner@gmail.com

- Interest Group Leaders

- Interest Groups are 75 minute activity blocks planned and led by YOU for your fellow campers. Interest Groups are held on Saturday and Sunday afternoon and can be any activity YOU want to do (and lead). Knitting, hiking, watercolor painting, labyrinth walking, fishing, off-road golf putting, musical jam session, improvised frisbee golf. Offer what you love & others will join!
- **We need 8-10 Interest Groups for the weekend (4-5 for Saturday & 4-5 for Sunday)**
- If you have an activity you would like to lead or a passion you would like to share, please reach out. **Make sure to bring any supplies you will need (ex. Soccer, bring a ball and some cones; ex. Knitting, bring yarn and some extra sets of needles).**
- **Vespers Planners & Leaders**
 - 1 family for Saturday Vespers, 1 family for Sunday Vespers
 - Deans will provide scripture readings and consult with you as much or little as you like.
- **2 adult chaperones** (one female identifying & one male identifying), to chaperone the High Schoolers' sleepover in the Lodge on Saturday night.
 - You must volunteer for this in advance & complete PL's volunteer paperwork.
 - You may also choose to help the youth plan their youth led chapel service Sunday morning.
- **Late Night Labyrinth Leader** for the Middle Schoolers' lantern labyrinth walk (lanterns & co-chaperone provided)

Packing Suggestions

The best way to have a great time at camp is to come prepared. We encourage you to watch the weather forecast for the weekend as it approaches. It should still be summery (with cooler evenings) but this is New England and you just never know!

What you leave at home can be as important as what you bring. To help us focus on one another and our camp community, please leave your tech that beeps, buzzes, or facilitates doom-scrolling at home¹ and abide by all Pilgrim Lodge policies which prohibit: weapons, fireworks, alcohol, tobacco and marijuana products, and illegal substances.

If you'd like a comprehensive list of What to Pack and What NOT to Pack, please see Page 8 of the "Family Camp Guide" online at:

¹ Assistive technology that makes camp more accessible to you or your family member is absolutely welcome at Pilgrim Lodge!

<https://www.pilgrimlodge.org/summer-camp/guides-forms/>

Everyone bring: materials for your Talent/No Talent show skit/act, a costume for Fancy Dress Dinner, & a pack of your favorite snacks for the communal Snack Table.

If volunteering, bring: materials for your interest group and/or the vespers service you'll lead.

If bringing an infant or toddler: pack-n-play or similar safe sleep option, infant PFD for waterfront & boating. Baby wearing is likely easier at camp than stroller use & there will be no shortage of adults willing to cuddle Baby. *If you would like Pilgrim Lodge to provide a highchair for your child at meals please alert the deans ASAP.*

Email revwtanner@gmail.com with questions about accommodations for young children.

Questions about Covid?

Pilgrim Lodge has carefully discerned a sensible, science based, Covid-19 policy for the 2022 camp season. Please visit <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org> and click the yellow banner at the top of the page to read the policy in full.

Please note that all participants must be up to date on Covid-19 vaccines according to CDC standard, and show proof of a negative covid-19 test within 48 hours prior to arriving at camp.

Schedule

Friday:

Check in will go from 4:00PM to 7:00PM on Friday, September 2nd. Check in will be outdoors on the boardwalk in front of the Lodge. Families will get their cabin number at that time, and will be asked to make a family poster and camper nametags (materials will be provided). The evening program will begin at 7:00 in the Main Room in the Lodge. We understand that some families will be late. All families arriving after 7:00 can check in at the middle room of the Lodge. Quiet boardwalk begins at 9:00 every night for the benefit of families with young children. However, campers of all ages are invited to enjoy the lodge until 11:00, playing board games, and ping pong (until 9:00.). **Remember to eat dinner BEFORE arriving at camp or bring a picnic.**

Saturday:

Full schedules will be handed out at check-in, but Saturday will involve a mix of indoor and outdoor activities. Campers should bring a variety of clothing for the activities. As a reminder, meals are provided by the camp, and a list of "jumpers"

(folks who set the tables) from each family, for each meal, will be provided Friday night at check-in. At meals, families sit with other families, a different one every time! Special events include a cookout and morning program facilitated by the Deans. At night, a movie screening (Encanto) will be held in the Lodge for all ages, middle school students can participate in a late-night, lantern labyrinth walk, and high schoolers have the option of a sleepover in the Lodge (pending adult chaperone volunteers).

Sunday:

Special events include a presentation from this summer's Pilgrim Lodge Mission partner, the UCC Global H.O.P.E. Emergency Appeal for Ukraine, <https://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal/>. Teenagers deliver a chapel service they have planned. In the evening, we will have a "dress up" dinner, take a camp photo, and enjoy a camp-wide "Talent / No Talent Show" (TNT for short.) Typically each family presents a showcase: music, skits, dance, lessons, etc. All acts are welcome! Think ahead and come prepared!

Monday;

A final meal and worship together before we officially close summer at Pilgrim Lodge. Families can choose to stay through lunch.

We are going to have a full and fun weekend of the best Pilgrim Lodge has to offer!

If you have any questions between now and camp, please don't hesitate to reach out to us! We can't wait to see you and your family at PL in September. Until then, be brave, be kind, stay safe, and have a great summer!

Peace & Blessings,

Ben, Jamie, & Will