



Pilgrim Lodge

Maine Conference, United Church of Christ

Pilgrim Lodge is a multi-generational summer camp and retreat space centered on the spirit of extravagant welcome. Ours is a ministry of inclusion: no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, all who come in love have a seat at the table. We believe in providing space to slow down the rapid pace of modern life in order to tend to community.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS CAMP 2025 DEANS LETTER

Check-in: August 29th 5:30PM (*dinner on your own*)

Check-out: September 1st 11AM



Dean Andrew (he/him)

Dean Mollie (she/her)

HELLO CAMPERS!

Hello and welcome to Family and Friends Weekend 2025! We are so excited to join you on the shores of Lake Umbagog this Labor Day Weekend.

We'll be gathering with folks of all ages and family configurations from across Maine and beyond for a spirit-filled, fun weekend at Pilgrim Lodge.

We're excited to return to Pilgrim Lodge, where Andrew was a camper growing up, then on staff in 2008, 2010, 2011. Mollie was on staff in 2008, 2010-13, and then camp director at Horton Center in NH. We're excited to share the Pilgrim Lodge spirit with our kids Eleanor (6) and Leo (3) who are equally excited about swimming and ice cream time. Both sets of our parents will be campers during this weekend as well. We now live in Denver, CO, where Mollie serves a local UCC church, Andrew works as a pharmacist, Eleanor is starting 1st grade and Leo is in preschool. We love to swim, hike, make music, and participate in our local neighborhood community!

Our love for Maine runs deep, our two dogs are Katahdin and Cobbie (that's right, short for Cobbosseecontee!)

This weekend will be full of opportunities to play, sing, create, rest, deepen spiritually, and enjoy ice cream time. We will have time in our units and groups we came with, as well as opportunities to meet and become friends with new folks. The weekend is a short time at camp, but filled with meaning-making and fun. Family and friends weekend is an intergenerational, all-ages time at camp. We will have daily chapel and vespers services, which we'll be inviting you to help plan or participate in as you'd like. We'll have favorite camp activities like the water carnival, fun evening program, campfire with singing and labyrinth time.



Unlike other sessions of camp, there are no counselors! This means adults will be responsible for supervising kids. There will be a few times when Camp staff will help us offer some kid only time, with adults having separate programming. Family and Friends weekend is a time to be together with those you came with, while making new friends. We are hopeful that you'll fully participate in all of the programming and we are supportive and understanding of when folks need to just take a break as well.

If you have a special skill or offering you'd like to share as an interest group during free time, please do! This could be a craft/art, teaching a game, making a song together, leading a ping pong tournament or hike.

Please bring special supplies to lead your interest group.

We'd also invite you to bring storybooks to read in your cabin before bed. As parents of young kids, we know the joy of reading before bed, and believe no one is too old to be read to. Take turns and try it, it's delightful!

We are getting so excited to join you at Pilgrim Lodge in just a few weeks!



Just a note about cell phones. They are great! And they can be kind of terrible. We all know this. Camp is a delightful space to take a break for a bit. We'd encourage everyone to take breaks from phones (while understanding they're your camera etc). Camp policy is all kids under 18 need to leave phones at home or in cabins.

You may have noticed there will be an Alumni Day on Sunday of our time together. Pilgrim Lodge is trying a new thing and we will be welcoming PL alumni into parts of our programming on Sunday.



Pilgrim Lodge ALUMNI DAY

1PM Registration Opens +
Legacy Photo Opportunities

2PM Nostalgic Crafts + Shaving Cream Wiffle Ball

3PM Ice Cream and Store Time!

4PM "For All The Saints" Sacred Gathering
remembering those who made camp magic happen

5PM Open Water Time

6:15PM Cookout + Campfire with Vespers

7:30PM Classic Camp Dance

9PM See you next time!

You are invited to bring any printed photos you have from years at Pilgrim Lodge to add to a group craft on Alumni Day!

PILGRIM LODGE SUMMER 2025 MISSION: MAINE IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS COALITION & MAINE MOBILE HEALTH PROGRAM

This year, Pilgrim Lodge is supporting two Maine-based organizations dedicated to supporting our immigrant neighbors:

The mission of the Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition (MIRC), is to improve legal, social, and economic conditions for immigrants in the state of Maine.

The Maine Mobile Health Program (MMHP) is one of the organization of the Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition. The mission of the Maine Mobile Health Program is to improve the health status of Maine's seasonal workers and their families.

**During our time together, an option to make a donation to our Summer 2025 mission organizations will be available in the camp store.*

A few items to consider bringing:

Storybooks to read in your cabins at night

Snacks (and a critter proof container to put them in)

Life jackets or swimmys for children under 6

Musical instruments for chapel or just to play

Board games & cards for free time

Supplies if you'd like to offer an interest group (leading an activity during free time)

[Link to Camper Guide with full Packing List](#)

SEE YOU AT CAMP!

Questions? Email or call Pilgrim Lodge:

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