



# 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.*

## WOMEN'S SPRING WEEKEND 2025 DEANS LETTER

Arrival: Thursday 5/29 @1PM *or* Friday 5/30 @4PM

Departure: Sunday 6/1 *after brunch*



Dean Joyce (she/her)



Dean Nita (she/her)

## HELLO CAMPERS!

Where will you be the first weekend Friday~Sunday in June, (actually May 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup> this year!) There is an option to arrive Thursday afternoon with dinner, breakfast and lunch for 24 hours of decompress time! If you've received this letter that means you will be joining us at Pilgrim Lodge! This is the earlier weekend, Women's Spring Weekend, when women gather together to enjoy three days full of grace and spirit on the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee at Pilgrim Lodge in West Gardiner, Maine.

Hi! This year I am one of your Deans! Joyce Long, but I have a CO . . .  
And you know me as Nita Dehais, camper, but this year also your other Dean!



**Thursday Arrivals:** Check in anytime after 1 PM. Please check in at the camp office to get your cabin assignment. Dinner (6:15 PM) on Thursday and Breakfast (8:15 AM) and Lunch (12:15 PM) on Friday will be served, but there is no structured program throughout the day. This time is purely for you and how you would like to spend it at Pilgrim Lodge!

**Friday Arrivals:** Check-in at 4PM. Please check in with your deans to get your cabin assignment. Dinner will be served at 6:15PM.

We are excited to be sharing this weekend of Camp together with all of you. There will be opportunities to reset and relax, kayak and canoe, meet up with old and new friends, try out many simple art or craft projects, morning swim, yoga, sing, play games, and time to enjoy the spirit and grace of nature. As always, we will try very hard to carry on the wonderful traditions and sacred rituals of our beloved weekend, and at the same time offering something new to inspire our spirits.

This year the book chosen for inspiration and conversation is a novel:  
“HEAVEN ADJACENT” by Catherine Ryan Hyde



It is heartfelt and perceptive in this bittersweet story about slowing down and discovering what can be gained when leaving everything behind.

*Roseanna Chaldecott spent her life as a high-powered lawyer in Manhattan. But when her best friend and law partner dies suddenly, something snaps. Unsure of her future, Roseanna heads upstate on one tank of gas and with no plans to return.*

*In the foothills of the Adirondacks, Roseanna discovers the perfect hideout in a ramshackle farm. Its seventy-six acres are rich with possibilities and full of surprises.*

Great to have a Novel this year and this is a really fun read! We think you will enjoy reading it and perhaps putting yourself in Roseanna's life . . .Would you? Could you??





# For those of you who may be attending for the first time, Welcome!

Please do your very best to stay for the whole weekend for your sake as well as the community as we gather together.

## Some details to know:

As always, we will be taking a group photo! Our T-Shirt color for this year's photo is **ORANGE!** Or **PURPLE!** Just to match the colors on the Book Cover!!!

Our formal time together will begin with supper on Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> and ends with brunch on Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>.

~If anyone has an art/craft to share – Please let us know! We'd love that!!!

~Joyce will lead gentle, prayerful Yoga. Bring your own mats and I know PL has some as well. And Yes, of course, there will be Morning Swim! Brrrrrr!

~If digging in the dirt is what brings you joy, there will be opportunities for that as well! Perennials & Annuals welcome!





# **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.*

***During this session of camp, don't forget to bring:***

- Bedding or a sleeping bag (fitted sheet to cover the mattress - PL beds are twin sized.)
- Bring your own Ukelele!!!! (PL has a small amount of ukeleles that can be borrowed)
- If you have special dietary needs or special food, they may be left in the kitchen fridge
- Completed health form and payment for camp

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.

***Link to Camper Guide with full Packing List***

So now that's all there is to it! Just come, enjoy and relax with us at Pilgrim Lodge on Lake Cobbosseecontee. Bring a friend as well! We are very excited, as always, and look forward to seeing all of you.

**YOUR DEANS, JOYCE & NITA**

**SEE YOU AT CAMP!**

Questions? Email or call Pilgrim Lodge:

lhoffman@pilgrimlodge.org 207-446-8303