



# 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 2026 DEANS LETTER

**Arrival: Thursday 6/4 @ 1PM or Friday 6/5 @ 4PM**

**Departure: Sunday 6/7 after brunch**



**DEAN JOYCE (SHE/HER)**



**DEAN NITA (SHE/HER)**

## HELLO CAMPERS!

Where will you be the first weekend Friday~Sunday in June? 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.

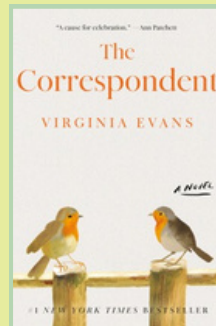
**Hi! This year we are your co-deans Joyce Long and Nita Dehais!**

**Thursday Arrivals:** Check in anytime after 1 PM. Please check in at dining hall to get your cabin assignment. Dinner (6:15 PM) and Breakfast (8:15 AM) on Thursday 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:  
**“THE CORRESPONDENT”** by Virginia Evans



*Imagine, the letters one has sent out into the world, the letters received back in turn, are like the pieces of a magnificent puzzle. . . . Isn't there something wonderful in that, to think that a story of one's life is preserved in some way, that this very letter may one day mean something, even if it is a very small thing, to someone?"*

*Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, The Correspondent is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime.*



# 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.*

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## SOME DETAILS TO KNOW:

As always, we will be taking a group photo! Our T-Shirt color for this year's photo is any shade of **BLUE!**

Our formal time together will begin with supper on Friday June 5th and ends with brunch on Sunday June 7th.

~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!

~We will also have a Yankee Swap on Saturday, **TOTALLY OPTIONAL!** If you wish to participate, please bring a wrapped gift no greater than \$10 in value.



# PILGRIM LODGE SUMMER 2026 OUTREACH PROJECT



Speaking Place  
IHTOLEWESTULTIMOK



Wabanaki Public  
Health & Wellness

\*During our time together, an option to make a donation to our Summer 2026 Outreach Project organizations will be available in the camp store.

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## **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

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**

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## **SEE YOU AT CAMP!**

Questions? Email or call Pilgrim Lodge:  
lhoffman@pilgrimlodge.org 207-724-3200