

THE PRESTON PILGRIM



The newsletter of
The Preston City
Congregational Church
Gathered 1698

(Serving God and Community for 320 years!)

OCTOBER 2019

CHURCH ADDRESS

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WORSHIP

9:00 & 10:30 A.M.

(September 8, 2019 – May 17, 2020)

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News and information for the November newsletter must be received by **October 20th**. You may leave information in the holder located on the wall in the kitchen.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?

You can watch the service online, Sundays at 9 A.M., or later in the day. All services are archived so you can watch them any day, any time, from anywhere. However, for optimum viewing, join us in person!



From the Minister

I love this time of year – it's still summer, but now with hints of fall mixed in; cool nights and leaves changing color. Mums seem to be the flower for this time of year, and picking apples a favorite thing to do on weekends with family and friends.

I love this time of year – people and families that have been away for the summer have returned to church; familiar faces and new faces too! Young families with children have found us and discovered what the church has to offer. The Sunday School is back in session, and the sounds of children's voices bring an excitement to the church that says, *this place is alive!*

Welcome to all. I'm glad you are here. If you are new, I hope you will soon feel at home in the church family. I hope those who have been here awhile will welcome you and answer any questions you may have. Be sure to pick up a church information brochure (gold). They are located throughout the building. It will tell you some of the basics about this wonderful church. Feel free to contact me with any of your questions. I'll do my best to answer them.

Let me suggest that you get involved in the life of the church. Worshipping God is what we are about. We gather faithfully every Sunday morning to learn of Him. The children do the same in the Sunday School. We also offer programs and activities to promote fellowship (getting to know others). It is in these settings where friendships are born that can last for years. Jump in. Get involved. We want you to feel comfortable – at home! If you are new to the church, I look forward to getting to know you and your family. My hope is that one day you will say, "I found my church home."

See you in church!

Rev. Stan

DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

We welcomed into the Household of Christian Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism:

- 9.15 *Charlotte Elizabeth Gileau*, daughter of Hillary & Eric Gileau of Griswold, CT.
9.22 *Rosalie Faith Linevitch*, daughter of Megan & Kyle Linevitch of Canterbury, CT.
9.22 *Lillian Ann Blair*, daughter of Lori & Edward Blair of Manchester, CT.
We ask God's blessing upon these little ones!



Monday morning, 10 A.M. in Halls' Hall. We are currently studying Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Rev. Stan leads the class.

Tuesday evening, 6:30 p.m. in Halls' Hall. This group is studying the book of Romans with Scott Van Alst.

All are welcome to attend, and as always... *The Keurig will be on!*

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TO KEEP YOU BETTER INFORMED

All minutes (notes) and financial reports from the monthly Standing Committee meeting held on the 3rd Wednesday at 7 P.M. in Halls' Hall are now posted on the hallway bulletin board opposite the Information Center table. Check out the bulletin board. Please know that anyone is welcome to attend this meeting.



LOCK THE DOORS

Any groups or meetings being held at the church are encouraged to lock the doors once their meeting or event begins.



And Game Night

Saturday, October 5th, 5:30 P.M.

The game portion of the evening will begin by 7 P.M. and conclude by 8:30. Bring your favorite board or card game. Come for the meal, or for the games, or come for both! A sign up-sheet is posted on the mid-level bulletin board. All are welcome!

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FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL

Students in grade 3 will receive their First Communion on Sunday, October 6th during the 9 A.M. service. Children will meet with Rev. White and members of the Diaconate on Friday evening, October 4th, at 6 P.M. to prepare for this meaningful day. Parents will soon receive information about First Communion, and are encouraged to have their children attend the class (approximately 40 minutes). Please contact the office and let us know if your child(ren) will be present.

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YARD SALE

Our fall yard sale will be held on Saturday, October 12th (rain date: October 19th), from 8 – 2 P.M. in the lower church parking lot. A lot of help is needed for set-up at 6 A.M. and clean-up at 1:30 P.M. A couple of pick-up trucks will also be needed to take items to the transfer station at the end of the day. Please sign the sheet posted on the mid-level bulletin board if you're able to lend a hand, or speak with Stella Dawley who will serve as coordinator for this fundraising event.

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2019 BUDGET UPDATE

The year is quickly coming to a close. We want you to know where your church stands financially as we enter the home stretch. To meet our budget, we should be at \$191,444. We are presently at \$172,899.91 If you're not sure where you stand on your pledge, call the Financial Secretary, Sue Creamer at 860.376.2731 and she'll answer any questions.

Thanks for your faithful support of the church!

NEW MEMBERS

On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 24th, we will welcome new members into the church during both services of worship. This is always a happy day in the life of our church. If you're not yet a member, and would like to join the church, we'd love to have you in the family! Sign up on the Information Center bulletin board. We'll send you all the information regarding membership. New members must meet with the Diaconate on November 17th following the 10:30 service for a luncheon and informational meeting in Dudek Hall. Please speak with the minister, or contact the church office if you have any questions. *Dual Membership* is available for those wishing to join the church while still retaining membership in another Protestant church. Please speak with the minister.

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LOOKING AHEAD

He's back! The Rev. Dr. Mark Porizky will be preaching while Rev. Stan is on vacation October 27th. Everyone enjoyed hearing him the last time he was here. We look forward to his return!



The Annual Church Bazaar is scheduled for November 16th, from 9-2 P.M. Get here early for the best buys. Alison Lowe is serving as the Chair of this year's bazaar. We thank her for her leadership.

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SOMETHING NEW

We are looking for people willing to bake cookies for an upcoming "Christmas Cookie Sale." The only requirement is that you bake what you love! Perhaps a traditional cookie favorite, a beloved family recipe or maybe a new recipe destined to steal the show. If you are in need of ideas or inspiration, we have lots of recipes and suggestions along with baking and storage ideas. We simply ask that all cookies be home made and freshly baked, if possible. We suggest cookies be baked in double batches (about 6-8 dozen); but we welcome all

cookies in any amount you would like to donate. We will provide as many covered storage containers as you need. Cookies should be dropped off at the church the afternoon/evening before the event (Time to be announced). On the day of the sale, cookies are lined up for display. Shoppers pick and choose the number and types of cookies they want. Workers box their selections, which are then weighed and purchased by weight. Please consider becoming part of the PCCC "cookie baking team." We would love to have folks share their ideas and recipes. If you are not a baker, but would like to help, we also need 6-10 volunteers to help on the day of the sale. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the hallway bulletin board. If interested, or for more information, please contact Jean Miller jmilleribia@aol.com, Cell: 860.608.1904 (best), Home: 860.889.3176.

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WE WELCOME

Cathy Rider as our new *Kidz Praise* choir director. Cathy led the children's choir back in 2014-2016. She graduated from Anna Maria College with a degree in Music Education and taught in the Stafford School system for 20 years. She lives in Plainfield with her husband Lewis and three children.

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DON'T MISS THIS

Save the date! On Saturday, December 7th, at 4 p.m. we will be hosting the *Hockanum Valley Ringers*, an auditioned community handbell ensemble led by Lawrence Berdensen. The choir rings five octaves of Malmark handbells, along with five and one-half octaves of chimes. A reception will follow the performance. The concert is FREE, however a "Free Will Offering" will be received. Tell your friends and neighbors. Our church is the group's only southeastern Connecticut's appearance. We are excited to have them with us!

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READING MATERIALS

Copies of *The Upper Room* and *Our Daily Bread* are available on the Information Center table. These are great daily devotional booklets, written to encourage you in your faith journey. Please pick up a copy, they're "FREE."

The Preston Junior Pilgrim

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION...



SUNDAY SCHOOL reopened on September 8th with 91 students enrolled. The first day there were 65 kids present along with 15 teachers/aides. It was so refreshing to hear the excitement that comes when children are around! I pray that parents and children will be as faithful as they can in bringing them and attending each week. We

welcome back Lisa Houghton into the Sunday School as a 5th/6th grade teacher. Lisa is very dedicated to the kids and I look for that in teachers in the Sunday School.

"NEVER STOP PRAYING ESPECIALLY FOR OTHERS." Ephesians 6:18

HERE I WAS sitting at the circus at the Big E this week and praying! Most people were sitting there; it looked like, in awe. The face of the circus has changed so much since I was a child. With elephants and clowns, to cite a few, that have now disappeared, some people had to be really clever to reinvent the wheel. What was I praying about anyway??? Many of the acts were on the trapeze and I was praying for the safety of the performers! I thought about how well trained they are and how they're getting paid to do this. But some were so young so I continued to pray.

THE SCRIPTURES have much to say about the importance of praying for others. "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16. When you take the time to pray for others, God finds the time to bless you. I hope you will encourage your children to pray for others. It is best done by example. Knowing, by faith, that God always listens is reassuring. Knowing that God has "the whole world in His hands" is something wise to tell our children to ease some of the fears they might have. Who needs your prayers today? "Pray without ceasing." 1 Thessalonians 5:17. You'll be glad you did!

May the **SON**shine through me, *Sandy Dudek*



OCTOBER BIBLE VERSES

Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me." (Mark 10:14b) Grades Toddler 3-Grade 2

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment". And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39 (Grades 3-12)

New this year – Challenge Bible Verses – for ALL ages:

October: "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8

Congratulations to Brent Fessenden, Austin Judy, and Seth Klewin for successfully reciting the September Challenge Bible Verse.

THE STUDENT who recites each verse during the month to their teacher or Mrs. Dudek will qualify for an award on Children's Day. The greatest reward will be in carrying these verses in their hearts which will serve them well as they go through life.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP: Ten spots have been reserved for the 2020 mission trip to Harrisburg, PA July 12th-17th. Registration forms are available from Lisa Van Alst, Trip Leader. This year's 8th graders through High School are eligible to go. Why not sign up today?

PLEASE ENCOURAGE your children to bring their Bibles to Sunday School.

POCKETS is the name of the publication that the Deacons provide for our children. They are available on the Information Center table and contain lots of puzzles and excellent reading.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: The next meeting of the Woman's Fellowship will be Saturday, November 2nd, at our new time **9:00-10:30 a.m.** in Halls' Hall. Please come and share in some time just for women. Women of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bridget Park is the coordinator for the group and you may contact her if you have any questions (860) 710.1316.

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Handbells 6p Bible study 6:30p Scarecrow wrap-up mtg. 6:30p Yoga 6:30p	2 Finance Committee Meeting 7p AA 7:30p	3 Adult choir 7p	4 First Communion rehearsal 6p	5 Men's Group 8-9:30a Pot Luck Supper & Game Night 5:30p
6 World Communion Sun. worship 9,10:30a Choir sings 9a SS communion 9:05a Two can Sunday	7 Bible study 10a Confirmation 6:30p Yoga 6:30p	8 Board of Religious Ed. 6p Handbells 6p Bible study 6:30p Yoga 6:30p	9 St. Jude Worship 11a FAST Training Certification Class 5-8p AA 7:30p	10 Adult choir 7p	11	12 Yard Sale 8a-2p
13 Worship 9,10:30a Baptism 9a	14 <u>Columbus Day</u> Office closed	15 Handbells 6p Bible study 6:30p	16 Creamery Brook 3p Trustees 6p Standing Committee Meeting 7p AA 7:30p	17 Adult choir 7p	18	19 Yard sale Rain date 8a-2p
20 Worship 9, 10:30a Choir sings 9a	21 NO Bible study Confirmation 6:30p Yoga 6:30p	22 Handbells 6p Bible study 6:30p	23 AA 7:30p	24 Adult choir 7p	25	26
27 Worship 9, 10:30a Food Distribution Sunday	28 NO Bible study Confirmation 6:30p Yoga 6:30p	29 Handbells 6p Bible study 6:30p	30 AA 7:30p	31 <u>Halloween</u> Adult choir 7p	PLEASE CHECK with Rev. Stan or Sandy before using our names as references.	

September 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Notes: TO PLACE flowers in church during October, sign the Flower Chart, fill out the Reservation form, (place in envelope next to chart) and call Merrie Hedler (860.886.0466) **LOST OR FOUND** something at church? There is a basket in the Information Center next to the table.

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30