



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of September 28, 2020

Have a question? Need help?

Please call:

The Office

860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

During this unusual time in Connecticut, our country and our world, we want to be available to you should you need something. Call the office between 9 and noon and we'll do our best to help you. Numerous people in the congregation have graciously volunteered to pick up items at the store and deliver them to those who are not able to help themselves.

WEB STREAM SERVICES

Services continue to be web streamed *live* on Sunday mornings starting at 9, at prestoncitycongregational.org. You can also watch the service later in the day via the archive system also on the site. If you can't join us in person, we hope you'll tune in for the service this Sunday. Why not tell your friends about it? Did you know that 100 viewers tuned in from 23 states, 65 cities, and 3 countries last Sunday? Were you one of them?

WE'RE OPEN

The State of Connecticut (and our Trustees) have determined that we may increase the number of worshipers to **60 per service. This will begin October 4th**. We thank those who attended last Sunday's services and followed the guidelines established for everyone's safety (see the church website above).

IMPORTANT

Those who wish to attend a service (9 & 10:30) **MUST** contact the church office (860.887.4647) no later than **THURSDAY (11 a.m.)** each week and give their name, as well as the number of people who will be attending, and which service. Masks must be worn, and temperatures will be checked upon entering the building. We hope to see you this Sunday. Attendance continues to grow, YEAH!!!



October 4th is "**World Communion Sunday.**" On this day, Christian churches around the globe observe and celebrate their "Oneness in Christ" through the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This special day first began back in the early 1960's, and has continued to be celebrated every year since! Join with us, and with our brothers and sisters world-wide as we break the Bread and drink the Cup, remembering the death of Jesus Christ. He died for the world (John 3:16)!



The Tuesday evening group has begun! It's not too late to get in on the class which is led by Pastor Scott Van Alst. Those planning to attend must call the office, or Pastor Scott to let us know **EACH WEEK**. Please do so before Friday, as space will be limited.

Tuesday class, 7 P.M., led by Pastor Scott Van Alst. This class will offer Zoom to those who want to join in remotely. We will be studying the book *Twelve Extraordinary Women* by John MacArthur. The books can be ordered on either ChristianBooks.com or Amazon.com. The pricing is similar (\$10.50).

Please contact Scott (scotty916@gmail.com) or 860.237.7964 to RSVP or to request assistance ordering the book.

Monday class, 10 A.M., led by Rev. Stan; *Feeling Secure in a Troubled World*. No matter what hardship you experience, God promises you will emerge stronger in faith, wiser in His ways, more confident in His power. Our first class will address Faith and Fear. Join us, and bring your Bible. Don't have one? No problem, we have a Bible we'd like to give you from the Deacons' Fund of our church. *Our first meeting will be October 5th*.

THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF OUR CHURCH

January 2020	Budget monies available:	\$ 32,568.03
Jan. – Sept.	Budget monies received:	167,112.07
Sept. 20	Budget expenses to date:	184,590.49
	Budget monies remaining:	15,089.61

(Cont.)

During the last quarter of the year, we usually have our biggest fundraisers. At this time, we have canceled the Scarecrow Festival, Bingo, church suppers and the Christmas Bazaar. This will give us a short-fall of \$22,000. In past years, the congregation has given above the budget, so we do have monies in a budget savings account of \$31,000, which will cover the shortfall. The last few weeks have seen a decrease in giving. We encourage the congregation to continue to keep their pledges up-to-date and if possible, to consider adding to it. As always, checks can be mailed to the church, or donations can be made on-line.

*Sue Creamer, Financial Secretary
Shirley Hodkinson, Treasurer*

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

Please know that the Financial Secretary (Sue Creamer) collects all offerings that are mailed to the church on Friday afternoon and deposits them in the bank in a timely manner. Be assured, if you give online, your contribution will be credited to your pledge. Contact Bob Vescovi with any questions you may have: RVesco2010@comcast.net or (401) 583.7840.



FROM THE MINISTER

You may or may not have heard that I have moved from my home in Voluntown to a condo in Norwich on September 28th. My new address is:

22 Parkwood Drive
Norwich, CT 06360

For now, if you need to reach me directly, please call my cell: 860.303.9622.

YARD SALE

Wow! What a great yard sale last Saturday. From all your donations given to the sale, a total of \$2,179.20 was raised. We thank you for your contributions, and we thank Stella Dawley and Kaye Schlough for their oversight of the sale. Likewise, to those who helped with set-up or clean-up (or both), we appreciate what you did. Clean-up was a lot easier and faster because of you! Well done, church!

NEED FOOD?

Do you or someone you know need food? If so, please contact Stella Dawley or the church office and arrangements will be made for food to be picked up.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

A huge thank you to Riley Stankiewicz for what she did for the food pantry. For her 9th birthday, she requested that she be given food instead of gifts for herself, and that's exactly what happened. Bless you, Riley, for doing this. The food pantry thanks you very, very much! Oh, and thank you Mom and Dad also. — Stella Dawley
Food Pantry Coordinator

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

To place flowers in church on Sunday mornings during the month of October, please call Merrie Hedler (860) 886.0466.

NEWS FROM THE DRE

Attention grades 1, 2, and 3 students and their families: **The event scheduled for Friday, October 2nd has been cancelled.** Text 860.710.1262, or email Mrs. Van Alst at: dre.prestoncity@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Double Diaper Duty

The Women's Fellowship is currently collecting diapers and wipes for a mother in need. In November, she is expecting twin girls. If you are interested in donating, there will be a box located next to the table on your way into the Sanctuary. The last day to drop off items is **Sunday, October 17th**. Please contact Laurie Bowers if you have any questions. Thank you! — Bridget Park

PLEASE NOTE

Everyone is asked to please check their meeting date, or event, as well as the start and end time with Sandy in the church office. We don't want to double book the use of church facilities. *Thanks!*



"Where Friends Become Family"