



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of October 5, 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 134 viewers tuned in from 26 states, 92 cities, and 4 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 began 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!!!



The Monday class, 10 A.M., led by Rev. White began this week with 15 people in attendance, wearing masks, and socially distanced from each other!

Feeling Secure in a Troubled World is the topic for this fall. 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 addressed Faith and Fear, using John 16 for our text.

Join us for our next class, October 19th. Please bring your Bible. Don't have one? No problem, we have a Bible we'd like to give you from the Deacons' Fund.

The Tuesday class, 7 P.M., led by Pastor Scott Van Alst continues to meet. This class offers Zoom to those who wish to join in remotely. They are 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.

Those planning to attend either class **must call** the office, or Pastor Scott before Friday to let us know you plan to attend. Please do so as space will be limited.

THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF OUR CHURCH

It bears repeating... Here is where we stand financially with 2 ½ months remaining in 2020:

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

Can you help us meet the short-fall we will certainly face (\$22,000), due to fundraising events being canceled because of the pandemic? If so, place your monetary gift in an envelope marked "*Special Gift.*" You can place it in the offering plate between now and December 27th, or mail it directly to the church. Wouldn't it be something to meet the budget by the last Sunday of December? We'll keep you updated on how this appeal is going in future newsletters. *Thanks!*

"Nothing is impossible with God!"

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

What a joy it was to have **Jeremiah Turner** and **Joel Burden** present in worship on World Communion Sunday, October 4th to receive their First Communion? It was a special day for them and their families, as well as for us, the congregation. Our prayer for them is that their faith will increase as they continue to learn about God throughout their lives. We're proud of you!

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.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

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



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*

DID YOU KNOW?

Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) is excited to share information about support that is available for members of your community. TVCCA is working with the United Way, ALICE Relief Fund to provide direct support in the form of a \$200 gift card to households that have been impacted by COVID-19 in Sprague, Lisbon, Griswold, Voluntown, Preston, North Stonington, Ledyard and Montville. Households interested in this assistance can contact Brandon Martins at (860) 425.6629 for more information, He can also be reached at bmartins@tvcca.org.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you, Stella Dawley and Felix Prokop. Together, they transported unwanted items and trash left over from the recent Yard Sale to the transfer station last Friday. There was a lot to haul away, and they did it. We appreciate what you did.



ANNEX FLAGS

Please contact Don Walsh when the church flags need to be raised or lowered. The poles are getting old and temperamental, and sometimes don't cooperate (especially the ropes). It is best to call Don (860) 376.0706 and he will take care of them. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

PLEASE REMEMBER

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!*

OFFICES CLOSED

Monday, October 12th – Columbus Day



"Where Friends Become Family"