



## THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for  
Preston City Congregational Church  
Week of October 12, 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](http://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 113 viewers tuned in from 26 states, 77 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**. 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!!!



**WE WELCOMED** into the Household of Christian Faith thought the Sacrament of Baptism, *Cole James Tully*, son of Paige and Ryan Tully of Griswold. Cole was baptized on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

*We ask God's blessing upon this little one.*



**The Monday class**, 10 A.M., will resume October 19<sup>th</sup>, led by Rev. White. Masks must be worn during the class.

*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.

Why not join us? Please bring your Bible. Don't have one? No problem, we have a Bible we'd like to give you from the Deacons' Fund. Please read 2 Peter in preparation for our class.

**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](mailto:scotty916@gmail.com)) or 860.237.7964 to RSVP or to request assistance ordering the book.

### GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

Week-after-week, we are so pleased to receive offerings and monetary gifts from people in the congregation. Last week, a senior couple from the congregation stopped by the office and handed Sandy a check for \$700 saying, "We hope this will help." It certainly will, and we appreciate this kind act.

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](mailto:RVesco2010@comcast.net) or (401) 583.7840.

### A NOTE FROM THE CHURCH CLERK

The Bylaw Committee will be meeting soon to review our church bylaws. Church members are welcome to submit any proposed bylaw change, consideration, or amendment, stated in writing, to a committee member. You can mail it to the church office (ATTN: Clerk), or email it to [Clerk@prestoncitycongregational.org](mailto:Clerk@prestoncitycongregational.org). Any changes agreed upon by the committee will be presented to the Standing Committee for preliminary review, comments and suggestions before presentation to the membership for final approval at the Annual Meeting in February 2021.

Sue Brosnan, Clerk

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### FROM THE MINISTER

Since the arrival of Covid-19 in March, many things have changed for our church and for me -- how we worship; with safety always in mind, no shaking hands or giving a hug, working from home, phone visits instead of in-person contact. I could go on; unfortunately, things just aren't the same. I've learned many things about myself during this time. One of the many discoveries for me, I need the contact and interaction with other people.

Call me crazy! Lately, I've been looking through our most recent church photo directory, and an outdated church telephone list (circa 2013!) to refresh me of the many names and faces that make up our church family. At times, I pause as I read a name or see a photo, and ask God to watch over the person or family. Seeing people at worship is wonderful, it helps me through this time of change. O, how I want things to improve regarding the virus. I hope that a vaccine will soon be developed, and that it will be safe and effective for all people.

Although many things have changed, **one thing has not; GOD!**

*"He is the same yesterday, today, and forever!"  
(Hebrews 13:8)*

Though the world may change around me, God remains the same. He is the one "Constant" in my life.

Friends, although we do not see each other as we used to, do not think that I have forgotten you! I look

forward to the day when we will see each other face-to-face, have a conversation (mask-free), and shake hands. I look forward to the day when I can put the photo directory and telephone list away. But, until that day, remember... you are in my thoughts and prayers, and *you are loved!*

-- Rev. Stan

### 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*

This Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, is the last day the Women's Fellowship will be 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.

-- Bridget Park

### A WORD FROM THE D.R.E.

Hello Families! Unfortunately, the virus has raised its ugly head again, and with the current active cases at Griswold schools we are CANCELING the **Wild About Jesus** event again! I promise, we will have it eventually, maybe in 2021, but we'll have it! Stay strong and hopeful. Our God is STILL good!

-- Lisa Van Alst, D.R.E.

### DID YOU KNOW?

*(This information is reprinted just in case you missed it!)*  
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](mailto:bmartins@tvcca.org).

### 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!*