



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of October 19, 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

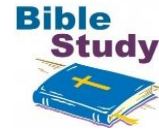
Services continue to be web streamed *live* on Sunday mornings starting at 9, at prestoncitycongregational.org. You can also watch the service later in the day via the archive system also on the site. If you can't join us in person, we hope you'll tune in for the service this Sunday. Why not tell your friends about it? Did you know that 84 viewers tuned in from 18 states, 45 cities, and 2 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 worshippers 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!!!



Monday class, 10 A.M., 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, chapter 1 in preparation for our class.

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.

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.

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. 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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Daylight Saving Time ends
November 1st



FROM THE MINISTER

So many people seem to be wound up tight, under pressure, overwhelmed by life. I read this devotional recently and thought it was worth sharing with you.

Take Five (Breathe)

“How would you describe your physical and mental state today? Are you rested and refreshed, or do you feel weary, worn down by unrelenting demands and pressures of life? We tend to think that the longer and harder we work, the more productive we will be. But when we become fatigued spiritually and emotionally, we eventually reach a point of exhaustion.

You *are* in control and you *can* stop the world from spinning. Even if you know that it is impossible to take a day off, it helps tremendously to make time for a personal “time-out.”

Pause from whatever you are doing for just a few moments and breathe deeply. Close your eyes. Ask God for a sense of calm and clarity of mind to deal properly with your next assignment. Take time to unwind from a stressful day by a few minutes of “me time.” Let the weight of the day fall off.

Sometimes the most active thing we can do is rest, even if only for a short time.”

(Taken from: The New Life Daily Devotional; Readings to Deepen Your Faith)

Hold tight to your faith during these times, and trust that *God works all things together for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28).*

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

We appreciate the many donations received for a Mom expecting twin girls in November. Your response to the appeal was “over the top”! We’ll let you know when the babies arrive. Thanks for your generosity!

A WORD FROM THE D.R.E.

Well, it’s time to face facts... with the current virus numbers increasing steadily, we have no choice but to delay the start of in-person Sunday School until sometime in 2021. However, Mrs. Van Alst would like to continue *Friday Family Fun Nights* over ZOOM! Watch the website, check your emails, and read the *Little Pilgrim* for times, the age group, and the theme. We can still have fun!

All high schoolers, join us on ZOOM this Sunday (10/25), at 10:30 for our LIVE pumpkin carving contest. Prizes will be awarded, and friends are welcome and encouraged to join you. Call Mrs. Van Alst if you need a pumpkin dropped off at your house Saturday morning.

The world may have to pause for a little while, but I assure you, our God has NOT!

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!*

THE FINAL WORD

Several of you have mentioned to me that you’ve been watching Youtube videos of *Thelma Wells*, the inspirational speaker I mentioned in my sermon last Sunday. A \$25 gift card to *Panera Bread* is waiting for the first person to email me (sewhite3022@gmail.com) telling me what insect is a symbol for her ministry, and why. Here’s a hint (watch the 32:44 video, with the orange/red dress).

Would you like to have *the final word* next week? Do you have something inspirational and uplifting to share with others? If so, send it to Rev. Stan (not too long as space is limited) and you may see your contribution in print.