



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of November 2, 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 74 viewers tuned in from 16 states, 44 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.

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.

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

We gratefully acknowledge your giving to the work of the church this week. Although we do not gather as we once did for worship, and have not had opportunities to see or fellowship with each other, expenses for operating the church continue month-after-month. Your faithful giving keeps us going, and it is appreciated!

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.



YOUTUBE VIDEO

We have been praying for *Ella Jean Silva* since she was 5 years old, she is now 11. She will undergo major surgery on November 12th, and will have a rod fused into her spine with the hope that one day she may walk again. Her Mom, Diane Silva tells Ella's story in a YouTube video. If you'd like to view it, go to the YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/C7wsqKPaVgw>. You will see her Mom, Diane, and her name Diane Silva in the lower left corner of the video. It's quite a story. Please pray for Ella and her family this week and beyond as the recovery will be difficult. Ella's aunt and uncle attend our church; Lisa & Dan Bettencourt.





NEWS FROM THE D.R.E.

Q: What do the Grinch and Covid-19 have in common?

A: Neither can stop CHRISTMAS!

I would love to hear from families regarding a Christmas children's service. The Board of Religious Ed. and myself want to hear your thoughts and ideas. We are now in the planning stages. Come, jump on the committee, you count! Let's see what we CAN do! We still need to tell the Christmas story because it's so important, and kids really love it! Let's hear your ideas.

Also, if you have a 6th – 12th grader in your family, I have a special invitation to a ZOOM meet for the family. Let's talk MISSION TRIP 2021! Questions, comments, the plans – A & B. Mark your calendar for TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10th at 6:30 P.M. I will send a link via email the day before, please reach out if you have any questions. Happy *Thanks-Living!* --- Lisa Van Alst

NEED FOOD?

Do you or someone you know need food from the church's food pantry? 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 November, please call Carolyn Shea 860.887.8592.

BUSINESS CARDS

Recently, business cards for the church were printed for outreach purposes. One side includes the church name, address, phone, etc. The other side includes service times and webstream information. The cards are available on the table just inside the double doors. Please take a few with you and share them with anyone who may be interested in attending our church in-person or online. We thank the Men's Group for making the the cards available to the congregation.

NEW MEMBERS

We're happy to say that new members will be welcomed into the church on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22nd, during both services of worship. If you're interested in becoming a member of the church, contact the church office and let us know. New members are required to meet with the board of Deacons on November 15th. For safety reasons, this will be a Zoom meeting sometime during the afternoon or evening. This will give us an opportunity to get to know each other, as well as share information about the church and about becoming a member. The deadline to sign up is **this Sunday, November 8th**. All information regarding church membership will be mailed to you. Please speak with the minister if you have any questions. Because of Covid-19, new members do not have to be physically present to join the church.

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!*

CONGRATULATIONS

Bunny Perry is the winner of last week's *Panera* gift card for telling me a fascinating fact about a *Praying Mantis*. "*She lays several hundred eggs in a frothy mass that dries like hardened brown foam.*" Bunny showed me a nest she found in her yard a few years ago. It looks like a small bees nest. *Fascinating!*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

This committee will meet soon to prepare a "proposed" slate of Officers, Boards, and Committees for 2021. It takes many people to keep our church running from week-to-week, and especially during this most unusual time. If you're a church member, we hope you will consider getting involved.

Some of the positions needing to be filled in the coming year include: **2 Trustees, 2 Board of Religious Ed. members, 1 Finance Committee member, 2 Members-at Large (male and female)**. If you'd like more information about one of these positions, contact Lee Ann Fessenden (860.886.2348) who is the Chair of the Nominating Committee. She will be glad to answer your questions and tell about the boards or committees. Bob Vescovi and Sharon Breen are also on the Nominating Committee, feel free to speak with them as well.

"Where Friends Become Family"