



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of November 16, 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 70 viewers tuned in from 17 states, 42 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 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).

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.

BIBLE STUDY

Monday class, 10 A.M., led by Rev. White.

Tuesday class, 7 P.M., led by Pastor Scott Van Alst
Classes meet in Halls' Hall, and 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.



WOMENS FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Our Women's Fellowship is hoping you will join them in providing pies to the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen for Thanksgiving. If you are able, please bake a pie or purchase one at the supermarket and bring it to the church on the 25th, by 10 a.m. Please contact Bridget Park, coordinator, with any questions you may have: (860.710.1316), or send a text, or an email: bkpark01@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance and generosity.

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

In this season of Thanksgiving, we are blessed by your ongoing financial support of the church, especially during the pandemic. Without your generosity the day-to-day operation of the church would be a challenge. **Thanks for giving.**

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.

SPECIAL GIVING

Thank you to those who have already given a monetary gift to help us cover the deficit we are facing with this year's budget (approximately \$28,000 as of November 8th). Any amount you can give will help us as 2020 comes to a close. If you wish to give to this appeal, please put your gift in an envelope marked "**Special Gift**", then mail it to the church, or place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. To date, \$1,350 has been offered. *Thank you!*

NEWS FROM THE D.R.E.

ATTENTION 5th – 12th graders and families
Want to learn to bake a pie? Are you missing your church friends? We sure are missing you! Join me, this Sunday, November 22nd, at 10:30 a.m., as we attempt to make a pumpkin pie over ZOOM! Just register for the class by texting/emailing me. All pie supplies will be provided! You may keep/donate your pie.

The food pantry received 10 cans of gravy and 10 Thanksgiving cards. Thank you for Thanks Living!

Living a life of Thankfulness, *Lisa Van Alst, DRE*

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. We so appreciate your donations brought to the church on Sunday mornings. *Thanks!*

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

To place flowers in church on Sunday mornings during the month of November, please call Carolyn Shea 860.887.8592.

BUTTER BRAIDS

You may be aware of this fundraiser, but if not, you are in for a treat. These pastries come frozen, and all you need to do is let them thaw, rise, and then bake. That's it!

For online ordering [Click Here!](#)

If you do not have access to a computer to place your order, please call me (860.334.7382) and I will make arrangements with you to place your order. We can even offer you contactless pick-up. All breads are \$14 each. Please note the following dates: 11/22, this Sunday, orders will be taken, 12/6, orders will end, and 12/19, your order will be available at the church for pick-up. Please consider supporting this Supper Committee fundraiser, as we plan to put the proceeds towards the church budget. *Thanks, Lee Ann Fessenden.*

DOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Can you help us on Sunday mornings in November or December serving as a door monitor at the double door entrance? Guidelines for door monitors are posted above the sign-up sheet posted on the mid-level bulletin board for both the 9 & 10:30 service. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Vescovi at RVesco2010@comcast.net or 401.583.7840. *Thanks!*

PLEASE REMEMBER

If you or your group are planning to meet inside the church, please check your meeting date, as well as the start and end time with Sandy in the church office first. We don't want to double book the use of the building. People or groups are asked to wipe down tables and chairs when they are finished. *Thanks!*

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

As you know, we began advertising for our new minister on September 1st. We have received 6 applications so far, and will continue accepting applications until January 15, 2021. After that, we will begin the interview process.

Over the past few months, our committee has been very busy. We have developed interview questions, a scoring rubric, and we are going to decide on a contract which the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) has made available to us, which a lawyer will look at for us.

We will update you again after the holidays.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Sharon Breen
Search Committee, Chair



Especially this year, may your Thanksgiving be a day for counting blessings, acknowledging God's faithfulness, and remembering others. – *Rev. Stan*

THE FINAL WORD

The Lighter side of life

During this time in our lives, we need to smile and laugh more! Do you have a short, funny, church-related joke to share with others? If so, send it to me: (sewhite3022@gmail.com) and you may just see it in a future *Little Pilgrim*. Jean Miller shared this one with me recently:

James (age 4) was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." Concerned, James asked, "What happened to the flea?"