



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of December 7, 2020*

Have a question? Need help?

Please call:

The Office

860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

WORSHIP AND WEB STREAM INFORMATION

Worship services continue to be web streamed *live* on Sunday mornings starting at 9 a.m.

Go to prestoncitycongregational.org. You can also watch the service later in the day via the archive system also on the site. Did you know that 70 viewers tuned in from 12 states, 38 cities, and 2 countries last Sunday? Were you one of them? You can also worship in person (60 people per service). You are asked to follow the safety guidelines which are listed on the church website above. Those who wish to attend a service (9 or 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 they plan to attend. Masks are required, and temperatures will be checked upon entering the building. We hope to see you this Sunday.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Due to the rise in cases of Covid-19, the Standing Committee thought it best NOT to have any "in person" services this year. Both services (4 & 11) will be offered, just in a different way and at different start times.

From the DRE...

We need your help! God loves you and made you for a reason! You were no accident, so let's praise and worship the baby Jesus in a fun NEW way this Christmas. I need your family, kids, grandkids, aunts and uncles, even the family pet to sing and be messengers

of His loving light, especially now when the world seems so dark. Just click this link:

<https://youtu.be/bQ8gE0L1524> then practice, sing and record. Then send your video to:

dre.prestoncity@gmail.com Let's spread some joy to the world this Christmas season. You and your family will then be added to the Christmas service just like you were there! The Children's service will be streaming starting on Christmas Eve, for you to watch anytime!

There is still time to make a Blessing Bag/Box. Just decorate an old box/bag, put in the ingredients for a meal, kids can design cards, placemats, or centerpieces, add snacks, a card with the first names of those who helped put it together; **DUE DECEMBER 20TH**. Let's be messengers of Light! -- Mrs. Van Alst

A later Christmas Eve service is being developed, and will be a "web-stream only" service that will air "live" at 6 P.M., or can be viewed anytime thereafter. The service will include special music, readings, and a Christmas Eve message offered by Rev. Stan. We hope you will tune in to one or both services being offered.



BIBLE STUDY

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

The class meets in Halls' Hall, and masks must be worn during the class. Why not join us?

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

Please note: All offerings must be received by December 27th to be credited for 2020.

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.

Thank you to those who have already submitted their pledge of financial support for the year ahead. The proposed budget for 2021 is \$245,639. Please give as you are able. Help keep the ministry of the church going strong in the year ahead. If you did not receive the Stewardship mailing, contact the office and one will be mailed to you.

SPECIAL GIVING

Thank you to those who have given a monetary gift to help us cover the deficit we are facing with this year's budget (approximately \$28,000). 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, \$10,775 has been received. *Thank you!*

FLAGS

The new American and Christian flags flying proudly on the annex lawn are given in appreciation of Rev. Stan for his years of work and dedication to Preston City Congregational Church. *– By Shirley & Don Walsh*

NEW PROCEDURE FOR FLOWERS IN CHURCH

To place flowers in church on Sunday morning, please call the office to see if your date is available. Sandy will take your information to be included in the worship folder, and contact a Flower Committee rep. who will ensure your flowers are on the altar for Sunday morning. Floral arrangements are \$35, and payment (cash or check, payable to PCCC) is due in the office as soon as possible after you make your request.



MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

If you would like to place a poinsettia upon the altar on Christmas Sunday, please contact the Decorating Committee Chair, Dennis Lund at dblund72622@gmail.com by **this Sunday, December 13th**. Be sure to include in your email the name of the person(s) you wish to remember. Payment for the plant must be received in the church office by the 13th, so the order can be placed with the greenhouse. Place your payment (\$11 ea.) in an envelope and put it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church office. Be sure to write "Poinsettia" on the envelope or in the memo section of your check (made payable to PCCC). You may pick up your plant following the second service on Christmas Sunday. Call Dennis if you have any questions: 860.237.0670.

NEED TO CONTACT THE MINISTER?

Cell: 860.303.9622

Address: 22 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360



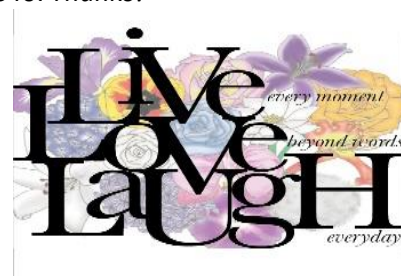
BUTTER BRAIDS

Due to the wonderful response we received from the congregation and the community, we realized a profit of \$1,108.80. A heartfelt thanks to all who supported this fundraiser! Online orders stated that butter braids would be delivered to you, however, this was listed in error. They will need to be picked up at the church in the lower parking lot on Saturday morning, December 19th, between 9:45 and 11:45 where we will be offering contact free pick up. We cannot store these butter braids since they are frozen. If you are unable to pick yours up during the above time frame, please arrange to have somebody else pick them up for you. Again, many thanks for supporting this fundraiser. The proceeds will support the church budget.

Lee Ann Fessenden

DOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Can you help us on Sunday mornings in January 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!*



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 or story to share with others? If so, send it to me: sewhite3022@gmail.com and you may just see it in a future *Little Pilgrim*.

I recently came across the following:

"It's only natural that stressed out people eat more desserts, because "stressed" spelled backwards is "desserts." If that's true, many people are stressed between Thanksgiving and New Years!"