



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of January 4, 2021*

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. 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.**), 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. Did you know that 132 viewers tuned in last Sunday? Were you one of them? We hope to see you this Sunday.



FROM THE MINISTER

To know you are being thought about during this unusual time we live in, or following an illness, or a difficult time, means a lot to others. The Bible tells us to encourage each other, and pray for one another. This week, consider sending a card or note of cheer to:

Jim Wright

870 Pequot Trail
Stonington, CT 06378
(recovering from surgery)

Harry Coleman

131 Route 2A
Preston, CT 06365
(on the loss of his wife, Bea)



GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

It can never be said enough, your faithful support of the church since the pandemic first began has kept us going from month-to-month. Thank you! Keep in mind 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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you asked to receive offering envelopes when you filled out your pledge card in November, they are now available for pick-up as you enter the double doors (mid-level). If you did not request envelopes, but would now like a box, contact the office, and we will see that you get them. We remind you to discard any unused 2020 envelopes.

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Happy New Year, and welcome to the year of 2021! A year of Hope and a year of Prayer. Every month, I will be sharing ideas for church families to encourage and nurture prayer at home. What better way to start the new year than with ideas to get your family praying together? January is "Postcard Prayers." Pick up a blank postcard from the church or print one from your emailed packet. Write down your prayer request and return them to the church. It will be passed along to another family to pray about. Prayers can be returned to the red bin outside the church office, or to the table outside the church sanctuary. You put in a postcard and pick out a postcard. Questions, comments, thoughts of this experience, please reach out and share. I pray that you will see the blessing of his plans for the New Year (Jeremiah 29). -- *Blessings always, Lisa Van Alst*

OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

We're happy to let you know that the clothing shed in the lower parking lot is NOW OPEN. You may place your donations in the shed any time, any day! Tell your friends and neighbors.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Meeting of the church is presently scheduled for Sunday, February 14th, starting at noon. All reports for the Annual Report are due in the church office by January 17th. The reports need not be typed. Please contact the office if you have questions about needing to submit a report for your committee or board.

CHURCH AUDITORS

We will soon begin auditing the financial records of the church. If you handle any funds, please bring your records to the church office this week. For questions, call Lois Woodmansee (860.889.2128).

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.



NEED TO CONTACT THE MINISTER?

Cell: 860.303.9622

Address: 22 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360



**Feeding the
Community**

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

For just over a decade, our church pantry, the Toucan (Two can) Pantry has served the needs of people in Preston and surrounding communities. During the pandemic, the pantry was closed; opening only on occasion. We're happy to say that beginning in January, the pantry will be open on the third Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. We are grateful to Jewett City Savings Bank for their continued financial support, along with area churches and very generous individuals who faithfully donate food and funds to meet the growing needs of the pantry. Those on the receiving end are so grateful for the kindness of others who make this important ministry possible.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our first meeting will be on Monday, February 1st, at 10 A.M. in Halls' Hall. We will read and reflect on 1 & 2 Thessalonians. Please bring your Bible and wear a mask.

DID YOU PICK UP YOUR CARDS?

Business cards for the church were printed a while ago for outreach purposes. One side includes the church name, address, phone, etc. The other side includes service times and web stream 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.

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDES

Again this year, Bonnie & Al Raue are providing the church family with the 2021 *Daily Bible Reading Guide* published by the Connecticut Bible Society. Copies are available on the Information Center table (mid-level), as well as on the table in the hallway off the Sanctuary. Contact the office if you'd like us to send you a copy. We thank the Raues for providing this guide.

DOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Can you help us on Sunday mornings in February serving as a door monitor at the double door entrance? Guidelines for door monitors are posted above the sign-up sheet 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!*

THE FINAL WORD

The lighter side of life!



Where Friends Become Family