



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of January 25, 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.



ANNUAL MEETING POSTPONED

At the January 20th meeting of the Standing Committee, members thought it would be best to move the date of the Annual Meeting (February 14th) to Sunday, April 18th. It is hoped that by then, Covid-19 conditions will have improved in our state.

Even though the date of the meeting has been changed, there are two business items that must be considered now; the **Church Budget** and the **Nominating Committee Report**. Both would have been voted upon on February 14th, ensuring that our church continues to operate as it should in this new year. Included in this edition of *The Little Pilgrim* is a copy of both reports.

The membership is asked to look over the Proposed Budget and Nominating Committee Report, and to let Susan Brosnan, our church Clerk, know if you have any questions, or wish to vote "NO" on accepting one or both of the reports. Sue can be reached at: 69 Roosevelt Ave. Ext., Preston, 06365, or Clerk@prestoncitycongregational.org If you vote "NO," on either of these matters, it must be stated in your email or letter to the Clerk to make it official. Please respond no later than February 14th.

At the February meeting of the Standing Committee (17th), the committee will review the results of your votes. If the Clerk does not hear from you, it will be assumed that you support and accept both reports.

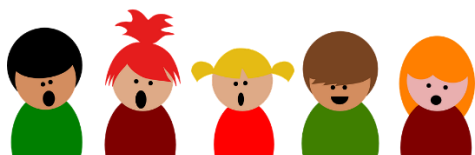
These are unprecedented times we are living in. The leadership of our church is making every effort to keep our church on track and running smoothly. We thank them for their efforts, and we thank you for your understanding.

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

We greatly appreciate your financial support of the church during this time. You have been so faithful since the pandemic hit almost a year ago. YOUR giving keeps us moving forward from week-to-week. 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. Did you know your year-end statement of giving is now available for pick-up as you enter the double doors? Any that remain at the end of January will be mailed.

OFFERING ENVELOPES & YEAR-END RECEIPTS

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 do not pick up your envelopes by **this Sunday**, they will be mailed to you. Please remember to throw away any remaining 2020 envelopes. On that same table, is your year-end receipt for income tax purposes. After this Sunday, any remaining receipts will be mailed to you. Be on the look-out!



NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Planning for VBS this summer will be a little different as we adjust to guidelines in our area, but I guarantee it will be worth it. If you would like to help jumpstart planning, and be a part of our team, please contact me so I can include you on the planning committee. Do you like decorating, donating supplies, organizing, publicizing, snacking, acting, crafting, supervising???

Then we can find a spot for you. Middle Schoolers through adults are welcome to join. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, at 6:30 via Zoom.

Also... Attention families of 3rd – 12th graders. Jenna Sullivan and I will be hosting a “Sew A Prayer Bear” Fun Family Sunday, February 7th, at 1 P.M. over ZOOM. Register by calling/texting me at 860.710.1262. We only have 10 spots available, so register soon. You will be given all supplies, and the Zoom link to this fun event as soon as you register. The best part of this is, it’s FREE!

– Lisa Van Alst

YOU ARE NEEDED

We are still looking for a couple more people to serve the church in 2021. We are looking for one more **auditor** to serve a 3-year term. This person, along with the other auditor, reviews the financial records of church boards and committees at the end of the year, and prepares a report for the Annual Report. The auditors typically meet 2-3 times in January each year. You must be a member of the church to serve in this position.

We’re also looking for a couple more people to be on the **Flower Committee**. You will join five others to ensure that flowers are on the altar on Sunday morning. At the present time, people from the congregation order the flower arrangements through the office. You would be responsible to pick up the arrangement at Jewett City Greenhouses on Friday morning and place it on the altar the same day. You do NOT need to be a member of the church to serve on this committee.

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, or have questions, please contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Lee Ann Fessenden at 860.886.2348.

UPCOMING CHURCH FUNDRAISER

The Supper Committee will again host a fundraiser for the *Butter Braids* as well as a *frozen cake roll* (already baked!). Orders will be taken from February 21st – March 7th, with contactless pick up on March 20th. Just in time for Easter. Information for ordering will be available soon.

WANTED

The Flower Committee could use large flower vases. If you have some you’d like to donate, they can be left at the church office. Thanks!

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.



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.

The Tuesday evening study group has already begun, and meets at 7 p.m. in Halls’ Hall with Pastor Scott Van Alst. They are studying the book, “Twelve Ordinary Men” by John MacArthur. It’s a book that tells how Jesus shaped the twelve disciples. Our studies will explore how we are a reflection of those disciples and how Jesus continues to speak to us and shape us. The book can be ordered from ChristianBook.com or Amazon (\$12). Contact Scott if you need assistance ordering the book. Please 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.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Proposed Slate for 2021

The following officers have agreed to serve for three years; their term expiring the second Sunday in February 2022, except as noted below. All are eligible for re-election.

Clerk – SUSAN BROSNAN
Church Treasurer – SHIRLEY HODKINSON
Assistant Church Treasurer - PATRICIA MARINO
Financial Secretary – SUSAN CREAMER
Assistant Financial Secretary – KAREN TALBOT (three-year term 2021 – 2024)
Moderator – LYNWOOD CRARY
Historian – ROBERT VESCOVI (three-year term 2021-2024)

Diaconate: (Elected for six years) (selected by the Pastor)

Lee Ann Fessenden	1 year
Wendy Zajac	2 years
Andrew Kuvent	3 years
Kimberly Lang	4 years
Robert Vescovi	5 years
STEVEN ORLOMOSKI	6 years

Diaconate Fund Treasurer – Patricia Marino

Memorial Fund Treasurer – DEBI BERUBE (Three-year term 2021 – 2024)

Trustees: (Elected for three years)

Felix Prokop	1 year
Matthew Schroeder	1 year
Rob Berube	2 years
Glenn Heavens & Mary Anne LaJoie	2 years
JOHN RYAN	3 years
RICHARD CHALIFOUX	3 years

Board of Religious Education: (Elected for three years)

Wendy Abrahamson	1 year
Marisa Stankiewicz*	1 year
Joan Racicot	2 years
Jonathan Rowe	2 years
ANNE KLEWIN	3 years
HUNTER BUSTAMANTE	3 years

Finance Committee: (Three elected members hold a one-year term, eligible for re-election)
Pastor, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Assistant
Financial Secretary, **BOB VESCOVI, CAROLYN SHEA,**
CHUCK NORRIS

Members-at-Large: (One-year term) REBECCA HALE and RICHARD BUSTAMANTE

Auditors: (Three-year term) LOIS WOODMANSEE - willing to serve for one year of the 3-year term
(2021 – 2024)
Vacancy

Stewardship Committee: (One-year term) Pastor, KIMBERLY LANG, CAROLYN SHEA,
SALLY EXLEY, ROB BERUBE

Missions Committee: (One-year term) **PATRICK MAGOWAN, MERRIE HEDLER, BEKAH LITTLE**

Delegates: (One-year term) **JIM & SANDRA WRIGHT**

Northeast Fellowship Rep: (formerly the CT Fellowship): (One-year term) **JOAN RACICOT**

Bylaws Committee: (One-year term) Pastor, Clerk, **JIM WRIGHT, JENNIFER CRARY, NANCY MUSA (SAVINO)**

Head Usher: (One-year term) **BENICIA PERRY**

Only the Committee Chair or Representative needs to be a church member for the following:

Music Committee: (One-year term) **STELLA DAWLEY, LYDIA LAVOIE, ROBIN LYON, JOHN MARINO, BEKAH LITTLE, BONNIE RAUE**

Flower Committee: (One-year term) **CAROLYN SHEA, LAURA JACKSON, SHARON MAHAN, NANCY OBREITER, DORIS MACLACHLAN, VACANCY**

Decorating Committee: (One-year term) **WENDY ZAJAC, SHARON BREEN, DENNIS LUND**

Preston City Cemetery Association: (One-year term) **JOYCE BREWSTER**

Coffee Hour Committee: (One-year term) **DAN BOLLES, BARBARA HELLMERS, STELLA DAWLEY, MERRIE HEDLER, KAYE SCHLOUGH, NORMA SCHLOUGH, BEA & HARRY COLEMAN, JOY & RICHARD CHALIFOUX**

Hospitality Representative: (One-year term) **MERRIE HEDLER**

Event Coordinating Committee: (Three-year term, 2021 – 2024, eligible for re-election) **SANDY DUDEK, KEITH HARRISON, LINDA KENT-FARINHA, CHUCK NORRIS**

Standing Committee Members: (17) Pastor, Clerk, Church Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Moderator, Historian, Administrative Assistant, Senior Deacon (or designee), Head Trustee (or designee), Finance Committee Chairperson (or designated alternate), Director of Religious Education, Board of Religious Education Chairperson (or designated alternate), 2 Members-at-Large, Missions Committee Chairperson (or designated alternate), Music Committee Chairperson (or designated alternate), Flower Committee Chairperson (or designated alternate)

An (*) indicates the person is filling an unexpired term and will be eligible for re-election.

Respectfully submitted,

The Nominating Committee (One-year term, not to exceed 3 years)

Lee Ann Fessenden	1 year
Robert Vescovi	2 years
Sharon Breen	3 years
Rev Stan White	

2021 Church Budget Proposed	2020	2021	
DESCRIPTION	Budget	Proposed	Changes
Pastor's Salary-Rev Stan 1/1-7/31	\$ 31,155.00	\$ 18,174.00	
Pastor's Retirement (Reliastar)	\$ 25,200.00	\$ 14,700.00	
Pastor's Life Insurance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,750.00	
Housing Allowance	\$ 32,861.00	\$ 19,169.00	
Car Allowance	\$ 2,851.00	\$ 1,663.00	
Health Insurance (Healthplan & BC/BS)	\$ 16,561.00	\$ 9,434.00	
Health Reimbursement Account	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 4,077.00	
Telephone - Pastor	\$ 240.00	\$ 140.00	
Conf Education - Pastor	\$ 200.00	\$ 117.00	
Total		\$ 69,224.00	
Pulpit Coverage/Guest Minister	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	
New Minister-8/1-12/31-Salary		\$ 24,017.00	
Housing Allowance		\$ 10,417.00	
Auto Expense		\$ 1,250.00	
Professional Exp		\$ 208.00	
Continuing Education Exp		\$ 417.00	
Travel to Conferences		\$ 208.00	
Total:		\$ 36,517.00	
Moving Expenses New Minister		5,000.00	
Dir Religious Education	\$ 17,483.00	\$ 12,000.00	
Conf Education - DRE	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
DRE support	\$ 400.00	\$ -	Remove
Pastor's Admin Ass't	\$ 21,306.00	\$ 21,306.00	
Office supplies, services, maint/repair office	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
PAA Office Sub	\$ 500.00	\$ -	Remove
Payroll Expenses: Intuit Renewal Charges	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	
Copier Usage(contract 5/16-5/21)	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00	
Organist/Choir Director	\$ 19,123.00	\$ 14,342.00	9 mos
Interim Organist	\$ -	\$ -	Remove
Guest Organist	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,200.00	Inc 3 mos
Instrument Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Music Copyright	\$ -	\$ 225.00	fr Office Supplies
Music	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	
Custodian	\$ 17,757.00	\$ 17,757.00	
Custodian Sub	\$ 640.00	\$ 598.00	Keep under \$600
Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ -	Remove
Parish Nurse	\$ 100.00	\$ -	Remove
Fica/Med	\$ 5,789.00	\$ 5,005.00	Reflect new DRE

