



## THE LITTLE PILGRIM

A weekly update of church happenings for  
**Preston City Congregational Church**  
Week of February 15, 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](http://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. Because services were canceled last Sunday (2/14), there are no statistics available this week.



### ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Report for 2020 is now available and can be picked up at the church on Sunday mornings. You can also pick up a copy at the annex during the week, however, please call ahead to let Sandy know that you will be stopping by. If neither of these options work for you, call the office and a copy will be mailed to your home. The Annual Report is an important document in any church. Not only does it review the events and happenings of the past year, it reveals the financial records of the various boards and committees, as well as the church budget for 2021. Thank you to Sandy for coordinating and running off the report. It's no small job, and we appreciate her efforts! We also thank those who contributed a report.



### GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

Although a large portion of our church family continues to remain at home for safety reasons on Sunday mornings, we appreciate the many families and individuals who continue supporting the work of the church each week by mailing in their tithes and offerings. Thank you for your faithfulness. Please remember that our 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](mailto:RVesco2010@comcast.net) or (401) 583.7840.

### WEB STREAM SERVICES

We are interested in knowing if there are people who would like to help out with production of our Sunday web stream service? If so, let one of the team members know; Jim or Sandra Wright, Patrick Magowan, or Sue Brosnan. They can tell you what's involved and answer any questions you have. You could even watch the recording of a service to see how it's done. It's a very interesting process. Consider getting involved. *Thanks!*

### SCHOLARSHIP MONTH

For several years now February has been the month we ask you to consider making a contribution to the church's scholarship fund for people pursuing their first degree. The scholarship fund was established back in the 90's to honor the memory of Helen & Winthrop Benjamin. Over the years, many scholarships have been presented to deserving young people from our church thanks to your giving. Please consider making a contribution again this year. Here's how it works:

- Write a check for whatever amount you'd like to give. Make it payable to PCCC. In the memo section write: *Scholarship Fund*.
- Place it in an envelope, along with who the donation is in memory of, or in honor of.
- Place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church.
- Contributions will be accepted through the end of May.
- A listing of donors (no amounts) will be printed in the worship folder on Scholarship Sunday (June 13<sup>th</sup>).

We have many deserving young people who will graduate this June. Let's show them how much we care about them and their future aspirations. Please give as you are able.

#### NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Sunday fun day small group "Jesus Loves Me" activity time! For ages 3 – Kindergarten. Come play with Mrs. Van Alst February 21<sup>st</sup>. Come with your family. Sit upstairs, listen to Mrs. Van Alst's Children's message, then follow her down to Dudek Hall. We will have music, movement, games, and crafts! Please register ahead of time so we can ensure health and safety procedures! Masks, hand sanitizer, social distancing will all be included free of charge LOL! At the conclusion of the 9 am service, your family can pick you up outside the double doors of Dudek Hall. Let's have a fun time learning all about God's love! Don't forget if you are in the 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade you are welcome to join us over Zoom this Sunday morning, for fun and games and fellowship. We meet from 10:30 – 11:30 am. One final thing... the **Build a Bear Workshop** is being held Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> over Zoom, starting at 1pm. We only have 3 spots left. Call me at 860.710.1262, or email me: [dre.prestoncity@gmail.com](mailto:dre.prestoncity@gmail.com) if you would like to be included.

**SNOW SCULPTURE CONTEST** from now until February 27<sup>th</sup>. Create a sculpture of any kind. Let's spread the *Love, Joy, Hope of Jesus* all through the town. It's easy:

1. Create and build a snow sculpture, take a pic, send it to my email and you are entered to win a gift card of your choosing: [dre.prestoncity@gmail.com](mailto:dre.prestoncity@gmail.com)
2. Your children, family, neighbors, and friends can all enter.
3. All sculptures must include a heart. They can be big, medium, or small. The heart must have an uplifting phrase/Bible verse on it.
4. Extra points if your sculpture is in a public location! (fire station, nursing home, school...) Please ask permission first. Contact me with any questions.

Blessings always, Mrs. Van Alst



This 40-day season of the Church year began on Ash Wednesday with a quiet service of reflection and introspection, as well as the observance of Holy Communion. The season recalls the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert before the beginning of his public ministry. The church will look a little different during Lent. The curtain behind the cross will be purple; the color for the season. A "Crown of Thorns" plant will be in the Sanctuary to remind us of the crown of thorns that was placed on Christ's head on Good Friday. A metal rooster will be visible to remind us of Peter, one of Jesus' disciples who denied knowing Christ the evening he was arrested and put on trial. There will be other visible signs and symbols to watch for as the season leads us to Good Friday, and then Easter morning and the Resurrection. Be on the look-out!

#### 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

Monday morning at 10 a.m. in Hall's Hall with Rev. Stan. Tuesday evening in Halls' Hall with Pastor Scott Van Alst. Please be sure to wear a mask.

#### 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 beginning **this Sunday** through March 7<sup>th</sup>, with contactless pick up on March 20<sup>th</sup>, just in time for Easter. Check [our website](#) for details!

#### CANCELLATIONS

In case of inclement weather and the need to cancel a service(s) or scheduled event at the church, it will be posted on TV Channel 3, WICH 1310, and when possible on the church's website. A message will also be recorded on the church answering machine (860.887.4647).

*Where Friends Become Family*