THE LITTLE PILGRIM

A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of April 12, 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 141 viewers from 4 countries, 32 states, and 93 cities tuned in last Sunday? Were you one of them? We hope to see you in person one Sunday soon!

While the Governor of Connecticut has stated that churches may return to 100% capacity, the Trustees have increased the number of worshipers at each service to **75 people.** *The safety of our congregation is our top priority.* Temperatures will continue to be checked, and the wearing of masks will be required during worship. Those planning to attend a service must continue to inform the office each week that they plan to be present.

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

What an exciting day last Sunday was for our church! Rev. Raefield Perteet was elected to serve as our next pastor. He will begin his ministry with us on July 26th. We welcome Rev. Rae and his wife Kimberly to our congregation. *– Sharon Breen*

2021 ANNUAL MEETING CALL & AGENDA

The Annual Meeting of the Preston City Congregational church will be held **THIS SUNDAY**, April 18, 2021, at noon in the Sanctuary for the following actions:

1. To accept the reports of Officers, Boards, Committees, and other church organizations.
2. To vote on the proposed Bylaw revisions.
3. To transact any other business that may be brought before the congregation.

Susan P. Brosnan
Clerk

We welcomed into the Household of Christian Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism:

April 9, *Scott Anthony Williams* and *Jay Joseph Williams*
Both brothers attended our church nursery school as little boys; the Sunday School also. They were never baptized until last week. Both men, now in their 50's, returned to their church home for this very special and spiritual event. They recalled many happy memories as they walked through the building.

We express our sympathy to the family of *Tom Toland* who passed away unexpectedly on April 10th. Please keep his wife, Paula, as well as his children and grandchildren in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Tom's funeral will be tomorrow morning, 4/17, at 11 a.m. under the pavilion.

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

"It is more blessed to give than receive." Acts 20:3. As a young child in Sunday School we would add: *for our joys increase when we share with others.* **Joys** and **blessings**, what can be better to receive than these? Thank you for your faithful giving, it keeps us financially "on track." Please keep in mind 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 or (401) 583.7840.

BINGO TO BEGIN AGAIN!

We're happy to say that there will be 39 Bingo sessions at Strawberry Park this Year! The coordinators will be Sally Exley, Lee Ann Fessenden, Sue Riley and Lisa Fessenden. The calendar for Bingo sessions (dates and times) will be posted on the mid-level bulletin board; we hope you will sign-up to lend a hand at the Park. This year, Bingo cards have been replaced with throw away paper cards. We will be behind plexiglass while selling the cards. Gloves and sanitizer will be provided by the park. Masks and social distancing will also be required. Workers need to be at the park 30 minutes before each session to sell cards. Anyone wanting to help can do so by filling out a "Personal Identification Number" (PIN) form at the church office. It will be submitted to the town of Preston for approval. Please contact Sally Exley with any questions: 860.822.9005.

REMINDER

Completed church scholarship application forms are due in the church office by noon on Friday, April 30th. Call the church office if you'd like us to mail out an application. Awards will be presented to young people pursuing their first college degree on June 13th. Please consider giving a monetary gift to the church scholarship fund in memory or celebration of a loved one. Be sure to indicate that your gift is for the fund. Donations made (no amounts) will be listed in the worship folder on the 13th.

MOTHER'S DAY GERANIUMS

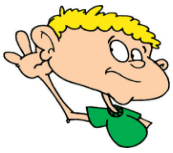
Again this year, the Decorating Committee will be placing these beautiful plants in church in honor of, or in memory of mothers. To order a plant for this special day (May 9th), please contact Wendy Zajac at 860.886.1588, or email Dennis Lund at: dblund72622@gmail.com. Be sure to let them know who your plant is in memory/celebration of so it may be included in the Mother's Day worship folder. The cost is $8.50 per plant. Please make your check payable to PCCC. Orders may be placed through May 2nd.

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

We continue to meet in our mixed groups in Dudek Hall. Don't forget to call the office and let them know you will be attending. The Second Sunday (11th), grades 2 -5 will follow me downstairs after the children's message for stories, songs, and crafts. The third Sunday, **THIS SUNDAY,** (18th), Toddlers 3, 4, K and grade 1 will have their Sunday Funday downstairs. Finally, the BIG KIDS (25th), grades 6 – 12 are invited for donuts in Dudek Hall. As always masks, social distancing, and FUN will be provided. *– Blessings always, Lisa Van Alst*

SPRING YARD SALE

Save the date, Saturday, May 15, from 8 – 2 p.m. in the lower parking lot (Rain date: May 29). Start cleaning out those attics and basements! Call Stella Dawley to arrange a drop off time (860) 887.6452. The annex basement is packed! Stella is now filling Sunday School classrooms! Be sure to call her before dropping off your treasures!



HOW WELL WERE YOU LISTENING?

On Easter, I told the story about Mrs. Roberts. What was the nickname given to Mrs. Roberts by the cemetery-goers? ANSWER: *The Cemetery Evangelist.* Congratulations to Cindy Lowe for being the first to answer correctly.

Last Sunday, Rev. Rae, your newly elected Minister, began his sermon with a funny story. Question… What kind of birds were they, and what were the birds trained to say? The first person to email me: **sewhite3022@gmail.com** the correct answer will win a $25 *Panera Gift Card*.

Where Friends Become Family