



THE LITTLE PILGRIM

*A weekly update of church happenings for
Preston City Congregational Church
Week of April 26, 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 81 viewers from 2 countries, 22 states, and 58 cities tuned in last Sunday? Archive viewership last week was 145. Were you one of them? We hope to see you in person one Sunday soon!



The Trustees have increased the number of worshippers 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.



HAPPY SPRING



Thank you so very Much

GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH

Thank you for continuing to believe in the purpose of our church: – **To proclaim** the Good News within the walls of the church and in the communities we represent – **To encourage** each other in our walk of faith. Your weekly giving keeps us moving forward and is so appreciated! Please keep in mind that the Financial Secretary, Sue Creamer, picks up the offerings received via the mail, on Friday 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.

LOOKING FOR BINGO VOLUNTEERS!

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.



IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

"It is with mixed emotions that I announce my plan to retire September 26, 2021. James and I plan to become Florida residents this fall. The decision was made last August, but the church was already involved with ONE search, so I decided to wait until the pastoral search was over before I made this announcement.

I have loved my time here in Preston, and you all know that already. Thank you all for your support of the music program. I hope your search for a new music director is an interesting one. I pray you are able to find not just a musician, but a true church musician." – Robin Lyon
Organist and Choir Director



UPDATE

Because of where things were at with the Covid pandemic in February, we were not able to have college students make their annual appeal to the congregation in support of the church scholarship fund. As a result, contributions were down considerably. Please consider giving a monetary gift to this important fund in memory or celebration of a loved one. Be sure to indicate that your gift is for the scholarship fund. You may give your gift in memory/celebration/honor of someone. Please include this information with your donation. You can mail it to the church, or put in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Donations made (no amounts) will be listed in the worship folder on June 13th. *Thanks!*

*** PLEASE NOTE ***

We will continue offering two services of worship throughout the summer months; 9 & 10:30 a.m. The same guidelines for attending worship will remain in place. We hope to see you!

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 must be placed by this Sunday, May 2nd.



NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

SAVE THE DATES... The week of July 12th – 16th is VBS which is open to ages 4 through 5th grade. Watch for registration forms starting next week in your email. We are also looking for help. If you are in the 6th grade or higher, you are who we are looking for as a "Crew Leader." Get ready to pack a bag and board the ROCKY RAILROAD. More info to follow. Remember... this Sunday is *Family Sunday* (no small groups downstairs.

– 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! Help is needed on the day of the sale (set-up 6 a.m. and clean-up 1:30 p.m.).

WE'RE LOOKING, ARE YOU INTERESTED?

The Little Pilgrim began soon after the pandemic began as a way of keeping the church family and friends informed of church news and happenings while apart from each another. We're looking for someone to oversee, coordinate, and prepare the *Pilgrim* for print and distribution beginning in June. Sandy Dudek and Patrick Magowan take care of (e)mailing it to the friends and members of the church by Friday each week. If you're interested in knowing more about what's involved, please speak with the minister.

GOT QUESTIONS?

With my retirement drawing closer, people have been asking me lots of very interesting questions; *What will you do next? Why did you stay so long?* At first, I wasn't sure how to take this question! *What have been some of your most memorable moments over the years?* Do you have a question you'd like me to answer? If so, email it to me, and I'll answer it during the service when time permits.



WERE YOU LISTENING?

Answers for April 18th questions: Name one of the two hymns sung on April 18th, "To God Be the Glory" and "He Lives." Congratulations to Lee Ann Fessenden who was the first to answer correctly.

This week's question... *Noah had three sons, name them.* The first person to email me: sewhite3022@gmail.com the correct answer will win a \$25 gift card to *Dunkin' Donuts*.

"Where Friends Become Family"