

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



Week of August 16, 2021

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9AM – Noon

**Have a question?
Need help?**

Please call: The Office
860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

**WORSHIP AND WEB STREAM
INFORMATION**

Summer worship services are at
9AM and 10:30AM.

For those who are unable to
attend in-person, the 9AM service
is streamed live. Go to
prestoncitycongregational.org. and
click the stream button. Previous
services may be viewed using the
archive system on the site.

8/15/21 Live Viewings – 50;

2 countries; 13 states; 38 cities

Archive viewings 8/08/21 – 144

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday School

Children's Message during the
service; Sunday School follows

Bingo

Card sellers needed for Saturdays
in September & October

Senior Picnic

Tuesday, August 24 at Noon

SENIOR PICNIC UPDATE



8/24/21 NOON -- Rain date 8/25/2021

THE SENIOR PICNIC signup is full with 11 on the
waiting list! If you are on the list and a spot opens up,
Sandy will call you. You also will be called in the event of
inclement weather. Call the office (860.887.4647) if you
are unsure of the weather.

Thank you to all the people who came forward to help.
It's so appreciated. *Sandy and Rick.*

Pastor's Corner

Saint Teresa of Avila, once said "prayer is nothing else than being on terms of
friendship with God." If this statement is true, then what happens when that
friendship seems strained? What happens when it seems that our prayers are
not being answered? Christ's response to each disciple attempts to lessen
their frustration and/or overcome their disbelief, is simple, clear and concise,
"We ought always to pray and never lose heart." Luke 18:1 (emphasis
added).

What I love about the above scripture in James, is the brilliant illustration that
follows. It is the story of Elijah who has prayed asking God to bring rain upon
a dry land after years of drought. The scripture says that the man of God
prayed and nothing happened. Well, nothing immediate and visible happened.
In fact, Elijah sent a servant of his to look out towards the sea, to check to
see if there were any clouds in the sky. Elijah sent him back to check seven
times! Can you imagine the type of faith required to still believe God after so
many days without even the slightest sign of an answer! Finally, on the
seventh day, after looking at the sky, Elijah's servant came back with a report
that there was one cloud in the sky. However, the cloud looked as small as
the size of a man's hand. That was enough proof for Elijah. He started down
from the mountain where he was stationed, convinced it would rain. Sure
enough, not long after, water poured from the heavens!

I love this story for its encouragement. This scripture should reassure us that,
even when we have prayed and there seems to be no answer, God has still
heard our prayer. His timing is not ours, and therefore, it becomes very easy
to become discouraged and give up. However, whomever you are praying for
this week and whatever you personally have been praying and believing God
specifically for, I want you to stretch your faith; keep looking towards heaven
for ways that, although small, are really signs that God is working in your life
to answer the prayers of your heart.

See you on Sunday,

Rev. Rae

IMPORTANT NEWS

8/18/2021 Effective immediately, and until
further notice, for the safety of all church-goers,
we **strongly recommend** that **everyone wear a
mask** inside the church as suggested by the
Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
and the Southeastern Connecticut Council of
Governments (SECCOG). This is due to the rapid
increase recently of COVID 19 in our area and
**applies to both those vaccinated and
unvaccinated.**

Thank you for your consideration for all.



In person Sunday School will be LAUNCHING Sunday, September 12th, @ 8:45a.m.

This year's Sunday School will look slightly different. We are going to be launching a NEW SUNDAY FAMILY FUNDAY, the 1st Sunday of every month. That's right, Communion Sunday we will sit as families upstairs, all together. You can choose to attend the 9 a.m. service or 10:30 a.m. service, maybe even our Virtual Service at home in your P.J.s. We will meet later at the church for a Family Fun activity....Mark your calendars for SUNDAY, OCT. 3, 2021 as we will be building scarecrows to take home! I have the wooden forms and straw. You bring the family power, ideas (Pinterest is great for this), any items you want to use on your scarecrow, and smiles! Stay tuned for further details.....

In order for our LAUNCH to be as safe as possible..... Masks will be required for ALL ADULTS helping in Sunday School as well as children attending from Toddler 3 up to high school age. Nursery children will not be required to wear masks. We will also be using the double doors to enter Dudek Hall. There will be 2 hand sanitizing stations to use, 1 on the left & 1 on the right. Children will sit in groups no larger than 10. At present we will sing, dance and play non-contact games. These procedures will be reevaluated at the Board of Religious Education's monthly meeting.

Check here in the Little Pilgrim as well as emails for MORE information.....

To register just grab a form on the colorful table set up outside the Sanctuary upstairs, contact me for one, & check your email!!!!

There are still openings in the Mission Control Team, if you feel that you would LOVE to guide children toward Jesus. **Current openings** - Toddler 3 & 4 lead teacher, Kindergarten assistant, & Crew Leaders for grades 1 - 12. Contact me with your questions or ideas.

We will also be holding a brief pre-launch meeting **Sunday AUGUST 29th** in Dudek Hall to go over all questions & changes to this year's Sunday School schedule at 11:30 a.m. (after 2nd service). If you have said yes to helping, please plan on attending, or if you still are unsure or have questions, attend also!

Blessings always

Mrs. Lisa Van Alst D.R.E.

(860) 710-1262 or dre.prestoncity@gmail.com

INFANT NURSERY

The church nursery will be taking a summer break! The room will be available to use, but WILL NOT be staffed until Sunday school reopens.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 11 @ 9am. We are planning a delightful event for this meeting; more details to follow.

SEARCH FOR ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

We are presently searching for a new Organist/ Choir Director. If anyone knows of someone who might be interested in this position and would like more information, please have them contact John Marino at: marinojohn@sbcglobal.net.

BINGO



We have some **Saturday bingos** coming up in **September** and **October**, and then **Labor Day & Columbus Day weekends** at Strawberry Park. We need three workers to sell cards at each session; please sign-up if you are able to help. **Thank you** to those who have signed up to assist.

Do you have a Personal Identification Number (PIN) necessary to help? The office has the information and forms available to get you started if you don't!

A NEW FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH

Looking for a special gift or something for yourself?

Members of the Supper Committee are offering the opportunity to purchase eco-conscious items through Boon Supply. There are kitchen items, reusable shopping bags and accessories, gift items and home goods. The church will receive **40%** of each purchase. You make your purchase online, shipping and tax are included, and your items are shipped right to your home! The shopping begins August 15 and ends September 13, plenty of time to view the online catalog!



[Start shopping](#)

Our **FALL YARD SALE** is planned for **October 2nd**.

Start setting aside all of those goodies!

We will let you know when we are able to collect items.



AND REMEMBER...

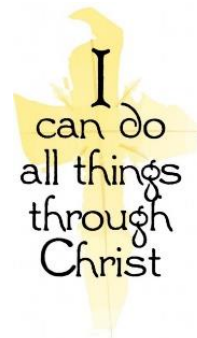
THE CLOTHING SHED is always open for donations. We can accept used clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals.

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR

Please send information to be included in the newsletter no later than Tuesday at noon each week:

susan.brosnan@gmail.com. Thank you

THE LAST WORD



Philippians 4:13