

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



**Week of January 9, 2022 -
January 16, 2022**

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**

Worship services at 9AM & 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.

Live viewings: 58; countries -2; states
-13; cities -36; Archives last week:142

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirmation Class Tu. 6:30PM

AA Wed. 7:30PM Dudek Hall

Tuesday Evening Bible Study
begins 1/18 @ 7PM

Standing Committee January 19
at 7PM

COVID UPDATE 12/31/2021

The Standing Committee voted
and requests **that masks be
worn by everyone, if you are
able, vaccinated or
unvaccinated**, when in the
church building and church office,
beginning Sunday, January 2,
2022.

The Standing Committee will
assess our needs at their next
meeting, which is January 19,
2022. We will update you as
circumstances warrant.

Pastor's Corner

Do you trust God and believe in God? Proverbs reminds us to do exactly that. It states, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).

Let's make 2022 a year of faith, to believe in God's promises above all else. I love the last part of the verse above that states, "lean not on your own understanding." Our understanding of a situation can come from numerous places that don't always align with God's plan or truth for our lives.

Are you willing to read the word of God and to spend time in prayer this year in order to get an understanding of God's best for you?

Above what the news says, current events, or cultural sentiments, I pray that you enter 2022 holding onto the promises that God declares over your life. Know that God says that you are more than a conqueror through His spirit and that your best days have not yet passed, but are still in front of you!

My hope is that you will activate your faith, trust, and belief in God, and look forward to what He has in store for you in the coming year.

See you on Sunday,

Rev. Rae

DOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Interested in serving as a door monitor in January and/or February? A sign-up sheet is located on the main bulletin board for both the 9:00 and 10:30 services, or you can contact Bob Vescovi at RVesco2010@comcast.net or 401.583.7840.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the table in the mid-level hallway if you requested them. Call Financial Secretary Sue Creamer with any questions. **Receipts for 2021** are also available to be picked up.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...

Time to start working on those annual reports for 2021! **Reports will be due to the church office by January 16, 2022.**

CHURCH CANCELLATIONS

When the decision is made that church or Sunday School must be cancelled, usually due to inclement weather, please tune into television Channel 3, call the church office (860 887-4647) for a recorded message, check our Facebook page or the website (prestoncitycongregational.org). If an event needs to be cancelled, that, too, will be posted as above. Please remember that church services may not be cancelled even if Sunday School is!



2022 has started with a BANG! Some households ended the year with Covid and some, MINE, started the year with Covid! One thing I know for certain, though, is that God hasn't abandoned us. The Lord promised us in the Bible, multiple times, that He will never forsake us or leave us in our time of need. He is still walking by us and the world, helping us get through this terrible time. Where is God? God is with us. Here are the promises you need to remember.

God is in control. (Romans 8:28)
 God will walk us through it. (Proverbs 16:9)
 God always stands by His people. (Romans 8:38-39)
 God is calling us to be Shepherds.

In times of crisis and adversity, peace is a precious commodity, and no peace is more precious than the peace God gives us through His Son. In fact, when fear and uncertainty abound, as God's people, we ought to be a reservoir of His peace. We can become a sanctuary where our family, friends, and others may turn for prayer, assurance, and encouragement. Jesus tells us in John 16:33, "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." In Ephesians 2:14, the apostle Paul takes this incredible encouragement one step further, telling us that not only does Christ bring us peace, but that "He Himself is our peace." God is in you.

We struggle as a society to cope with natural tragedies. It can be hard to wonder where God is during this dark time. The truth is that God is still with us, walking us through the pain and suffering. He is guiding us and wrapping His protective arms around our scared hearts.

So, I am challenging all the Sunday School Families to be the LIGHT of God's HOPE to at least 1 family, friend, or co-worker. Pray for them, then with them, and then invite them to church, Sunday School, or just to an event with your family! Let this be the year of God's HOPE.

6th - Highschool Families check your emails Friday!!! I will be sending a ZOOM link regarding the Teen Mission Trip of 2022!!!!

Blessings always,

Lisa Van Alst

WARM CLOTHING AND COATS



The church collection of warm clothing items has ended, but the winter has just begun. Laurie Bowers (860 514-1098) will continue to pick up donated items. These warm items are much needed and greatly appreciated.

BIBLE STUDY



Thursday morning study will begin in 2022.
 -Rev. Rae

The Tuesday Night Bible Study Group will begin meeting this coming Tuesday, Jan. 18th at 7pm. We will be studying the book of James using Max Lucado's "*Life Lessons from James*" Study Guide. The class will be in-person and on Zoom. We ask those in attendance in Hall's Hall to be masked regardless of their vaccination status due to the close proximity of the tables and the rise in the recent Covid numbers. We are socially distanced and take precautions before and after class to sanitize the tables. To join on Zoom, please follow the

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9038488535?pwd=SHFJbVVZS2JWOGVGaUMxTllmWXdkdz09>

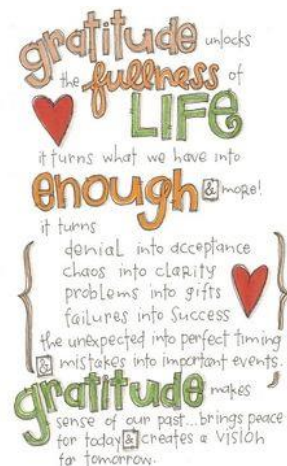
For more information or a copy of the first lesson, please contact Scott VanAlst by phone (860-237-7964) or by email (scottv916@gmail.com).



THE ADULT CHOIR will not hold practice in the month of January.

We hope to start again in February.
 -Marie Quinn

THE LAST WORD



CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

Office CLOSED Monday, January 17
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Confirmation class meets Tuesday at 6:30PM.

THE SUPPER COMMITTEE is looking ahead and planning their dinners for 2022. Their first take-out dinner will be at the end of April.

