

Preston City Congregational Church



**Week of February 6, 2022 -
February 13, 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 last week: 48; Countries:
2; States: 13; Cities: 32
Archives: 149

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Annual Meeting Sunday Feb 13
at Noon**

Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7P

AA Wed. 7:30P Dudek Hall

Thursday 2/17 Bible Study 10A

COVID UPDATE 1/19/2022

The Standing Committee met and
still requests **that masks be
worn by everyone, if you are
able, vaccinated or
unvaccinated**, when in the
church building and church office.
The Standing Committee will
continue to assess our needs and
keep everyone informed.

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.

Pastor's Corner

In the next few weeks, we will begin a short sermon series on the life of Joseph the Dreamer. In preparation for this sermon series, I invite you to ponder the following excerpt From Howard Thurman's book, *A Strange Freedom* entitled "Keep Alive The Dream in the Heart."

As long as a person has a dream in their heart, they cannot lose the significance of living. It is a part of the pretensions of modern life to traffic in what is generally called "realism." There is much insistence upon being practical down to earth. Such things as dreams are wont to be regarded as romantic or as a badge of immaturity, or as escape hatches for the human spirit. When such a mood or attitude is carefully scrutinized, it is found to be made up largely of pretensions, in short, of bluff. Men cannot continue long to live if the dream in the heart has perished. It is then that they stop hoping, stop looking, and the last embers of their anticipations fade away.

The dream in the heart is the outlet. It is one with the living water welling up from the very springs of Being, nourishing and sustaining all of life. Where there is no dream, the life becomes a swamp, a dreary dead place and, deep within, a person's heart begins to rot. The dream need not be some great and overwhelming plan; it need not be a dramatic picture of what might or must be someday; it need not be a concrete outpouring of a world-shaking possibility of sure fulfillment. Such may be important for some; such may be crucial for a particular moment of human history. But it is not in these grand ways that the dream nourishes life. The dream is the quiet persistence in the heart that enables a person to ride out the storms of their churning experiences. It is the exciting whisper moving through the aisles of a person's spirit answering the monotony of limitless day so of dull routine. It is the ever-recurring melody in the midst of the broken harmony and harsh discords of human conflict. It is the touch of significance which highlights the ordinary experience, the common event.

The dream is no outward thing. It does not take its rise from the environment in which one moves or functions. It lives in the inward parts, it is deep within, where the issues of life and earth are ultimately determined. Keep alive the dream; for as long as a person has a dream in their heart, they cannot lose the significance of living.

-Dr. Howard Thurman

See You Sunday,

Rev Rae

DOOR MONITORS

Can you help us on Sunday mornings in March serving as a door monitor at the double door entrance? Guidelines for door monitors are posted above the sign-up sheet on the mid-level bulletin board for both the 9 & 10:30 service. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Vescovi at RVesco2010@comcast.net or 401.583.7840. Thanks!



I would like for you to meet Max Wotring. Max is a Senior at N.F.A. and has just been notified that he is officially an Eagle Scout. Max worked hard fundraising, buying, packing, and shipping boxes of supplies to our military men and women overseas. Max also participated in our last teen mission trip, Vacation Bible School last summer and if you attended the Children's Service on Christmas Eve, he was the Narrator for our skit. Max lives with his mom, Lisa, and dad, Mark Wotring, as well as his younger brother, Luke. Please watch for future spotlights on youth in our Sunday School!

The Teen Mission Trip needs you!! The trip is scheduled for July 17th-22nd. If you will be entering grades 6 -12 in the fall of 2022 you are able to attend. If we don't have at least 5 signed up by March 1, 2022, we will need to cancel it! Please stop by Dudek Hall after any service to ask questions or gather more information. You may also call/text or email me!

Finally, the Good Friday Children's event is BACK... On April 15 we will need volunteers to lead the different stations, serve lunch, set up/tear down, etc... Please let me know if you are able to help with this fun learning event. 6th graders and up can be helpers, as well as, moms, dads, grandparents, & church members. What a great day to bring the entire church together to celebrate Jesus!!! Contact me by the end of February, or I may just find you!

Love and Blessings always,

Lisa Van Alst

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

The Annual Report for 2021 is available for people to pick up. Read what your church has accomplished this past year!

2022 ANNUAL MEETING CALL & AGENDA FEBRUARY 13, 2022 Noon

The Annual Meeting of the Preston City Congregational Church will be held in the Sanctuary, on Sunday, February 13, 2022, at noon for the following actions:

1. To accept the reports of Officers, Boards, Committees, and other church organizations.
2. To vote on the proposed 2022 budget of \$233,689.
3. To act on the Nominating Committee's proposed slate for 2022.
4. To vote on the proposed Bylaw revision.
5. To transact any other business that may be brought before the congregation.

Susan Brosnan
Clerk



SCHOLARSHIP MONTH

In 1992, February was established as Scholarship month, in order to give church-goers the opportunity to contribute to the Helen Benjamin Scholarship Fund. Helen worked in the Preston School system for many years and was dedicated to the education of our youth. Upon her passing, the family established the fund in her memory, in order to provide assistance for young people seeking to further their education. When her husband died in 2015, the fund was renamed as the Winthrop C. and Helen Benjamin Scholarship Fund. Through the years, many of our young people have benefited from this fund, thanks in part to your giving.

We are offering the opportunity to members and friends of the church to consider giving a monetary gift to the scholarship fund. You may give your gift in memory of or in honor of someone. A listing of donors (no amounts) will be printed in the worship folder on Scholarship Sunday, which is usually in June. You may place your donation in an envelope marked *Scholarship Fund* and place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church. Checks should be made out to PCCC with *Scholarship Fund* on the memo line. Donations are accepted through the end of May.

Together we can show our young people how much we care about them and their goals. Please give if you are able.

BIBLE STUDY



Thursday Morning Bible Study Group will resume on Thursday Feb 17th at 10am with a guided study on the life of Queen Esther by Max Lucado entitled "You Were Made for this Moment." Come participate in a study that inspires us to step up and stand out for God! We also ask those attending the study in Hall's Hall to wear a mask at the current time.

For more information or a copy of the study guide please contact Rev. Rae by phone (860-887-4647) or via email (rae.e.pertee@gmail.com).

The Tuesday Night Bible Study Group is meeting 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 lesson, please contact Scott Van Alst by phone (860-237-7964) or by email (scottyv916@gmail.com).

SCOUT SUNDAY

February 6, 2022 was Scout Sunday this year. We were honored to have Max Wotring in church who just achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Scouts BSA program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

Congratulations Max! Well done!

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!

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.

Warm items are much needed and greatly appreciated.



THE SUPPER COMMITTEE

is looking ahead and planning their dinners for 2022. Their first take-out dinner will be April 30th and they will be serving meatloaf.



ADULT CHOIR

We have resumed practice on Thursday evenings at 7P in Hall's Hall. New voices are always welcome and experience is not necessary.

-Marie Quinn

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR

Please send information to be included in the newsletter no later than Tuesday at noon each week: Susan.brosnan@gmail.com or 860 889-0768.

If others have something to share, words of wisdom, (or perhaps a joke or cartoon!), please contact Sue Brosnan

LAST WORD

Happy
Valentine's
Day

