

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



**Week of March 13, 2022 -
March 20, 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; 1 country;
12 states; 33 cities. Archived viewing:
32

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7P
AA Wed. 7:30P Dudek Hall
Adult Choir Practice Thursday 7P

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.

COFFEE HOUR follows Sunday
services. Join us for coffee, punch
and fellowship.

Pastor's Corner

Some years ago, I came to New England in the Fall for studies, but it wasn't until the Spring that I truly fell in love with it. Mostly, I was enamored with how nature came to life with the growing of brilliant colors and with the fragrance of cherry blossoms and Magnolia trees that fill the air. Although I admire nature's beauty, I have never personally had a green thumb and have always marveled at those who do.

When I did try a hand at my version of horticulture (a single potted plant), the times I remember most were when, after looking at a brown patch of dirt for weeks, after remembering to water, but not overwater, trying to guess the right amount of sun or shade... finally, the moment when my effort was rewarded with a tiny green sprout emerging from the dirt.

Our lives develop in much the same way. The growth that we see is the result of much work and preparation that is often not visible as it takes place just beneath the surface. We often wrestle and struggle to emerge in specific areas of our lives, endeavoring to break the surface as our best selves.

The Church at its best, is a place where lives are nourished in this way. A place where they continue to blossom and evolve, and each of us has a role to play in this process. Listen to how the apostle Paul describes the collective effort that aids the growth of an individual in any community of faith; "one plants, the other waters, but God gives the increase." (1 Corinthians 3:6; paraphrased) Whenever we sow seeds of truth, with kindness and love, we are planting seeds that may eventually take root. When we encourage the members of our church family, we continue to water.

It is a process, but with continued effort, the day soon approaches when, with the Grace of God's light, tiny, healthy green leaves begin to sprout. My prayer this week is that we actively seek ways to be the catalyst of growth in someone's world and, because of your faithfulness, that God continues to bring growth to your own life, just as His faithfulness causes the life of our church family to spring forth and grow.

Remaining in His Light,

Rev. Rae

DOOR MONITORS

Can you help us on Sunday mornings in March and April serving as a door monitor at the double door entrance? Guidelines for door monitors are posted above the signup 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.

NEW MEMBERS

Palm Sunday is one of the two Sundays we traditionally welcome new members into our church. This year Palm Sunday is April 10, 2022. Please call the office if you are considering becoming an "official" member, with voting rights and the ability to serve as a church officer or chair committees. If you have questions please call the minister (860 887-4647).



This Sunday the children will be learning how Jesus asks us to bear good fruit! (Luke 13: 1-9) On Sunday, plan on reading it together at home and making some fruit salad, or fruity yogurt parfaits. You can even share with friends, neighbors, or family members who might enjoy the company, or just need a smile!

Registration forms were sent home for the April 15th Good Friday Event. If you didn't receive yours you can pick up one from me in Dudek Hall, the information tables outside the Sanctuary, or send me an email and I can send you one that way! Looking for ways you can be involved even if you can't attend.... we need several dozen hard boiled eggs, help setting up on Thursday April 14th starting @ 5 p.m. and clean up on Friday @ 2:15 p.m. Let me know where you would like to help!

Finally, the Teen Mission Trip to West Virginia will NOT be happening this year. However, look for further information on a MISSION POSSIBLE Weekend here @ the church this summer for all 6th - 12th graders and their friends & family.

Love & Blessings Always,
Lisa Van Alst D.R.E.

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

Please remember to check with the office when scheduling meetings in the church. Thank you

CONFIRMATION

On March 13, 2022, three young men joined the church through the Rite of Confirmation; Brenden Hopkins, Noah Klewin and Luke Wotring. Welcome!

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.

ADULT CHOIR

Choir Rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

New voices are always welcome; experience is not necessary. Please join us as we are preparing for Lent and Easter. -Marie Quinn



BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Morning Bible Study Group meets 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 Halls' 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.perteet@gmail.com). Copies of the study guide are \$14.00. **CANCELED FOR 3/24/2022**

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 Halls' 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=SHFJbVVZS2lWOGVGaUMxTllmWXdkdz09>

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

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

No requests this week. Check again next week!



HAPPY SPRING!





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.

It has been several years since they have been able to offer this favorite! Menu to be announced soon!

CLOTHING SHED

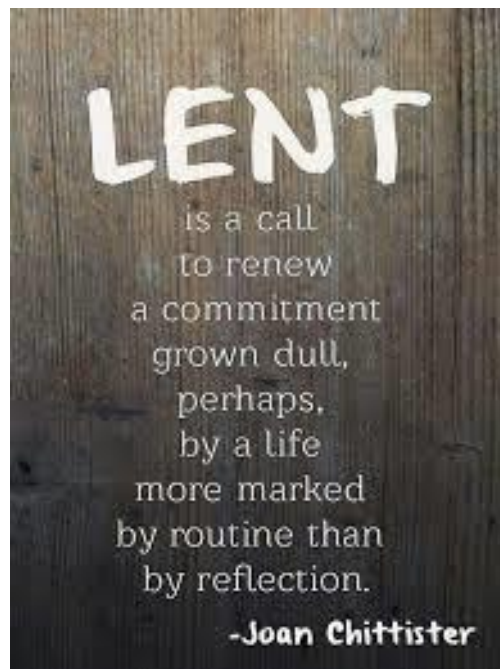
In 2021, 34,139 pounds of clothing were donated to our shed. This was enough to clothe an estimated 6,289 people all over the world. Thank you!

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

— Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

LAST WORD




St. James Episcopal Church
Presents their 57th Annual
Fish Fry

 *Curb side Pick Up!*

Pricing
 \$15.00 per dinner
 Cash Only

This is a Drive Thru Take Out Only Event
Your choice of Baked or Fried fish
All dinners include French Fries, Coleslaw & Dessert!

Call in phone orders starting at 1:00 pm or order in person starting at 4:00 pm.
 Phone order and in person pick ups from 4:00 to 6:30 pm or until sold out.

- Friday, March 04
- Friday, March 11
- Friday, March 18
- Friday, March 25
- Friday, April 01
- Friday, April 08

To place your order Please Call: 860-889-0150
 95 Route 2A, Preston, CT
 (To pick up orders, please enter from Route 2A exit onto Route 117)

