

## Preston City Congregational Church



**The Little Pilgrim**

**Week of May 29, 2022  
June 5, 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**

Summer Worship service at 9:30AM.

For those who are unable to attend in-person, the 9:30AM service is streamed live. Go to [prestoncitycongregational.org](http://prestoncitycongregational.org). and click the stream button. Previous services may be viewed using the archive system on the site. Live viewings last week: 31; 3 countries; 10 states; 24 cities. Archived viewing: 16

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

**Men's Group 6/4  
Communion Sunday 6/5  
Thursday Bible Study 6/9  
Scholarship Sunday 6/12  
Senior Picnic 6/14  
Chicken BBQ Dinner 6/25**

### **COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022**

The Standing Committee has determined that wearing masks is optional.

### **MAY 22 – SEPTEMBER 4**



**Join us for  
LEMONADE ON  
THE LAWN  
following our  
Sunday service.**

### **From the Deacons:**



We have found a new type of pre-packaged communion cup we are going to try. They are much easier to open. However, they will not fit in the receptacles in the pews.

We will have trash containers at the exits of the sanctuary to collect them. You may also leave them on the shelf in the pews and we will gather them after the service. We are going to try them for the June and July communion services. We are asking for feedback from the congregation, so please give one of us your thoughts on how well they work.

Our goal is to go back to the cups and bread, but feel we are not there yet. Thanks!



The **USHERS LIST** for June and July is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

### **ADULT CHOIR**

Choir Rehearsal is on Thursday evenings at 7pm.



### **BIBLE STUDY**

**The Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group** continues @7pm. Our new study will be "Why Easter Matters" from Andy Stanley. It is video based and comes with a study guide that is available on Amazon for ~\$10 or a Kindle version for around \$5. The class is available in person in Hall's Hall or on Zoom by clicking on the link below:

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

For more information, please contact Scott Van Alst by phone (860-237-7964).

**Thursday Morning Bible Study** begins **June 9th @ 11A** with a DVD study entitled "Kingdom Heroes" by Rev. Dr. Tony Evans.



**COMMUNION SUNDAY IS TWO-CAN SUNDAY:  
Time to replenish the Toucan Food Pantry on June 5th.**

Always needed: cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, rice, macaroni and cheese, pasta, and spaghetti sauce.

Donation boxes are located at both entry doors.

Thank you for your continuing support for this vital ministry.

## **FROM THE MINISTER...**

### **Spread Your Wings**

"Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young... the Lord led them." (Deuteronomy 32:11,12)

Do you know how an eagle first learns to soar? It begins with discomfort. That's right; the majestic, seemingly effortless ability of an eagle to dominate the sky with beauty and grace all begins with a little discomfort!

When the eaglets are young, the nest is a safe and comfortable place. It's a place where they are fed and cared for with little effort on their own part. However, as they begin to mature and grow, not only does the physical space of the nest become a precious commodity, which is itself uncomfortable. But, particularly the mother eagle intentionally begins rearranging the nest. She causes sticks and twigs that once lay flat and smooth at the bottom of the nest to now protrude at awkward angles, denying the young eaglets the ability to feel settled regardless of where they turn. This prodding and prompting continues until they are urged to leave the nest, by spreading their wings and attempting to do what they have seen their mother do countless times—soar.

God encourages us, His children, to spread our wings in much the same way. During our process of growth, we will find, in time, circumstances that were once tolerable, if not completely comfortable, begin to protrude in ways that cause severe irritation and discomfort. Sure, sometimes this feeling of discomfort is just life being life. Sometimes, it is no more than the daily annoyances that come from sharing this earth with 7 billion other people; it's just life. However, at other moments, particularly when the discomfort is severe and continuous, God may be using that discomfort to prompt us to grow and evolve past our confining circumstances. Although each individual circumstance is always particular, God's methods of prompting us remain familiar.

One theologian framed it this way, "We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists on being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world." (C.S. Lewis). Although it is often difficult to see discomfort as a positive, I implore you the next time you face a series of discomforting moments to stop and consider. Could it be that you really do have the most annoying coworkers in the world? Or that yes, everyone really would be happier if they saw things the way you do? That could be true? But then again, maybe it's more that you are seeing with eyes of vision that are better adjusted to the environment you are heading towards than the one you're currently in... Maybe, feeling the discomfort of a situation, a hyper-awareness that is more acute now than ever before, is simply because your nest is becoming too small and too limiting. Perhaps you are being positioned to spread your wings and attempt to soar to new and higher heights.

At best, our times of trial and pain remind us that we are each on a journey and that standing still is the quickest way for our lives to atrophy. The poking and prodding of life helps us to remain mobile towards purpose and destiny, which is often the best course of action. And when we encounter pain during our journey, it becomes a good reminder to make sure we are moving towards God's best purpose for us, His children.

My prayer for you is that when times of discomfort arise, you will look up toward the source of light and healing and take a moment to consider how your challenges, although unsettling, might prompt you to spread your wings and soar!

Remaining In His Light,

Rev. Rae



**Hay Day  
Vacation Bible School Registration is  
HAPPENING!!!!**

3-year-olds are welcome with an adult accompanying them! Preschool thru 5th grade are welcome. 6th - 12th graders we NEED YOU! Contact Lisa about how you can help. Church Family we need you too! Supplies, snacks, crew leaders, help at the Friday Family Cookout, grillers, servers, set-up, clean-up, or just as an audience to cheer the kids on! Contact me with how you can help!  
**MISSION imPOSSIBLE WEEKEND** starts July 16th. DO YOU KNOW A 6TH-12TH GRADER? We will be serving in the Community and here at church! Swimming Friday night, Escape room Saturday night, service sites Friday & Saturday day. If you register by June 29th, it's FREE! Late registrations will be taken until July 5th, but will cost \$50.00! Friends are welcome, so let's go PCCC!  
**Finally**, is there anyone who would like to help our children by joining the crew of teachers, children's choir director, Christmas Pageant directors, skit team, story teller??? Let me know your ideas.  
It takes a village, or even better a FAMILY!  
LOVE & BLESSINGS,  
Lisa Van Alst D.R.E.

**CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES**

**The Senior Picnic** is June 14<sup>th</sup> at noon at the pavilion; the rain date is Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.  
If you regularly attend this church and are 62 or older, you are invited to come.  
**We have started a wait list; please call the office to be added.**

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY**

No requests this week.  
Check again next week.  
**We are here if you need us!**



**CONDOLENCES**

We expressed our sympathies to the family and friends of Barbara (BJ) Perry on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.



**THE SUPPER COMMITTEE** is planning a  
**CHICKEN BARBECUE DINNER**  
on June 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Adults - \$15 and Children - \$8  
Tickets are available after Sunday service  
or through the office.  
**Take-out and/or limited seating**

**BINGO at Strawberry Park**

We are one of the non-profit organizations that assist at the games selling cards and receive funds which are used to offset our budget. Please sign-up if you are able to help; we need three workers to sell cards at each session. Sign-up to help on the Bingo calendars posted on the mid-level bulletin board just outside Dudek (Sunday School) Hall. Lee Ann Fessenden, Lisa Fessenden, Shirley Hodkinson and Sue Riley are the co-chairmen this session. **We have TWO week-long bingo sessions scheduled and need your help!**



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! You must be a church member to receive a PIN.  
**Thank you** to those who sign up to assist and continue to make this a successful mission for our church.

**Angel Voices**

How we welcomed  
Long awaited Springtime,  
Young mother of our seasons.  
Harken to the nesting song  
Where birds of golden throat belong.  
May this season provide the reasons  
For Heavenly mirth to sing.

Indeed, our creator set the earth to tilting  
So this phenomenon would be.  
Thus if you listen carefully,  
You will hear angel voices liltng.

Michael Barrett

## MEMORIAL BRICK GARDEN

We are again offering the opportunity for you to purchase a brick to be placed in our



Memorial Garden in the lower parking lot beside the walkway. You can purchase a brick in honor of, in celebration of, or in memory of someone. A 4"x 8" brick costs \$75, and can have up to engraving and up to 18 characters per line. 8"x 8" brick costs \$125, can have up to six lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line. Order forms can be found on the table in the mid-level hallway and on the following page. Speak with Joy or Rich Chalifoux if you have any questions. Orders will be received through the end of July.

## THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."—*C.S. Lewis*

## LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR

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

[Susan.brosnan@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.brosnan@gmail.com) or 860 889-0768.

## YOUR TURN

Do you have a *brief* and encouraging message to share with your church family? Send it to the office or: [Susan.brosnan@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.brosnan@gmail.com) and you may see your message in next week's *Little Pilgrim*.



## LAST WORD

"For I know the plans  
I have for you,"  
says the Lord.  
"Plans to prosper  
& not harm you,  
...plans for a hope  
& a future."  
Jeremiah 29:11

# Preston City Congregational Church

Preston City Congregational Church has created a memorial brick garden where everyone who visits the church can see the names of people who have meant so much to us over the years.

It is a chance to honor our loved ones in a lasting place.

Preston City Congregational Church has been an anchor in Preston for over 323 years and now you have an opportunity to have someone special to you memorialized alongside others so everyone who visits the church will see the impact a garden like this can have.

Questions, Call Joy Chalifoux at 860-234-1011

Yes, we would like to reserve a permanent brick. Please engrave our brick as follows:

ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH)

ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

4X8 Brick is 3 lines 18 characters \$75.00

8X8 Brick is 6 lines 18 characters \$125.00.

4 x 8 Brick


8 x 8 Brick


EXAMPLE

					P	r	e	s	t	o	n		C	i	t	y	
C	o	n	g	r	e	g	a	t	i	o	n	a	l				
								C	h	u	r	c	h	!	!		

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

Preston City Congregational Church  
321 Route 164  
Preston Ct. 06365  
860-887-4647

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_