

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



The Little Pilgrim

**Week of June 5, 2022
June 12, 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. and click the stream button. Previous services may be viewed using the archive system on the site.

Live viewings last week: 34; 2 countries; 13 states; 23 cities. Archived viewing: 18; May 29- 57 Archived viewings

UPCOMING EVENTS

AA Wed. 7:30P Dudek Hall
Adult Choir Practice Thursday 7P

Scholarship Sunday 6/12
Senior Picnic 6/14
Standing Committee 6/15
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 MINISTER...

"We are all beautiful, yet incomplete mosaics in the master's hands."

—Rev. Rae

A short while ago, while conversing with a friend, I began to explain why, "I don't get star struck..." Because "people are people." However, I went on to explain that if I was able to meet a particular individual then, "I might think differently, becoming a little unnerved" because I appreciated their skill in their chosen craft. Not more than two days later, while going out for lunch, I ran into that exact person. Now, this type of thing happens all the time in life; we call it fortuitous timing, chance, luck, etc. However, sometimes it's not; sometimes it's more, sometimes it's Divine Providence!

Most often, our lives seem to be made up of a series of random events. At times, frustration with the seeming randomness of life is enough to make us cry out that, "Life [must be] a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury but signifying nothing." (Shakespeare) In fact, any sequence of tragic or random events, like the recent school shooting in Texas, can quickly bring up within us latent issues of theodicy. Revisiting questions like "if God is good, then why do such terrible things happen in this world?" As we will discover this Sunday in the life of Moses, who abruptly went from a palace to herding sheep in a desert land, while we remain on this earth, "we see through a glass darkly." (1 Corinthians 13:12) The purpose and plan for our lives is for the most part, veiled from us, and we are immensely blessed if in moments, we see but a glimpse of it.

However, it is at these times, when life is random and seemingly chaotic, that faith is needed most. Moses was 80 years old before God finally revealed the purpose for his life; to free the children of Israel. So, too, it is in our lives. We will not always understand the how and why of frustrating moments in our lives, but this one thing we can rest assured of, "that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) Although in moments we may not understand the grand design or the grand designer, we can be assured that the final product that God will work together, is for our good. Yes, our lives may be incomplete mosaics, but my prayer today is that in spite of what is not seen, "we can still remain confident that God is working to complete in us an image of beauty."

... When we finally start to see that image take shape out of a composite of impossibly random circumstances, let's acknowledge and give thanks that this is more than chance; this is our God's Divine Providence.

Remaining in God's Hands,

Rev. Rae

June 12th is Scholarship Sunday. Join us as awards are presented to some very deserving young people from our congregation.





It's hard to believe 2 big Children's Events are sooo close! Mark your calendars for July 11th -15th for preschool - 6th graders! Hay Day Vacation Bible School will be tractoring through Preston City Congregational Church! Register by contacting Lisa @ dre.prestoncity@gmail.com. or text 860-710-1262. Friends are invited, we will start @ 9 and end at 11. Come play games, sing songs, eat snacks, hear stories from the Bible, and have FUN!

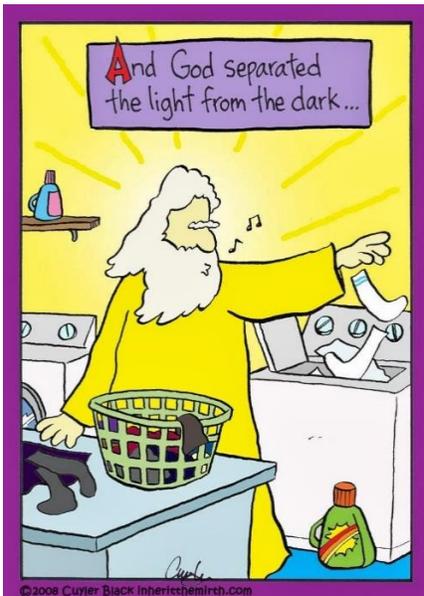
If you are older, join us on Friday the 15th for Mission imPOSSIBLE, POSSIBLE WEEKEND! An entire weekend camping out at the church, friends are welcome! We will eat together, pray together, play together & work together at the church and in the community! Register your middle schooler or High schooler today, or at least before June 30th! If registered by June 30th then the entire weekend is FREE!

For more info about either event please contact Lisa !



ADULT CHOIR

Choir Rehearsal is on Thursday evenings at 7pm.



CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

Please remember the family of Corinne Johnson who passed away May 27, 2022.

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Emma Price** who graduated from Springfield College recently with honors. She will be returning to school to become a Physician's Assistant.

to **Hannah Daniewicz** who graduates this week from NFA.

to **Georgia Barry** graduating soon from Ellis Tech.

Your church family is so proud of you!

Are there other graduates? Please call the church office so we may recognize them.

A BIG THANK YOU to Tiffany Barry who designed 24 baptismal cloths recently and to Barbara Lowden for hemming them. Great teamwork!

THANK YOU to the Gardening Group who work around the church grounds to keep it looking attractive.

The Senior Picnic is June 14th at noon at the pavilion; the rain date is Wednesday, June 15th. 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!



THE SUPPER COMMITTEE is planning a **CHICKEN BARBECUE DINNER** on **June 25th from 4-6P.**

Adults - \$15 and Children - \$8

Tickets are available after Sunday service or through the office.

Take-out and/or limited seating

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"Never be afraid to try something new.
Remember, amateurs built the ark.
Professionals built the Titanic."



BINGO at Strawberry Park

Did you hear the news that on Memorial Day weekend there was a sold-out crowd at Bingo? Over \$1000 will be added to the church budget!

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.



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 and you may see your message in next week's *Little Pilgrim*.

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.

"Per the Bylaws of the Church, a Pastoral Relations Committee is appointed by the Standing Committee upon the selection of a new Pastor. The current committee members are Sharon Breen and Tim Bowles. We have been meeting on a monthly basis for the past year with Rev. Rae as the church has been transitioning through challenging times, especially given the past two years with the pandemic disrupting many of our activities and outreach efforts. As we move from spring into summer, there are encouraging signs we are returning to a new normal that will continue to deepen our faith and commitment to our church, to each other and to the community at large." Tim Bowles

Timothy R. Bowles

tbowles117@comcast.net

860-705-5613 (cell)

Sharon Breen

sbbreen@mac.com

860-303-1184 (cell)

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.

LAST WORD

God's
Love
Never
Fails

A simple wooden cross with a heart shape cut out of the center.

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

Grid for 4x8 brick engraving, 3 rows by 18 columns.

8 x 8 Brick

Grid for 8x8 brick engraving, 6 rows by 18 columns.

EXAMPLE

Example engraving grid showing the text: Preston City Congregational Church!

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 _____