

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



The Little Pilgrim

**Week of July 24, 2022
July 31, 2022**

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9AM – Noon

**Have a question?
Need help?**

Please call: The Office
860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

MINISTER

REVEREND RAEFIELD PERTEET

Cell/Text: 1-617-866-3524

"Where the door is always open"

Call the office to schedule an
appointment

**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: 27; 1 country; 9 states; 20 cities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AA Wed. 7:30P Dudek Hall

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...

Why Be Thankful?

As we continue the ordinary course of life, with its daily trials and ups and downs, and the general effort needed to maintain from day to day, it is often easy to forget that we have anything at all to be thankful for. This is similar to what happened with Simon the Leper. The scripture in Matthew 26:6–13 mentions that Jesus was invited to Simon's house, when something strange began to happen. All of a sudden, a woman named Mary began to pour out a very expensive and precious ointment upon Jesus's feet.

"Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Laz'arus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Laz'arus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." (NRSV, John 12:1–8)"

I think sometimes we are like Simon the Leper. At one point in our lives we have been touched by the goodness of God, but as time goes on, we become accustomed to the blessings all around us—where we are and what we have, such as friends, family, and career. Can you imagine that the savior, our Lord and Master, is in the house of Simon, but perhaps Simon is sitting down in his favorite recliner? Oh sure, he is thankful for the visit, but his praise is tempered and reserved. All of a sudden, Mary comes along and breaks open a bottle of ointment. The whole gathering freezes as all watch this ointment being scooped up and put on Jesus's feet. "What are you doing? Don't you know the value of this waste?" is their paraphrased reaction. The problem is that they momentarily forgot the value of the one who was sitting in their presence. It is so easy to do, and oftentimes we forget how good God has been to each of us. We often become so caught up in what we don't have that we forget the riches of life in Christ that we already possess.

What I like about this scripture is that it describes the perfume filling the whole house. When we say we love God, there should be tangible, visible evidence of that visceral love. If you are thankful, the real question is how do you spend your most precious resources, and does it reflect said gratitude? Some say they are thankful, but they do nothing tangible to show it. If you are really thankful, then the whole house ought to smell of it. Can anyone smell your praise and worship? Do you have the aroma of one who has been with God to the extent that others can also sense it through your praise? And who are the recipients benefiting from your gratitude for God's goodness, in your church or community? When God has blessed our lives, others should benefit from the joy and abundance He has brought into our world. This week I challenge you to show extravagant appreciation for what God has placed right in your midst. In appreciation for our Savior, I invite you to tangibly show that appreciation towards the ones God has placed in your path, to pour out goodness fragrantly into their world as unto the Lord. Do something shockingly kind and worthy of the bold, daring, and audacious sacrifice of God's love for you.

Remaining in the light,
Rev. Rae

SUNDAY SCHOOL

I hope everyone has had time to enjoy our pictures from VBS on the website! If not, don't miss out!

It's hard to believe, but Sunday School will be starting up on September 11, 2022, starting at 8:45A and ending no later than 10:00A. We have a nursery, toddler 3- & 4-year classroom, as well as kindergarten through high school classes. **Registration forms** are available on the INFORMATION TABLES outside the SANCTUARY near the elevator and the front door. You can also find me at the table during Lemonade on the Lawn!

We are currently looking for help in the Baby Nursery, as well as a 5th/6th grade joined class. I know the right person(s) are out in those pews! Have questions about what is involved? Call me/text me/email me or find me next to the Lemonade!

We will also be hosting a teacher PoP-In Event for all current/new/or curious adults who would like to help in Sunday School, because they believe that Children are the future!

Teacher PoP -In Event
Tuesday, AUGUST 16, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M. in DUDEK HALL.
Learn how you can help, what is involved with teaching a class, sharing your Faith Story, and any other questions you may have on your mind regarding CHILDREN at Preston City Congregational Church.

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



The Flower Committee would like to encourage those who wish to put flowers on the altar for the Sunday service to bring in their own flower arrangements. This could be flowers from your garden or a purchased bouquet. Although flower arrangements can be ordered from Jewett

City Greenhouse, it is not necessary. Please contact the church office to save your Sunday. (We also have large vases for you to borrow if needed.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

If you have a talent that you would like to share at our morning services, please sign your name and phone number on the bulletin board located in front of Dudek Hall or call the church office (860 887-4647).



CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

The office has been made aware that some people in our congregation have received text requests in the name of Rev. Rae, asking for gift cards or requesting you respond right away to an email. **Please do not respond!**



If you receive such a request let the office know. Please know that Rev. Rae, or anyone associated with the church, would never send a text or message in that regard. You may wish to block those phone numbers, delete those emails, and, of course, beware of all scammers!



HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

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

BAPTISM

On July 24, 2022 we welcomed into the Household of Christian Faith through the sacrament of Baptism, Colton Norman Gileau , the son of Kendall (Kobelski) & Zachary Gileau. We ask God's blessing on this little one.



THE CLOTHING SHED is always open for donations. We can accept used clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals.

As you start to change out your clothes for the fall, keep this mission in mind and please be sure to tie your bags. Thank you.

BINGO at Strawberry Park



Thank you to those who sign up to assist and continue to make this a successful mission for our church which helps to supplement our 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 Hodgkinson and Sue Riley are the co-chairmen this session.



SPACES ARE FILLING UP, BUT WE STILL NEED A FEW MORE WORKERS. Are you available Aug. 4 -10?

We have a 12-day session coming up, July 30-August 10, and we need workers to sell cards.

Sign-up on the calendar on the bulletin board at church or contact one of the chairpersons.

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.

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. FINAL WEEK to place your order.

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.

LAST WORD



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 _____