

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



The Little Pilgrim

**Week of August 21, 2022
August 28, 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: 25; 1 country; 10 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...

If you have ever run out of gas, then you know the horror, panic, and guilt associated with being stranded on the side of the road with no petrol left. Admittedly, for men who have one mandate from birth, "take care of your machine," this emptiness comes as a greater blow! So you can imagine that when I was stranded a number of years back, it was easy for my emotions to overrun my logic when looking for solutions. Including staring at the needle in the hope of coaxing it to move and slamming my palm on the steering wheel in frustration.

However, my question is: what do you do when you run out of gas? What do you do when there is more day left than you have the energy to meet it? What do you do when you run out of patience, perseverance, peace, or perspective? We have all been there before at one time or another. We have all had times when it feels like, "if we have to go one more round with the kids before bed" or "if my boss says one more thing to me about this project" or, or, or... We will eventually become emotionally bankrupt and risk temporarily being stranded on the side of the road.

Can I suggest that not if, but when those times occur, you do what I finally did that night? Pause, take a deep breath or whisper a prayer, and reflect on all of the resources our God has already provided. You see, it's in that moment of pause and prayer that we are often reminded of this truth that one thinker put so well: we can choose to "Look around and be oppressed, look down and be depressed, or choose to look up and be at rest."

Remaining In the Light,

Rev. Rae

FINANCIAL UPDATE

At the August Standing Committee meeting, the following budget information was shared as of August 14, 2022:

Income Received (including some bingo monies):
\$137,993.96
Income Needed to meet the budget: \$148,302.66

Our monthly income needs to be \$4494.02 and for the month of July, we averaged \$3758.75 per week.

We are experiencing a summer slump in giving, for the first time in several years. Is your pledge up-to-date? You can check with our Financial Secretary, Sue Creamer, at any time. The church has monthly bills to pay and your continued support is welcomed and appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

It's time to POP back into church and Sunday School! The world has shaken us and tried to separate us so that's when you need to turn to FAMILY! That is what we are, the little church where friends become family.

Watch for postcards to start popping up in your mailboxes in the next few weeks! It's hard to believe it's time to be thinking of FALL, but here we are! Registration forms are available.

We are currently looking for 2 more teachers to join our team; 1 in the Baby Nursery and 1 in Toddler 3 & 4's. Are you a member of the church? Do you love playing, singing songs, cuddles....then you are who we are looking for! Just every other Sunday from 8:45- 11:00. Willing to become CPR/1st Aid certified? Come talk to me!

Lisa Van Alst DRE

Our Christmas Pageant will be presented on Sunday, December 11 at 2P.

Pageant practice rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at 5:30P and begin on October 12. Wendy Abrahamson is our director and the name of the pageant is **WOW!!**

We look forward to seeing the children in October!

Our **FALL YARD SALE** is planned for **Oct 1st**. Start sorting through those basements and attics! Donations are only accepted four weeks prior to the sale. **Donations will be accepted starting Friday, September 2nd**. Check with Stella Dawley to make arrangements for drop-off. **PLEASE REMEMBER: NO clothing, tires, computers, air conditioners, or televisions**

THE CLOTHING SHED is always open for donations.

We can accept used clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals. There will soon be a need for warm clothing. Keep this mission in mind when clearing out your closets!

THE FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY (FPU) program will be offered again next month, **starting Monday, September 26th**, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Hall's Hall. The nine-week course will be led by Bob Vescovi and be held each Monday evening. FPU includes a weekly video and group discussion addressing a variety of topics related to personal and family money management. Topics include budgeting, paying down debt, insurance, investing, real estate, college planning and retirement, among others. One scholarship is being offered should someone like to attend but has limited funds available; please speak with the minister. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for anyone interested in attending or obtaining more information.

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

FUNERAL for Clara Hopkins

Saturday, August 27, 2022 at 10 AM. Reception to follow in the church hall.

A BIG THANK YOU to Sharon Mahan who came every Friday throughout the summer to make the lemonade for Sunday mornings.

Thank you to Barbara Lowden for hemming another 24 baptismal cloths.

A special thank you to the Marino's for their beautiful addition to the lower lot stairs. It makes the walk and/or drive a more pleasant one.

Our Church will host a Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic on Sunday, September 25, 2022, from 9A-1P.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY starts September 12th at 10A. Questions? Contact Chris Burden

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY starts September 20 at 7P. More information coming soon. Scott Van Alst

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY starts September 28 at 11A. Rev. Rae will lead the video/reading discussion.



MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will next meet on Saturday, September 3rd at 10 am

and will continue to meet the first Saturday of every month through June of

next year. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Always looking for volunteers to share a 15-to-20-minute devotional each month. Look forward to seeing you all in the fall. Tim Bowles 860-705-5613

BINGO at Strawberry Park

THANK YOU to those who signed up to assist at our recent 12-day session!

You helped to make this a successful mission for our church which helps to supplement our church budget.

LET THE GOOD WORK CONTINUE!



Our next Bingo is Saturday, August 27th at 2P. We have sessions on Saturday, September 3 and Sunday, September 4, both at 2P.

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"The world says, The more you take, the more you have. Christ says, the more you give, the more you are."

-- Frederick Buechner 1926-2022

LOOKING AHEAD...

Men's Group → September 3 – 10A
Office Closed → September 5
Choir Rehearsal → September 8 - 7P
Return to two services → September 11 - 9A & 10:30A
Sunday School starts → September 11 – 8:45A
Coffee Hour → September 11 - following services
Monday Morning Bible Study → September 12 – 10A
Fall Semi-Annual Meeting → September 18 – 11:30A
Tuesday Evening Bible Study → September 20 – 7P
Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic → September 25 – 9A-1P
Financial Peace University → September 26 – 6:30P
Wednesday Morning Bible Study → September 28 – 11A

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR

Starting in September, the Little Pilgrim will come out twice a month, on the first and third weekends. Please send information to be included in the September 2nd newsletter no later than Tuesday, August 30 at noon: Susan.brosnan@gmail.com or 860-889-0768.



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.)

DID YOU KNOW...

that for the entire month of August 2022 you can pick up a \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold at Stop & Shop located at 2020 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville CT and St. Vincent de Paul Place will receive \$1 from every bouquet? Look for the bouquets with the red circle. Every \$1 donation equals 10 meals!

LAST WORD

Use your voice for
kindness, your ears
for compassion,
your hands for
charity, your mind
for truth and your
heart for love.

