

Preston City Congregational Church



January 8, 2023

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 9A & 10:30A
For those who are unable to attend
in-person, the 9:00A 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 :

1/1 - 29; 1 country; 10 states;
18 cities

1/8 – 40; 1 country; 11 states;
27 cities

UPCOMING EVENTS

AA Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall

Choir Thu 7P

OFFICE CLOSED 1/16

NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM Feb 3

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has
determined that wearing masks is
optional.



Coffee Fellowship

**Join us after
services for
coffee and
punch.**

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...

Time to start working on those annual reports for 2022! **Reports will be due to the church office by January 15, 2023.** The reports need not be typed. Please contact the office if you have questions about needing to submit a report for your committee or board.

The auditors are ready to review year-end financials; please get them into the office. Thank you

Our next Senior Luncheon is scheduled for February 14 at noon. A pasta dinner is planned. The sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board.

A Bingo Workers Appreciation Dinner is planned for 6P Saturday, February 25, with an inclement weather date of Sunday, February 26.

Please call the office if you are able to help with either event.

Please remember, if you turn on lights, or adjust the heat or air conditioning, to turn them off or reset them when you are finished. If you remove the Sanctuary railing for an event, please be sure to make provisions for it to be put back afterwards. Others count on it being there. Thank you.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

TUNE IN to Television Channel 3 (WFSB) or you may check Facebook, our website prestoncitycongregational.org or call the office. A message will be announced on the answering machine. When Sunday School is cancelled, church is NOT CANCELLED unless specifically announced. We have been assured that when we post on Channel 3, they notify all the local radio stations.



The Supper Committee is looking for a misplaced order from the Rada Cutlery sale. Did someone pick up an order marked for Chuck Norris, maybe to give to him or put it in a safe place?

Please contact a Supper Committee member or call the office if you have an information. Thank you



Sunday February 5th 2023 at 2PM

The Coast Guard Band Saxophone Quartet will present
an afternoon concert.

Plan to join us for an afternoon of varied musical styles.



Today is already the second Friday of a new year. We are beginning the year 2023. I believe that God has a plan for each of us for this year. He has a path that He wants us to follow and He wants us to be successful in reaching the goal that He has for us. As we face each new day of this year and try to follow the path that God wants us to follow, we may find that it is a lot like trying to solve a puzzle. We may often face difficult choices in deciding what God wants us to do. We may have to make frequent changes in the direction we are going. Sometimes we may find that we have made a wrong choice and we have traveled down a dead-end path. When that happens, we have to back up and start over again! Following the will of God for our lives is not always easy, but there is help available. God is always there to help us if we will just ask Him to guide us. In the book of Isaiah, God told His people, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" God is still there! He is still behind us saying, "This is the way, walk in it." We just need to be sure that we are listening!

I thought with all the sounds & noise of the Holiday season I would review some old business, just as reminders....

1. Sunday School starts @ 8:45 grades 1 - 6 start in Dudek Hall. Nursery, Toddler 3-4, K, and 7th - 12th start in their classrooms.
2. Friends are always welcome to attend with your child!
3. Toddler 3 & 4 - 2nd are dismissed around 9:50 from Dudek Hall. Just wait outside the double doors; they will open when we are done. All other grades are sent to the coffee hour room to meet you.

NEW items....

1. We are looking for kids who can play an instrument, or like to sing, or act, or would love to be part of a children's choir/bell choir!
2. Mark these dates: FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023 (Good Friday service & event) & MAY 21ST (Children's Day @ 10:30 service & last day of Sunday School) JULY 10-14TH Vacation Bible School
3. First grade students will be receiving their 1st Bible from the church on Children's Day. If you would like to dedicate this Bible in memory or honor of someone, please come see me. I have their Bibles already and now is the time to write in them!
4. Have a heart for KIDS, love to serve, or are you a kid at heart??? We need you to volunteer for children's ministries! We have so many choices. Please come seek me out so we can talk about where the best fit for you is. I will even provide the coffee!
Need more information on anything written here come find me (Mrs. Van Alst) or call/text 860-710-1262.

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."— **Corrie ten Boom**

LOOKING AHEAD

Men's' Group February 4 → 10A
Coast Guard Saxophone Band Concert → February 5
Annual Meeting → February 12
Lent begins → February 22



MEN'S GROUP The next **MEN'S GROUP** meeting will be Saturday, February 4th from 10A to 11:15A in the meeting room on the main floor.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

In observance of the holiday, spirituals will be performed by soloists and choir members during the services on Sunday, January 15, 2023.



Choir Rehearsals

Rehearsals are Thursday nights at 7:00pm. Please join us as we prepare for the season of Lent and Easter.



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

Keep this mission in mind when clearing out your closets!

COAT DRIVE

Thank you to all for helping with this mission. While our special collection is over, warm items, such as coats, scarves, gloves/mittens and socks may be donated at any time.



Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Our next session continues on Tuesdays at 7pm from Jan. 10th to Mar. 28th and will be on the Prophet Daniel.
If anyone has any questions, please call Scott VanAlst on his cell phone: 860-237-7964.

The Monday Morning Bible Study will be getting together again starting on Monday January 23rd at 10am. We will be studying the Christian Church of Colossae written by David Jeremiah, "Christ above All."

I will be ordering books if you are interested at \$15. Please contact Chris Burden for any questions.

We are so excited to be planning for a **2023 Scarecrow Festival**. The date is set for **Saturday September 23, 2023. 10 AM till 4 PM.**



This will be our 15th festival. The festival is going to probably look a little different but it is still going to be all about fun for the whole family and community.

We need many volunteers and coordinators to make it

successful. A list of areas that need coordinators is posted on the bulletin board outside Dudek Hall.

PLEASE add your name, phone, and e-mail to the list if you would like to help. Meetings will be via Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

Questions call Shari Purcell 860-917-9011 or e-mail shariLpurcell@gmail.com or call the church office at 860-887-4647.

Our church looking for someone to fill the Sexton/Custodian position. This is a part-time 15-20 hours a week job and requires flexibility in scheduling. An updated job description and applications are available through the church office. **Applications are due in the office by January 15.**

The signup sheets are posted for the **Door Monitors** for January and February. Are you able to help?

HONORING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Monday, January 16



"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded." **2 Chronicles 15:7**

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR

The Little Pilgrim comes out twice a month, on the first and third weekends. Please send information to be included in the February 3rd newsletter no later than Tuesday, January 31st.

Words by Tahlia Hunter

Patience visited me
And it reminded me
That good things take time to come to fruition
And grow slowly with stability

Peace visited me
And it reminded me
That I may remain calm through the storms of life
Regardless of the chaos surrounding me

Hope visited me
And it reminded me
That better times lay ahead
And it would always be there to guide and uplift me

Humility visited me
And it reminded me
That I may achieve it
Not by trying to shrink myself and make myself less
But by focusing on serving the world and uplifting those around me

Kindness visited me
And it reminded me
To be more gentle, forgiving and compassionate toward myself
And those surrounding me

Confidence visited me
And it reminded me
To not conceal or suppress my gifts and talents
In order to make others feel more comfortable
But to embrace what makes me me

Focus visited me
And it reminded me
That other people's insecurities and judgements about me
Are not my problem
And I should redirect my attention
From others back to me

Freedom visited me
And it reminded me
That no one has control over my mindset, thoughts and wellbeing
But me

And love visited me
And it reminded me
That I need not search for it in others
As it lies within me."

We thank Debi Berube for sharing.