

## Preston City Congregational Church



**The Little Pilgrim**

**January 22, 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](http://prestoncitycongregational.org). and  
click the stream button. Previous  
services may be viewed using the  
archive system on the site.

Live viewings :

1/15 - 56; 1 country; 16 states;  
40 cities

1/22 – 30; 1 country; 12 states;  
27 cities

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**AA** Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall  
**Choir** Thu 7P

**NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM** week of  
Feb 5

## **FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE**

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

**The Bingo Volunteers Appreciation Dinner** will be taking place on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. with an inclement weather date of Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

I will need help the day before on Friday for preparation, and Saturday the day of, for getting the meal out and serving.

I also need **PIE BAKERS!** Of exactly what is needed will be posted this weekend on the mid-level bulletin board.

Your help will be appreciated!

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a prayer vigil in the Sanctuary from noon to 6 p.m. During this time, volunteers are asked to pray for others, for 15 minutes. We will supply the prayer list.

You may fill out a slip of paper requesting a prayer for someone which is available on the table by the elevator and downstairs on the table outside Dudek Hall. Place the paper inside the box provided and this will be put on the list. If you would like to participate in the vigil, please select a time to pray from the sign-up sheet posted on the mid-level bulletin board or call the office.

At 7 p.m. that evening, an Ash Wednesday service will be held in the Sanctuary.

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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](http://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.

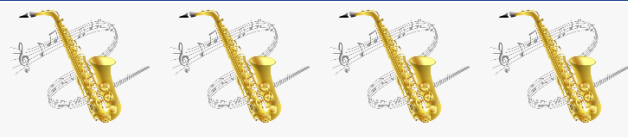
### **COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022**

The Standing Committee has determined that wearing masks is optional.



Coffee Fellowship

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



### **Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 2PM**

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

Plan to join us for a performance of varied musical styles  
from this award-winning ensemble.



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...**

"What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives have not even happened yet." ~ Anne Frank

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- Men's' Group February 4 → 10A
- Coast Guard Saxophone Band Concert → February 5
- Annual Meeting → February 12
- Lent begins → February 22
- Trivia Night → March 25



**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.

**Choir Rehearsals**

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



**Tuesday Evening Bible Study**

Our current session continues on Tuesdays at 7pm through 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.

**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.





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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:shariLpurcell@gmail.com) or call the church office at 860-887-4647.

## 2023 ANNUAL MEETING CALL & AGENDA FEBRUARY 12, 2023 11:30A

The Annual Meeting of the Preston City Congregational Church will be held in the Sanctuary, on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 11:30A for the following actions:

1. To accept the reports of Officers, Boards, Committees, and other church organizations.
2. To vote on the proposed 2023 budget of \$228,226.
3. To act on the Nominating Committee's proposed slate for 2023.
4. To vote on the proposed Bylaw revision.
5. To transact any other business that may be brought before the congregation.

*Susan Brosnan*  
Clerk

### SCHOLARSHIP MONTH IS COMING!



In 1992, February was established as Scholarship Month, in order to give church-goers the opportunity to contribute to the Winthrop C. and Helen Benjamin Scholarship Fund.

Helen worked in the Preston School system for many years and was dedicated to the education of our youth. Upon her passing, the family established the fund in her memory, in order to provide assistance for young people seeking for the first time, to further their education. It was expanded to include her husband in 2015, after his passing. Through the years, many of our young people have benefited from this fund, thanks in part to your giving.

We are offering the opportunity to members and friends of the church to consider giving a monetary gift to the scholarship fund. You may give your gift in memory of or in honor of someone. A listing of donors (no amounts) will be printed in the worship folder on Scholarship Sunday, which is usually in June. You may place your donation in an envelope marked *Scholarship Fund* and place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church. Checks should be made out to PCCC with *Scholarship Fund* on the memo line. Donations are accepted through the end of May. Please give if you are able.

Together we can help our young people reach their goals.

The signup sheet is posted for the **Door Monitors** for February. Are you able to help?

**The Little Pilgrim comes out twice a month, during the first and third weeks.** Please send information to be included in the February 5<sup>th</sup> newsletter no later than Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Wicked Tulips Flower Farm** is hiring (Preston farm location is 382 Route 164, just up the road). Please contact [nancy@wickedtulips.com](mailto:nancy@wickedtulips.com) to receive an online application. Completed forms must be received by February 6 and they will be scheduling appointments for interviews at our church on February 13. They have three locations: Preston, CT, Exeter, RI and Johnston, RI.

"Jesus called them one by one..."



Matthew 28:19-20