

**Preston City
Congregational Church**



April 16, 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 :
4/09 – 78; 2 countries; 26 states;
61 cities

UPCOMING EVENTS

AA Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall
Choir Th 7P

NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM week of
May 1st.

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has
determined that wearing masks is
optional.



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

Coffee Fellowship

FROM THE DESK OF REV. STAN

GREETINGS CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

It's nice to be back with you again, and to see many friends (and new faces) sitting in the pews on Sunday morning. Likewise, it is wonderful to be working alongside a good friend and colleague, and now, a partner in ministry; The Rev. Dr. Mark Porizky. Our goal in this faith community is to serve Christ through worship, relationship, and fellowship. Doing this will not only strengthen our faith in God and Christ, but our connection to one another. The end result will be a vibrant, committed, caring church -- the church Christ created us to be.

If you've been away from the church for a while, it's time to come home; you've been missed! I've been looking for you, and would love to see you sitting in the congregation. It's a new day in the life of our church. God has great things in store for us. Together we will continue telling the story of God's love for ALL his people.

Come! Be part of the story. Join us this Sunday, and bring a friend!

See you in church!

Rev. Stan

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER PA ~ AUG 21-23

We are traveling again! We have started a wait list as we are full! Call the office to add your name.

REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN ... a special service where we remember children who are no longer with us, will be held **Sunday, May 21st** at the **9:00 service**.

If you wish to have a child's name included in the worship folder that morning, you must call the office by Monday, **May 15th**. Likewise, if you would like to donate \$5 toward the purchase of marigolds, please let the office know by the 15th. Those donating these summer flowers are invited to take a pack with them following the service.

CHOIR APPRECIATION & SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY will be celebrated on **June 11th**. A reception will follow the 9:30A service. A sign-up sheet will be posted for refreshment donations. Call the office with any questions.

In keeping with our plan for enhanced safety measures, a keyless entry has been installed at the Annex. A new keyed lock will be installed in the Food Pantry.

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. **Please remember to lock all doors.** Thank you.



WOW!, We are down to the last 4 weeks of Sunday School for the 2023 year!!!!

End of the year information:

1. **Children's Day** will be celebrated SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. ALL Sunday school children will be recognized and celebrated. We have special music, a Children's sermon planned and an **ALL-CHURCH PICNIC!** (Rain/shine)
2. If your child is a 1st GRADER, they will be awarded their 1st Bible. Please stop by and see me so I can fill out all the Bibles properly.
3. Are your 1st - 12th graders current on the monthly Bible verses? There is still time (only 3 weeks) to catch up. All verses are in the Sunday School Pamphlet that went home in September. Can't find yours? NO Worries! There are extras in Dudek Hall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is being planned. We will be traveling to the city of Babylon, JULY 10 - 14! From age 4 through 6th grade are welcome to register starting May 1st! Age 3 are welcome with an adult or teen attending with them!

Volunteers are needed; come see me about how you can help! Prep snacks, prep crafts, set-up, tear down, decorating committee, actors, donations.... there is a place for everyone. On Friday July 14th starting @ 9:00 a.m. any church member will be invited to see all the children, sing all the songs, learn all the dance moves, make a craft together, and EAT!

FINALLY..... we are planning an **EASTER ESCAPE ROOM** for all families to attend. We are looking for a few things that you might have in your junk drawers, garages, sheds, or basements: lock boxes, pad locks w/keys, combo locks w/letters or #'s, microphones (USB), old security cameras/baby monitors, temporary walls/screens (will return) anything that has a hidden compartment. If you would like more info or to HELP with this new adventure contact Hunter Bustamante 860-383-5175 or hunterb1995@gmail.com

Mrs. Lisa Van Alst D.R.E.

LOOKING AHEAD

National Day of Prayer ~ May 4 ~ 5:30P in the pavilion

Yard Sale ~ May 6 (Rain date May 13) 8 A

Children's Day ~ May 21 ~ 10:30 A

Summer Service ~ May 28 ~ 9:30 A

Choir Appreciation & Scholarship Sunday ~ June 11

Senior Picnic ~ June 28 ~ Rain date June 29

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms for the church scholarship awards are now available to students pursuing their first college or university degree.

Call the office and leave your name and phone number and we'll mail you the paperwork which needs to be completed and returned to the church office by April 30th. Forms are also available on the table in the mid-level hallway.



Choir Rehearsals

Rehearsals are Thursday nights at 7:00P.

We welcome you to join us when you are a Music Ministry



THE GARDENING GROUP is looking for a few helping hands (with gardening gloves!) to tend our gardens.

If you are interested please contact John Marino at 860 887-3359 or marinojohn@sbcglobal.net.



Monday Morning Bible Study meets at 10am. Please contact Chris Burden for any questions.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study continues through May, Tuesdays at 7P.

We are planning on traveling around the community to places that represent Jesus' appearances after his resurrection. If anyone has any questions, please call Scott VanAlst on his cell phone: 860-237-7964.

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

"You come from dust and you will return to dust."
"That's why I never dust.
It could be someone I know."



Our church is in need of a new outdoor American flag. Are you able to help so we may have new colors to display on Memorial Day weekend? Is there someone you would like to honor?

Please contact the office if you would like to help. (860 887-4647)



MOTHER'S DAY GERANIUMS

The Decorating Committee is already looking forward to Mother's Day, on May 14th! We will be available to take your orders to honor or remember your mothers on April 23rd and April 30th during coffee hours after both services. Geraniums will be \$11.00. Any questions, please see Sharon Breen (860-303-1184) or Wendy Zajac (860-886-1588). Thanks!



WICKED TULIPS FLOWER FARM

in Preston will donate a portion of their pay-to-wrap option fee for tulip purchases to our church on Saturday, April 22. Thank you for sharing with us!



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.

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.

Friends of the Preston Public Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Library Semi-Annual Book Sale is fast approaching and we'd like your help! We are currently accepting your slightly used books and video media (no VHS tapes, please) in the collection box in front of the Preston Public Library. If you have a large donation, please call 860-887-5828.

MARK THE DATE - The Book Sale will run on Sat. April 29 from 9:00 am -4:00 pm; Sunday, April 30 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, and will be held at the Preston Public Library, 389 Route 2, Preston. As in the past, we will have a large number and variety of books and video media. Sunday's sale will feature a special where you will be able to fill a bag for \$10. See you there!

Our **SPRING YARD SALE** is planned for **May 6th** with a rain date of May 13th.

Donations will be accepted starting April 8th by contacting Stella Dawley. Beginning April 19th, donations will be accepted following church services.

Donations will also be accepted the day of the sale.

Please do not leave anything outside at the church when no one from the committee is able to meet with you.

Just a reminder:

No clothing, paint, computers, outdated electronics, tires, air conditioners or other bulky items.

A Sign-up sheet is posted on the hallway bulletin board to help the day of the sale and for help on the rain date if necessary.



BINGO at Strawberry Park

PCCC is one of the non-profit organizations that assist at the games selling cards. Funds received are used to offset our budget.

We need three workers to sell cards at each session. 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. A list of available dates will be posted soon!



COMMUNION SUNDAY IS TWO-CAN SUNDAY: Time to replenish the Toucan Food Pantry on May 7th.

Always needed: cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, rice, macaroni and cheese, pasta, and spaghetti sauce. Donation boxes are located at both church entry doors. Monetary donations are always welcomed and we will do the shopping!

Thank you for your continuing support for this vital ministry which is more important than ever.

