

Preston City Congregational Church



The Little Pilgrim

week of
June 11, 2023

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9AM – Noon
Office Closed Monday June 19

Have a question? Need help?

Please call: The Office
860 887-4647 or 860 886-7200

To reach our interim co-ministers
directly at any time:
Rev. Mark Porizky – 860 705-1262
porizky@gmail.com
Rev. Stan White - 860 303-9622
sewhite3022@gmail.com

WORSHIP AND WEB STREAM INFORMATION

Worship service is at 9:30A
For those who are unable to attend
in-person, the 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:
6/4– 55; 2 countries; 23 states;
46 cities
6/11 – 33; 2 countries; 12 states;
24 cities

WEEKLY EVENTS

AA Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall

NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM week of
June 25.

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has
determined that wearing masks is
optional.

**Lemonade on the
Lawn** is back! Join us
for fellowship and a
cup following our
service!



FROM THE DESK OF REV. MARK

June 18th is Father's Day. A day of salutations, new ties, and phone calls for those living far apart.

I'm always a bit melancholy on Father's Day. It's now been 43 years since I tragically lost my father. I never had the privilege of knowing him as an adult. My mom used to say that we would have been very close as adults. I believe that more each passing year.

I don't remember many of his words. No quotes of his do I carry with me. His business achievements were admirable, but I don't think they would be called extraordinary today. We were not an affectionate family. I can't ever remember saying, or hearing, "I love you." The one hug I do remember was, well, awkward.

But he was a calming presence in the turbulence of my teen life: a warm fireplace in a cold house. I always thought he was kind of boring, but that's because he could be counted on in times of need, always. His predictability was underappreciated in my roller coaster high school years. Crushes on girls came and went, and dad was there. Football season turned into baseball season, and back to football season again, and dad watched the games with me. I had my first beer with him during Monday Night Football. He couldn't understand my love of that "silly" sport called "soccer" but he never missed one of my matches.

Because of his presence, life went smoothly for the Porizky family. The cars always ran, the bills got paid, and the yard was maintained. Because he was there, I never worried about the future. (I had no way of knowing that he secured our family future before he died with prudent investments. It was never discussed.) My sister and I never worried about things like income tax, savings accounts, monthly bills, and mortgages. They were those things on dad's desk.

I have many pictures of our family without him. Oh, he was there, but behind the camera. He broke up fights between me and my "always wrong" baby sister. He read the paper every evening and played tennis with me every Sunday afternoon. Nothing unusual. We never talked about sex, or his life as a child, though I knew he would have if I wanted to bring it up. I didn't!

He was Jewish by birth and tradition but was remarkably tolerant of my zeal for the Christian faith. He did not teach me how to pray, but he taught me how to shave and knot a tie. He valued honesty. He walked me back to a grocery store where I had stolen a pack of baseball cards. Most importantly, he modeled the importance of getting up early and staying out of debt. His life expressed a balance between ambition and self-acceptance.

He would have loved pickleball as his bad knees diminished his love for tennis. I think of him when I see those old men playing at the Y where I work out in the morning.

Wait. Those old men are me! I have now lived eleven years longer than he did. Yet I don't feel I have come close to reaching the maturity and wisdom I felt radiating from him. I thank God for his being part of making me the man I am today. There are just so many times in the last three decades I wish I could have asked his advice. Once I had a child of my own, I missed his counsel dearly.

This Father's Day, once more, I thank God for all that he gave me, my sister, and my mom. I pray that the best of him lives on in me, and that I have passed that knowledge on to my own son, Joshua. What is good in my dad, Joshua will only know through me.

Happy Father's Day!

Rev. Mark

NEWS from the DEACONS

On Communion Sunday July 2, we will return to passing the shared bread and cups. The Deacons will have plates with the self-contained communion elements we have been using at both entrances to the sanctuary for those who wish to continue using them.



A CONFIRMATION CLASS has been scheduled to begin on August 7th with a Confirmation date of October 29, 2023.

The class will be taught by Rev. Stan on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Annex. It is open to 9th graders and older students who may not have taken the class. Please call the office for more information or to sign up.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

GRADUATES- Who has graduated or is graduating this spring? Please call the office and let us know so we may send them a letter of congratulations.

THE JUNE SENIOR LUNCHEON will be a picnic in the pavilion, at noon, June 28. Hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, coleslaw, macaroni salad and dessert are on the menu. Roy MacLean will provide guitar music. The rain date is June 29. Those who are 62 years and older and regularly attend this church are welcome to join us. There is a sign-up sheet for a wait-list; you may call the office to register.

BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER PA ~ AUG 21-23

We are traveling again! We have a few openings if you would like to join us. Call the office to add your name.

Active members who wish to borrow items from the church (chairs, tables, etc.), please check with the office. They may have been requested by another member.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday Service ~ 9:30A

Women's Fellowship ~ June 17

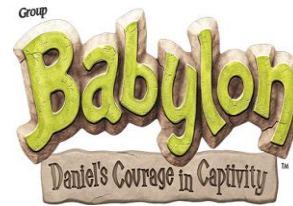
Father's Day ~ June 18

Chicken BBQ ~ June 24

Senior Picnic ~ June 28 ~ Rain date June 29

Preston City Congregational Church Vacation Bible School

July 11-14 2023



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Volunteers are needed to assist in the week. We will be transforming our church into an adventure to the Holy Land, complete with a palace and market place. We provide the training and the materials needed throughout the week. We are in need of the shop owners (you will be assisting in making amazing craft items with the children) and two men for our daily drama presentation telling the Bible story of Daniel and his courage during captivity. **This is an all week commitment.**

If interested is helping call Lisa Van Alst our DRE at (860) 710-1262 or dre.prestoncity@gmail.com

All children must be dropped off by (8:50 AM) and picked up at (NOON) **in the lower parking lot.** The upper parking lot will not be available. **PLEASE** use extreme caution when driving in lower parking lot.

Child(ren) will be working in age integrated groups with a tribe leader. Preschool will participate in all activities. The daily schedule includes an opening and closing celebration with music, daily Bible point and verse, games, craft projects and snacks at the Babylonian Market Place.

A daily offering will be taken to help offset the expenses of Vacation Bible school and our **MISSION PROJECT** is to provide food for our Food Pantry. The Food Pantry serves the Preston Community. Each day we ask child(ren) to bring a non-perishable food item to fill our market place boxes.. **Most needed items include** canned soups, tuna, canned fruits, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned spaghetti sauces, dried pastas and rice.

On Friday we will be having a celebration with fun family games, a summer picnic lunch. Please let us know on Monday how many will be attending so we can purchase food accordingly. If you would like to help with the grill or serving, we would really appreciate the assistance.

Vacation Bible School registration forms are available on the information tables outside the Sanctuary, as well as the main office. Please feel free to contact Lisa Van Alst if you would like to have a form emailed to you, or have any questions/concerns @ 860-710-1262.

A list of needed items has been posted on the bulletin board. Please contact Director Shari Purcell (868 917-9011) or the DRE if you would like to donate.



The Women's Fellowship will be meeting on June 17th at 9am.

The Men's Group will not meet in July due to the holiday weekend. Our next meeting will be Saturday, August 5th at 10am.



MEN'S GROUP



Bible STUDY
Join us!

Monday Morning and Tuesday Evening Bible Studies have ended for the summer. They will return in the fall.

Will another resurrection take place here in the church with a return of the **Christmas Bazaar**? Do you have an interest in seeing it come back? There is a sign-up sheet on the hallway bulletin board if you are interested in coming to an informational meeting with Rev. Stan. Please sign up if you would like to take part. (You can also call the office!)

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

**The world is full of good people.
If you can't find one, be one.**

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. Meetings will be 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.

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR The Little Pilgrim comes out twice a month, during the first and third weeks. Please send information to be included in the week of June 25th newsletter no later than Tuesday, June 27th at noon to: susan.brosnan@gmail.com or left at the office.



THE SUPPER COMMITTEE is planning a **CHICKEN BARBECUE DINNER** on **June 24th from 4:30-6P.**

Adults - \$14 and Children - \$7 (through age 12)
Tickets are available after Sunday service or through the office.

Take-out only

The menu will include: Chicken, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Rolls and Dessert.

There is a sign-up sheet posted for meal preparation help on Thursday June 22 at 6P and Friday June 23 at 5P.

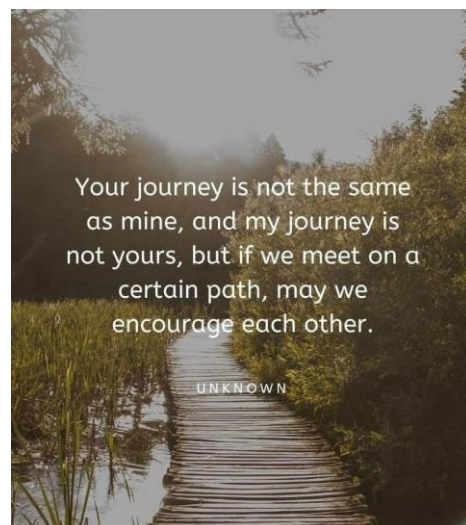
BINGO at Strawberry Park

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 is now posted!** **WE NEED HELP JUNE 24TH – JULY 4TH** for a 10-day stretch. **June 24 is an afternoon bingo and all of the other days are early evening.**



Your journey is not the same as mine, and my journey is not yours, but if we meet on a certain path, may we encourage each other.

UNKNOWN

CHOIR APPRECIATION SUNDAY was celebrated June 11th and Rev. Stan spoke about how faithful the choir has been with being present Sunday after Sunday providing all of us with meaningful music. Certificates of appreciation were presented to each of them along with a yellow rose. Everyone gathered downstairs to honor the choir with breakfast foods...fruit cups, muffins, Danish, bagels, etc. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way with preparing for this special day.

Sandy Dudek



OUR BELOVED ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR, Marie Quinn, had her final day with us on June 11th, as well. She and her husband, Frank, are moving to Savannah, Georgia, back to their "roots", for their retirement. Sad as we are, we wish them well! Marie not only got involved with the adults here, but loved working with the children as well, going into the Sunday School Hall before worship and playing for them for their singing. She also practiced each week with the children for the Sunday School Christmas pageant. Even the littlest kids belted out the words! In addition, her excitement for music brought out many talented people within our own congregation. Sandy Dudek

June 11 was also the acknowledgement of our new kitchen and those who helped in any way. Rev. Stan read from the plaque that will be hung in the kitchen.

Senior Trustee Rich Chalifoux shared the following with the congregation:

Kitchen Dedication 11 June, 2023

What started out as an idea between the Supper Committee and Trustees to update the kitchen and make it more functional and user friendly, turned out to be a complete overhaul utilizing the expertise of several church members and a whole lot of sweat equity.

The Trustees, under the leadership of senior Trustee Glenn Heavens, took charge of demo work, repairing and repainting, re-plumbing, relocating and reinstalling.

Joy Chalifoux took the lead replacing a bulky dysfunctional island with compliant stainless-steel tables, a three-bay sink, separate hand-washing sink and hiring the companies to install a state-of-the-art hood ventilation and fire suppression system.

Ed Shea was instrumental in getting all the electric and gas relocated and hooked up. Ed communicated with the company and building inspector to ensure everything went as planned.

Kim Lang donated time and supplies to paint the existing cabinets and replace cabinet hardware for a huge cost savings.

The Supper Committee was very involved throughout with clearing out, cleaning up and equipment placement.

I am sure there are people I missed but just know every person here was a part of this renovation. Many donated time, but none of this would have been possible without your donations. Our Church is a giving Church and we all should be proud to call Preston City Congregational Church home but most of all we should thank God for His hand on our Church and on each one of us.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY.