

Preston City Congregational Church



**week of
August 6, 2023**

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9AM – Noon

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:
7/30 – 68; 1 Country; 26 States; 57
cities

WEEKLY EVENTS

AA Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall

NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM week of
August 20.

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has
determined that wearing masks is
optional.

Lemonade on the Lawn



Join us for
fellowship and a
cold drink following
our service!

FROM THE DESK OF REV. MARK

I took my first summer vacation in many years last month. My wife works with our son as a landscaper making it hard to get away from May to October. So I went, alone, to Sun Valley, Idaho where my high-school friend, Jeff, now lives.

The purpose was special. My oldest friend is Jewish and, since he was in high school, he has had a dream of building a temple to his faith. On July 16th last month, the Wood River Community Temple in Sun Valley was dedicated. It is only the third temple to be dedicated in Idaho. As president of the temple society, Jeff spearheaded the building program.

To encourage me to come (something he did not have to do), Jeff put together a long list of adventures for my stay. Sun Valley was the first ski mountain in the United States, and is now, also, a mecca for fly fishing in the summer. So, we went fly fishing. And mountain biking, and hiking. The views and vistas were majestic. I even went to a contemporary dance event where I sat one row from Mariel Hemingway, one of my first celebrity crushes!

Except for my waders filling with water, most of my time was a delight of "vacation" activities. Yet, by the Sunday of the dedication service, I was beginning to feel like someone who had just eaten their five favorite desserts, but nothing else that day. I needed something, well, "meaty."

The day of the dedication, five times as many people showed up at the temple as per usual. Not enough chairs were set up, no one had been assigned to pass out bulletins, the Episcopal priest from the church the temple had rented space from was running late and needed to be met. Who was going to take care of these details?

Me, it turns out. Any minister will tell you that they often also must be the coordinator at special services such as weddings and funerals. And, now, temple dedications. So, being the usher, custodian and late guest greeter came naturally to me. By the end of the event, my efforts earned me a nickname from my newfound friends at the Wood River Jewish Center—Shabbos Goy! That's a loving term of endearment for a non-Jewish person who helps in a pinch.

And it was also my favorite part of the trip. My good deed, "mitzvah" in Yiddish, was the meat to the many desserts the trip offered.

The Apostle Paul was equally a fan of mitzvahs. In Galatians 5:13, he wrote, **"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."**

I hope all of you are well. Until we see each other again, may we continue to serve one another humbly in love!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mark

Going on vacation this summer? Remember to take your church along! Our service is live at 9:30A on Sunday morning on our website prestoncitycongregational.org. Archived services may be viewed at any time. And remember, the church does not take a vacation. Pledges and donations may be made online on our website or mailed to the church to keep us up-to-date.

CONFIRMATION CLASS begins on August 7th with a Confirmation date of October 29, 2023. We will meet Monday evenings at 6:30P except on Monday holidays when the church office is closed. (Labor Day Sept. 4, Columbus Day Oct 9)

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

This week we received a "Thank You" card from Cathy Rider and family to Preston City Congregational Church:

"Thank you for all of the meals and prayers that our church family has given to us! It has been a crazy couple of months, but we will all get through!

Hopefully I will get cleared to leave the house on August 17th and I can make a service. Thank you again."

This card from Cathy is posted on the bulletin board on the mid-level.


BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER PA ~ AUG 21-23

We are traveling again and are full!
Rev. Mark is available while Rev. Stan is away. You may call the office or Rev. Mark directly.

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.

Please remember to check with the office for space availability when scheduling meetings.

 **Christmas Bazaar Update IT'S BACK!!!**
SOMEONE has volunteered to oversee this holiday tradition, enjoyed by so many in the community!
Check here for future updates of needs, meetings, and where you can help!



BINGO at Strawberry Park - Help is needed for August 13 - August 24th, another long stretch. Saturday August 19 the games begin at 2P and Sunday August 20, the games

are early, at 10A. The remainder are evening sessions. Are you available to help out on any of the dates? We need three people at each session. Signup sheets are posted. **The slots are filling in but we can use a few more volunteers. Thank you for your assistance!**

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

Courage is knowing something might hurt, and doing it anyway. Stupidity is the same. And that is why life is hard.



We will meet **Saturday August 12** at 9A to assemble our Prayer Squares. Please bring 1/4" ribbon and sewing needles for this project.



Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 9th at 10am.



Did you know advertising your business on the radio will support the Scarecrow Festival? Thanks to an ongoing promotion with Hall Communications, your business name and slogan would be

announced a total of 20 times on WCTY, WKNL, WNLC and WICH and heard by a massive number of listeners, both prior to the festival and on the festival day! The cost is \$200 and proceeds support this year's Scarecrow Festival. For more info or to sign up, call Bob Vescovi at: (401) 583-7840 or email him at RVesco2010@comcast.net. **Please note, the deadline for submission is this Tuesday, August 15th.**

Breastfeeding/Lactation Room

It was a unanimous vote last month by the Standing Committee to add a Lactation Room to the church.

Parents will now have a quiet place to feed their children while listening to the church sermon or attending a church function.



We will be painting and equipping the room with necessary items. If you have the following items, we would love to have them:

- A clean, comfortable recliner. (It can be a rocker recliner but needs to lock in place when reclined.);
- A small college refrigerator (If the parent is pumping milk, it must be refrigerated.);
- And a baby monitor for hearing sermons.

All items can be gently used. If you have questions, contact Shari Purcell (certified lactation consultant) 860-917-9011 or shariLpurcell@gmail.com

We hope to have this room ready by the opening of Sunday School. It will be a great extension of our nursery program.

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 August 20th newsletter no later than Tuesday, August 22nd at noon to: susan.brosnan@gmail.com or leave at the office.

Would you like to receive an electronic version of the Little Pilgrim newsletter delivered to your email?

Contact Sue Brosnan (susan.brosnan@gmail.com) or the church office with your name and email address. Your name will be added to our mailing list!



WHAT WE ARE CROWING ABOUT!!!!!!!

Fall isn't what most of us are thinking about in August, but **PCCC** is thinking about the **Scarecrow Festival** on September 23, 2023. It has been 3 years since we have hosted this community loving event and we are so excited. The vendors are filling up because they are happy to be back! 60+ already are signed.

This past Sunday the Church Festival Board was full of **volunteer** opportunities. **WE NEED MANY HANDS** to make this event **fun** for the community and **unexacting** on our church. **PLEASE** sign up to volunteer the day of the event (there are many areas of need), or help with financial support, donate a tasty baked good, a pop-up tent or two, anyone have a golf cart, an outdoor Jenga game, an outdoor Connect 4 game, Corn Hole, how about sitting in the dunk tank, do you face paint, or donate to the silent auction.

Since this is a Scarecrow Festival, we will be hosting two, "**How to make a scarecrow events**". They will be in early September. Day, time, and place TBA in next Little Pilgrim. It will be fun for the whole family. Get your application now to enter. Great \$ prizes for the winners!

There are so many **FALL** events happening in surrounding communities, **LET'S MAKE OUR CHURCH EVENT THE ONE EVERYONE CAN'T WAIT TO COME BACK TO!**

For more information go to the church FB page or contact Shari Purcell (chairperson) at shariLpurcell@gmail.com or PCCCscarecrowfest2023@gmail.com to help.



Preston City Congregational Church STILL needs your help! Yes, **YOU! SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 10TH AND WE ARE SHORT ON TEACHERS!!!! IF YOU LOVE YOUR FAITH THEN THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU. PLEASE COME SEE ME AND ASK ALL THE QUESTIONS, ADDRESS ALL YOUR CONCERNS.**

The Bible tells us it is those that volunteer and serve that are the true leaders in the kingdom of God. We all have gifts, talents, & skills that God gave us. We all can be God's LOVE in ACTION. I'll be honest it does cost you time, and Gas MONEY, (yikes)! However, you also **RECEIVE**. You get back an untold amount of blessings and an indescribable feeling of love and accomplishment. I honestly am struggling to put the correct words in these sentences, just trust me, or better yet I challenge you to prove me wrong! You heard me, sign up for an opportunity to give and if it turns out to be the worst experience of your life or NOT at all fulfilling then I will allow you to throw raw eggs at me during Lemonade on the lawn! (My version of a modern-day stoning!)

I will even help you get started

- Currently, Sunday School **STILL** has openings for Toddler 3 & 4 class, Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade. This is an every other Sunday commitment from 8:45 - 10:30 a.m. This really only requires a LOVE of building relationships! We all need that. Come find out more **TODAY** in Dudek Hall after the 9:30 service!
- 2x's a month not a match to your schedule...
How about delivering a meal 1x a month to one of our shut-ins, or someone who is sick or needs a friend! Starting in October **Meals That Heal** will be preparing a homemade meal that will need to be delivered right after the 9:30 service, and the whole family can do it, or just you. What a great way to show God's LOVE...
- Love to shop... the Sunday School's biggest (only) fundraiser is the Basket Drawing in November. Can you donate a basket? A service?
- The Scarecrow Festival could use everybody, it benefits the entire church, so check out all the possibilities on the bulletin board in the Coffee hour room (Halls' Hall). Can you bake for the Christmas Pageant in December? Set up tables? Clean-up tables? Love doing crafts with kids? Then our Good Friday Event is the spot for you! These are all examples of 1 and done activities! I could use the entire " Little Pilgrim" to help you plug in more. We are all busy, but we are all family, and families help one another, rally around each other, love on each other, and laugh with each other. Come be a part of God's and PCCC's loving, crazy family!

THERE WILL ALSO BE A SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ACROSS FROM HALLS' HALL FOR ALL THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP!

Lisa Van Alst DRE