

Preston City Congregational Church



The Little Pilgrim

week of
October 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

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.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AA - Wed 7:30P Dudek Hall
Sunday Service – 9:30A
Sunday School – 9:15A
NEXT LITTLE PILGRIM week of
November 5th.

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has
determined that wearing masks is
optional.



Join us for
**coffee, punch,
and fellowship
following our
Sunday service.**

From the desk of Rev. Stan...

This Sunday, October 29th, is Confirmation Sunday. Eight high school young people will “confirm” the baptismal vows made by their parents on the day of their baptism. I had the privilege of baptizing these teens as babies as they were held in the arms of their proud parents. It was a memorable morning back then, and it will be an equally meaningful day this Sunday. I hope you will be present to witness the Rite of Confirmation, and will welcome these fine young people as the newest members of our church.

This Sunday will also be my last Sunday with you until the spring. I enjoyed my time reconnecting with you! Likewise, it was nice to meet and get to know many of the new families and individuals who found their way to the church. The church is alive, active, and “on the move.” As the hymn sings, “There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place” and I was glad to be with you to enjoy that Spirit!

I was more than pleased to minister alongside Rev. Mark these past six months. Interestingly, a few years back, when we were considering adding another minister to the staff, Mark’s name was mentioned. He came highly recommended! However, at that time he was studying for his Doctorate in Ministry and his plate was full. The timing for working together wasn’t right. But deep down I hoped the day would come when we would share a ministry. I had known of Mark and had met him on several occasions. During our conversations, we came to realize that we had similar philosophies regarding church ministry: **Love God, love the Church, love the people we serve.** A few years passed, I retired, Mark became a popular guest minister at the church, I missed the church (YOU), and God finally brought our ministries together. His timing was perfect (It always is). As I head south, and Mark remains up north, I have every confidence that the church is in good hands and that God will continue to bless Mark’s ministry and his church.

If you wish to contact me for any reason, please feel free to call me: 860.303.9622. Be sure to leave me a message and I will call you back.

My winter address is: 3071 Indian River Drive N.E., Palm Bay, Florida 32905

Till we meet again, know that you are loved!

Rev. Stan



THE 325TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Please plan to join us right after church on Sunday, November 12th to kick-off our yearlong **325th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.** We plan to gather on the front lawn of the Annex for a short service of dedication to commemorate this special day. The children of the Sunday School will be joining us, and the anniversary slogan will be announced. **Plan to be a part of the history of our beloved church! Hope to see you there!**

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

This Sunday, October 29th eight young people will become members of the church through The Rite of Confirmation. They have been meeting with Rev. White since August to prepare for this day to declare their allegiance to Christ. They are: Kyra Deroy, Madelyn Hopkins, Seth Klewin, Brock Nowakowski, Reed Nowakowski, Corbin O'Brien, Riley Tucker, and Arianna Turner. Hope you will be in attendance to congratulate them and wish them well.

Thank you Rev. Stan for guiding these young people.

Friday November 10th the office will be closed in observance of Veterans Day.

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

If your address has changed or you have a new phone number, please let the office or church clerk know so records may be updated. We understand many people no longer have 'land lines' and use cell phones as their main contact. Please help us keep our information up-to-date.

Active members who wish to borrow items from the church (chairs, tables, etc. that are reserved for this purpose), 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.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS Crystal Bednarz and Joel Jopson.

WE EXPRESSED OUR CONDOLENCES

to the family of Paul Penley.



WEDDING



We congratulate Taylor Woodmansee and Amanda Migliaccio who were married October 14th at Prospect Hill, in Preston, CT.

Amanda is the daughter of William and Priscilla Migliaccio.

On October 22, 2023 we welcomed into the Household of Christian Faith through the

sacrament of Baptism

Cora Mae Marino, the daughter of Joseph and Lindsay Marino and Jacob Edward Blair, the son of Edward and Lori Blair.



Proud grandparents are John and Pat Marino. We ask God's blessing on these little ones.

A COAT DRIVE is being held through January 1st. All sizes are welcome for men, women and children. Boots, hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves are also needed.



The coats may be left in or on the Elizabeth Allyn box located to the right of the table in the mid-level hallway. Let's help keep everyone warm this winter! Thank you for supporting this mission.



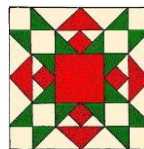
The Monday morning Bible Study is back together again, meeting at 10am.

We will be studying the lives of Jesus and His Disciples in the gospels through the show, The Chosen Season 3. Any questions please contact Chris Burden at 401-465-8900.

There is no meeting October 30th.

The Tuesday Night Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 10th @ 7pm in the Meeting Room. In this session, we'll study the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul. There is no book or study guide this time. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Scott VanAlst @ 860-237-7964.

QUILT DRAWING Nov 11th



Tickets are available singly or in books of ten at \$1.00 per ticket, for a beautiful handmade quilt created by women in the church. View the quilt after our service on Sunday. Get your tickets now!

BINGO at Strawberry Park – Bingo has finished for the season. Thank you to all who made this fundraiser possible.



THE SUPPER COMMITTEE prepared and served a sold-out turkey dinner on October 21st. Thank you for another delicious meal!



As Halloween approaches I am reminded of a lesson I have done using Pumpkins! I found the Pumpkin Prayer years ago. Some may already know it, but it's always nice to be reminded again.

THE PUMPKIN PRAYER

(cut off the top)

Lord, open my mind and fill me with your wisdom and guidance.

(scoop it out)

Lord, take out my whininess and complaints and fill me with your love.

(Carve eyes)

Lord, open my eyes to see all of the beautiful things you made.

(Carving the nose)

Lord, help me to be a sweet fragrance for you.

(Carve the mouth)

Lord, help me to always speak your words of kindness and love.

I hope you enjoy some family time this weekend as well as carve out some special times during the hectic week! Small things extra long drive home from school or sports to see the leaves. A devotional during the drive to activities or school. Let the kids plan and help cook a dinner 1 night this week! Older kids complete the entire task while you sit in the kitchen and talk with them. Wake them up with breakfast in bed! Hey, muffins and juice boxes are fine (homemade or store bought)

Some important Sunday School dates & news

Oct. 29: Confirmation

Nov. 1st: Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due & Christmas Pageant rehearsal

Nov. 10th: Baskets due for the Christmas Bazaar

Nov. 11th: Christmas Bazaar

Happy Fall Y'All and always God's abundant blessings,
Lisa Van Alst

THOUGHTS FROM A FRIEND...

**People who wonder if the glass is half full or half empty are missing the point.
The glass is refillable.**



AN ORGAN CONCERT has been arranged for **Sunday, December 10th at 4P**. Look for more information in an upcoming issue.

LOOKING AHEAD...TRAVELERS...

June 2024 – Maine – featuring tours of Portland & Kennebunkport

August 2024 – Sight & Sound of Lancaster, PA, featuring Sight & Sound's "DANIEL"

October 2024 – Ireland

More information will be forthcoming.

TRIP TO IRELAND – October 2024

All 32 spots have been spoken for, however, you may call the office to be added to the waitlist!

CHOIR REHEARSALS are at 7P in Halls' Hall. New voices are always welcome.



TRIVIA NIGHT WILL BE BACK ON APRIL 6, 2024.

THE FALL YARD SALE is now planned for

Saturday October 28th, from 8A – 2P.

Donations will be accepted the day of the sale.



The **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** is fast approaching, and we could use your help!

We are looking for antique, vintage or collectible items (small tables, chairs, mirrors, pictures, glassware, pottery, etc.) in good, re-sellable condition to sell at the Christmas Bazaar. All proceeds from the sale of these items will benefit the church. We are also accepting good, re-sellable Christmas items to sell in the Christmas Room.

Do you have one or two items to donate?! Please call Pat Marino at 860-887-3359 to arrange for pickup or drop-off of items.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR REMINDER

By Nancy Obreiter

November 11, 2023 from 9am to 2pm

Just about 2 weeks away!!! It's getting close and we still need a lot of names for the signup list to help with the Christmas Bazaar. There will be a lot of work to set up all the tables, for Dudek Hall, Halls' Hall, the meeting room, the hallway and the Christmas room. We will also have to move the vintage furniture and items up from the lower classrooms and set them up to be displayed. It was mentioned to me, by a very nice Reverend ☺, how it would look so nice to put up our Christmas tree that is usually placed in the entry. If we can get several helping hands with all these tasks, it should be a relatively quick and hopefully smooth job. I hope to see several names **with phone numbers** signed up for both setting up on Thursday, November 9th, and cleaning up at 2pm after the bazaar is done. It will be a great time with the Christmas music and the decorations, delicious food, beautiful crafts, yummy baked goods, the baskets and quilt drawings, vintage items and Christmas items for sale. This is a perfect time to get some of our Christmas shopping done!

Remember to clean out your attics, back rooms and basements and dig out those vintage items, and remember to look through those many Christmas decorations you no longer are using or need to donate. It will be a huge help to making this bazaar a success!!! I appreciate all you can do to help bring our bazaar back!!! Please call me, 401-206-3881 if you have any questions. Thank you so much!

COMMUNION SUNDAY IS TWO-CAN SUNDAY: Time to replenish the Toucan Food Pantry on November 5th.

Our stock is running low! Always needed: cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, 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.

THE FOOD PANTRY could use some Thanksgiving 'fixins' in addition to the basic monthly staples given to our patrons. Requested items include: stuffing mix, canned cranberry sauce and gravy. Distribution day for Thanksgiving is November 15th. **Please consider picking up an extra item or two when you are grocery shopping.**



The Nut sale is back! Orders are being taken now. The last day to order is October 29th.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT is scheduled for December 17th at 2P, same time, new date!

Rehearsals for "The Night Before" begin November 1st from 5:30-6:30P.

Please see Wendy Abrahamson for further information.



OCTOBER & NOVEMBER EVENTS

Yard Sale October 28

Confirmation Sunday October 29

Last Day for Nut Orders October 29

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal November 1

Daylight Savings Time Ends November 5

Veterans Day Observed November 10

Bazaar November 11

Senior Lunch November 14

Thanksgiving Sunday November 19



NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH

Members and friends of our church will soon be receiving a mailing with pledge cards and letters to explain the proposed

2024 budget that will be decided at the annual meeting in February 2024.

How can you support the church?

Consider your time, talents, and treasure; these are the gifts you can share with your church.

These contributions are what will determine the success and future of our church.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

NOVEMBER is also the month the Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates to fill the many positions in our church. It is time to ask yourself "How can I help to keep my church moving forward?" "What talents do I have that can be shared with my church?" It takes many people to keep our church running smoothly throughout the year. Please consider serving in one of the open positions.

LITTLE PILGRIM COORDINATOR The Little Pilgrim comes out twice a month. Please send information to be included in the week of November 5th newsletter no later than Tuesday, November 7th 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.



NOVEMBER 5TH ENDS DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME. Set you clocks back on Saturday night November 4th.

FINAL THOUGHT



"We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone."

Martin Luther