

THE PRESTON PILGRIM

The newsletter of
**The Preston City
Congregational Church**
Gathered 1698



**OCTOBER
2014**

CHURCH ADDRESS

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WORSHIP

9:00 & 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

8:45 a.m.

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Visit us on **FACEBOOK**

News and information for the November newsletter is due in the church office by **October 19**. You may leave information in the holder located on the wall in the kitchen.

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Did you know...

- that the Bible has more than 800 references on money?
- that 70% of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck? (National Payroll Week)
- that couples who disagreed about money once a week were twice as likely to divorce as those who differed less than once a month? (Utah State University)
- that 70% of workers say they are not where they need to be with retirement savings? (Employee Benefit Research Institute)
- that people with a surplus of money don't have a plan for managing their money?

These are statements taken from an information guide put out by Dave Ramsey. Maybe you've read his newspaper columns, or heard his radio show? Ramsey presently has a very popular program being offered around the country that's helping many!

"Financial Peace University (FPU) is a nine-week video curriculum taught by financial expert Dave Ramsey, and it incorporates

small group discussions that help encourage accountability and discipleship. Groups meet once a week for 90 minutes, and the course is just as fun as it is practical!"

To date, more than 1.5 million families have attended FPU in more than 30,000 churches nationwide, and I am presently working on bringing this highly rated program to our church in January. If you are interested in attending, you must register through the church and plan to attend the nine weekly classes, taught by Ramsey (via DVD). The course will cost each family \$93.

I've been listening to Ramsey's radio show for quite some time. I like his straight-forward approach with people, and the way he connects money to the faith. I've also been reading about FPU and the success stories of those who have attended. I encourage you to go on daveramsey.com to read more about this life-changing program.

I'm looking forward to being part of the class, and I hope you will join me. Why not invite others to join you? Remember, because materials must be ordered, you **MUST** register at the office. Please do so before December.

See you in church (and in class!)

Rev. Stan
Rev. Stan

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LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

GAME NIGHT returns Saturday night, October 25, from 6 - 9 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. This is a night out for adults -- an opportunity to meet other people, play some games, sing Karaoke, and enjoy a fun evening. Everyone is asked to bring a snack to share. Soda and coffee will be available. Bring your favorite game, or play one of the many we have at the church. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.



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ADULT MISSION NEWS

Nine adults will leave October 19, to work with the homeless in Boston. Lori Hall, coordinator, will lead the group who will prepare and serve meals, lead projects with clients, and distribute meals to the hungry. Please keep them in your prayers as they do this important work.

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NORTHEAST FELLOWSHIP TO MEET

The "Fall Gathering" of the Northeast Fellowship of Congregational Christian Churches will meet on October 19 at 3 P.M. at The Becket Federated Church in Becket, MA. The Missionary Tea begins at 3 P.M. followed by the meeting at 4. On the agenda will be discussion of the Fishers Island House in NY and the possible vote to sell the house. Those interested in attending the meeting should make every effort to attend. Each member church will have three votes.

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THE CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

For many years, the church has had a memorial fund - a monetary fund established in memory of a loved one upon their death. The primary purpose of the memorial fund is to keep the church financially healthy, and to aid her in her many endeavors.

According to our current bylaws, upon the death of a loved one, the family may establish a memorial fund account for one year. After one year, if the family has not approached the church expressing a desire to use their loved one's memorial fund for a specific purpose (approved by the Diaconate), the account will be placed in the church's general memorial fund.

What better way to remember and honor the passing of a loved one than having contributions offered to the church following their death? So much good has been accomplished through the years because of the memorial fund.

If you have any questions about the memorial fund, please contact the church office.

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REMEMBERING YOUR CHURCH

Several people have recently mentioned that they plan to remember their church in their will. Have you considered doing so?

LOOKING AHEAD...

November Events

8th... The annual **Christmas Bazaar** from 9 - 2 P.M. in the Sunday School hall and classrooms. Shop early for the best deals!

9th... They're back... **Teen Challenge** from New Haven, CT. Come and hear their powerful, heartwarming stories of how God, through this program, is transforming lives and giving new hope and direction to these men. They will share their message and music at both services.

20th... **Collette** (formerly **Collette Vacations**) travel presentation, 6 P.M. in the Sunday School hall. Invite a friend.

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YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED

Please remember if you are planning to use one of the church halls for an event on Sunday that **both halls and the kitchen are in use until 1 P.M.** Please **DO NOT** arrive early planning to set up for your event while church-related events are still in progress. Your understanding is appreciated.

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CAN YOU HELP?

From time-to-time, people/families in our congregation are in need of a home cooked meal. Maybe it's following a hospital stay, or when a baby is born, or upon the passing of a loved one, etc. Many people have generously volunteered to take on this act of compassion in years past, and now we are in need of more volunteers when the need arises. If you would be willing to be a part of this important ministry, please call meal coordinator Lois Woodmansee at 860.889.2128.

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TRIPS AND TRAVELS

Is there an interest in traveling to **New Orleans** in October 2015? How about a trip through the **Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park**? This church trip is scheduled for August 14 - 20, 2015. Highlights include: Calgary, Waterton Lakes National Park, Glacier National Park, "Going to the Sun Road", Banff, Columbia Icefield. The cost is \$3,199 (Double), \$3,949 (Single), \$3,169 (Triple) which includes: Round trip air from Logan International Airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, and hotel transfers. *Not included in the price is the cancellation Waiver and insurance of \$205 per person.* Michael Zeigler, our travel rep. from **Collette** will be at the church, Thursday, November 20 for a 6 P.M. travel presentation, and to answer any questions. Spread the word, plan to attend. This trip is open to the community.

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FRIENDS & FAMILY CAFÉ

Tuesday mornings, 9 - 11:30

In Fellowship Hall

Stop by and enjoy a cup of coffee, some sweets, and conversation. It's **FREE** and open to the community.

DURING SEPTEMBER

We congratulated the following couples who were united in marriage:

9/20 *Kimberly Adamaitis to Richard Pingalore, Essex, CT*

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WHAT A MORNING!

The re-dedication service of the church Sanctuary on September 7 was inspiring and uplifting. The enthusiastic worshippers who attended the services were pleased and pleasantly surprised by the transformation of the worship space. Local newspaper reporters were present to cover the celebration, and news of the dedication even appeared in newspapers across the country; Indiana, North Dakota, San Francisco, as well as Washington D.C.

What a sight to see the symbols of the church carried into the Sanctuary, followed by the adult choir. The sun's light outside sent rays streaming into the building via the newly revealed stained glass windows. It was bright; and very nice!

The new color of the sanctuary walls, along with new carpet and *removable* half walls around the chancel area, and wider platforms/steps for the choirs were all part of the renovation work. New lighting was also installed; new chandeliers, chancel lighting, and dimmable lights on the sky blue ceiling all enhance the 127 year-old Sanctuary. If you haven't seen it, you've got to get to church!

Our thanks go to the building committee for working diligently on this project and special thanks to Tom Ames for serving as the clerk-of-the-works, and Ed Shea for figuring out how to remove those half-walls for special occasions.

Check out the website for photos of the renovation. It was quite a summer project, and the end result will be appreciated and enjoyed by worshippers for years to come.

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PHASE ONE STEWARDSHIP

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we most likely will have reached our goal of \$10,000 for the "Let There Be Light Campaign." At present, the amount pledged for 2015 is \$9,610. We thank those who have offered a pledge to help pay down the sanctuary renovation loan of \$60,000. We hope to pay off the ten-year note much earlier. *Thanks!*

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NEW MEMBERS

Would you like to make it official? Would you like to become a member of the church? If so, sign up at the Information Center bulletin board. New members will be welcomed into the church on November 23. We'll mail you all the information you need to join. Please speak with the Minister if you have any questions.

NINTH ANNUAL SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Whoever would have thought the 27th day of September would have been so warm? It was a perfect day for a festival. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We thank the festival committee for the countless hours they put into this popular community event, and to the many volunteers who helped to insure that everything went smoothly that day. We're not sure what the profit from the festival is at this time; we'll keep you posted! Thanks, church family --- well done!

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ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us Monday mornings, from 10 to 11 A.M. in Halls' Hall (coffee hour room). At present; about 15 of us are studying the book of Romans. Paul has much to say to this church in Rome and to us as well. It's an informal hour, and no prior Bible knowledge or background is necessary to attend. Come and learn, and meet some wonderful people at the same time. As always, the coffee pot will be on! Rev. Stan leads the study group.

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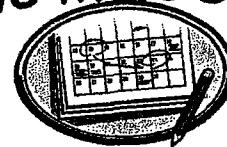
OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

This is the week (10-12)... "*The Face on The Barroom Floor*" a very funny melodrama play will be presented at the church in the Sunday School hall. There are still some tickets available for all 3 performances; call the office to make your purchase. Dinner starts at 6 on Friday and Saturday, followed by the performance. The Sunday afternoon *Dessert Theater* begins at 2. We thank Mary Norris, Director, and all the actors for giving their time to this wonderful production.

Tickets are now available for the very popular **Turkey Supper** scheduled for October 18. You can call the church office for reservations, or you may purchase tickets during the coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Consider getting involved with this supper; your help is needed and so much appreciated! Check the bulletin board or weekly worship folder for what is needed.

The fall **YARD SALE** will take place on Saturday, October 25 (rain date: November 1) from 8 - 2 P.M. in the lower church parking area. You may drop off items for the sale **AFTER** contacting Stella Dawley (860.887.4652) who will coordinate the sale. Please note that we are not accepting: tires, computers, TVs, air conditioners, or clothes. Please only donate items that are re-sellable. Because of weather, we ask that you **NOT** leave any donations outside the annex building. Please call Stella first.

Save these Dates



The Preston Junior Pilgrim



Preston City Congregational Church Sunday School Newsletter



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" And we have more blessings than we can count here at Preston City Congregational Church! The renovation project is finished and for many years to come, we and other generations will enjoy the fruit of our labors. When I sit in church, I try to imagine what it will be like when the winter comes and the days are dark how things will be brightened for us in our renovated space. We'll know soon enough as winter is just around the corner! Another blessing...Sunday School is up and running with an enrollment of 130 kids and 23 more on the Cradle Roll which is under the care of the Board of

Religious Education. We have a full staff and lots of enthusiasm for this Sunday School year. The Scarecrow Festival has gone by...a wonderful memory in our minds of a near perfect day and volunteers working together to put on an event that not only brings revenue to our church but hopefully people will want to come here that do not already have a church home because they see so many of us working harmoniously together.

MANY PEOPLE, quite often young people, have lost their way today. Why not invite them to come to church with you. I believe we have much to offer; sometimes just being in a fellowship where someone knows your name and cares about you can make a **BIG** difference. Did you know we have 26 young people in the high school class and others who are visiting weekly to check it out. Imagine the impact those teens can have for Christ!

WHAT ARE THE blessings in your life these days? What has God done for you. How important it is to remember always to thank and *praise God from whom all blessings flow!*

May the **SON**shine through me,

Sandy Dudek



IN ADDITION to the recipients of the scholarship fund listed last month, **LAUREN HODKINSON**, should have been listed among them. My sincere apology to Lauren and her family. Lauren is at Ithaca College in New York. Our prayers and good thoughts go out to Lauren as she begins her college career.

MATTHEW EXLEY graduated last May from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York with a BS degree in electrical engineering. He is continuing on for his MS degree in electrical engineering. Well done, Matthew! We wish him our best as he completes the next part of his academic plans.



OCTOBER BIBLE VERSES



"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1) (N3-Grade 2)

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 (Grades 3-12)

PLEASE ENCOURAGE students to learn these verses; they will serve them well the rest of their lives. To qualify for an award at the end of the year, verses must be correctly recited by the end of each month to Mrs. Dudek or their teacher. **PLEASE NOTE:** students who have recited the Bible verses will be posted on the Sunday School bulletin board in the SS Hall.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2015

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK will be the site of the summer 2015 Youth Mission trip July 19-24th. Registration forms are available now from the Youth leaders, the Giulianos (860.376.8901) or the Van Alsts (860.230.9947). Youth who participated in the trip last year will be given priority until **October 12th**. After that time others who are eligible may sign up to go. A \$60.00 non-refundable deposit will hold a slot. The Board of Religious Education has recently revised the guidelines for the youth mission trip and they are available through the youth leaders or D.R.E. They are given to a participant when they sign up. One important change is that "youth participants **must** be registered in and active participants (in attendance at least **two** Sundays per month) of the **current** Sunday School year."

THE SENIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (students grades 9-12) assisted with deli day for the semi-annual meeting. They realized a profit of \$105.50. It is a labor of love, for sure...but know that it is appreciated by so many of us. On September 21st, the Senior P.F. went to Holmberg Orchards for apple picking. They had a great time! They will be meeting on Sunday, October 12th for pizza and planning. High School (grades 9-12) are invited and encouraged to join in the fun. For information, call the Giulianos (860.376.8901) or the Van Alsts (860.230.9947).

THE JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP had a winning scarecrow at the Scarecrow Festival! (read more about it below) In October a corn maze trip is planned. Watch the bulletin for further information. Co-leaders Linda Farinha (860.608.6641) or Andy McCaslin (860.917.6572) may be contacted for further information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT rehearsals begin Tuesday, October 14th from 6-6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary for grades 1 and up.; it will be directed by Naomi Bushnell (860.984.8188). A pageant is being selected at this time. The pageant will be presented on December 14th at 4:00 p.m. Rehearsals for the 3 & 4 year olds and kindergarten will begin at a later date to be announced. Call Naomi or the church office if you have any questions.

IS ANYONE collecting aluminum tops from the tops of soda cans. When I was getting the Sunday School rooms ready for opening I found a baggie full of them and didn't want to throw them out without asking. Please call the church office if you could use them.

STORYTELLING took place September 28th with Judy Ladegard and enrichment by Shari Purcell. On October 26th, Linda Kent-Farinha will debut as a storyteller and Naomi Bushnell for enrichment. Hope your children will be there that day for this interactive session.

THE 2014 SCARECROW CONTENT WINNERS:

Children:

1. OLAF by Courtney & Anna Dutrumble
2. Pinkadoodle by Helen Muench
3. May the Force Be With You by Will Priest

Adults:

1. Boo to You too by Sue Creamer
2. Queen Elizabeth by Carolyn Shea
3. Minnie Mouse Farm House by Kayla Holstton and Juliana Drainville

Groups/Organizations:

1. Pilgrim Pizza by Jr. Pilgrim Fellowship
2. Girl Scouts Recycle All Over the World by Girl Scout Troop #63341
3. Jimmies Jimmies by Chelsea Dubreuil

Special Drawing Winner:

Vendor Wreath Scarecrow by Pauline Graham

Vendor:

Baby Scarecrow by Good Luck Goodies

NOVEMBER 2ND
Turn clocks back
one hour.



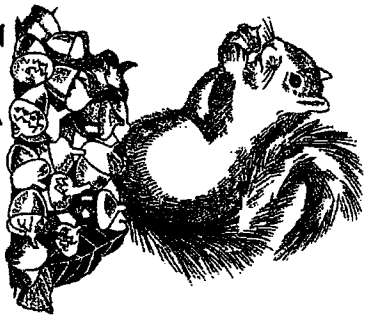
Children's Talent Show:

1. Juliana Drainville: Acoustic guitar and singing: "If I Die Young" by Band Perry
2. Sara Tomis & Anna Nye, Irish Dancing
3. Austin Judy, singing "Take a Look Through My Eyes" by Phil Collins
4. Participation Ribbon: Lindsay Bernier

BRING IT...

is our Contemporary Young Adult Worship Service. If you or someone you know is between the ages of 14 to age 22, we're inviting you to this exciting way to worship. "Bring It" uses multiple forms of media, interactive demonstrations, and music to bring God's message to life. The worship service starts at 10:30 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The October dates are the 12th and 26th. Please come and join us, invite someone to come with you, or tell someone about it.

THE SCRIP PROGRAM is an ongoing fundraiser that greatly benefits the youth missions trips program. Scrip (debit) cards are available to purchase for hundreds of stores, gas stations, donut shops, bookstores, grocery stores, etc. where you do business. You do not pay any extra amount to purchase these cards; however, the youth missions will receive a percentage back that varies according to the business. For example...if you purchase a Macy's card for \$100.00, youth missions will be rewarded 10% for the sale...no charge to you, but profit to the program; WalMart is 2%, Stop & Shop 4%, etc. Cards can be purchased for varying amounts. Sheets with participating businesses listed are always available in the Information Center. Checks to purchase these cards should be made out to "PCCC Youth Missions". If you have questions, call coordinators Jerry & Cheryl Giuliano (860-376-8901).



Autumn

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

SUNDAYS:

Morning worship, 9am, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

Coffee hour, 9:50 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Children's Choir: 10:00-10:25 a.m.

Youth Choir: 10:00-10:25 a.m.

Junior & Senior Pilgrim Fellowship

Check church bulletin

The newsletter is posted on our website:

prestoncnycongregational.org

INCLEMENT WEATHER

CANCELLATIONS: Tune in to

WICH, WCTY, WNIC, WKNL,

or Television Channel 3 or you may

check Facebook or our website:

prestoncnycongregational.org

When Sunday School is cancelled,

church is **NOT CANCELLED** unless

specifically announced.

SEPTEMBER
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OCTOBER 2014

NOVEMBER
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23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>To place flowers in church during October, call Sallie Quinn at 860.546.2021.</p>	<p>Please check with Rev. Stan or Sandy before using our names as references. This courtesy would be very much appreciated.</p>	<p>LOST OR FOUND something at church? There is a basket in the Information Center next to the table.</p>	<p>1 ARC 10:30a Dinner Theater Rehearsal 7-10p AA 7:30p</p>	<p>2 Handbell choir 6:15p Adult choir 7p</p>	<p>3 First Communion rehearsal 6p</p>	<p>4 Dinner theater 6p</p>
<p>5 World Communion worship 9, 10:30a SS communion 8:05a Adult choir sings 9a Two-can Sunday Theater rehearsal 2-5p</p>	<p>6 Bible study 10a Yoga 6:30-7:30a Confirmation 6:30p Theater set-up 7-10p</p>	<p>7 Friends & Family Cafe 8-11:30a ARC 10:30a Mission trip meeting 6:30p Theater rehearsal 7-10p</p>	<p>8 ARC 10:30a St. Jude's worship 11a Finance Comm. mtg. 7p Theater rehearsal 7-10p AA 7:30p</p>	<p>9 Handbell choir 6:15p Theater rehearsal 7-10p Adult choir 7p</p>	<p>10 Dinner theater 6p</p>	<p>11 Turkey supper 4-8p</p>
<p>12 Worship 9, 10:30a "Brng It" 10:30a Theater & dessert 2p</p>	<p>13 Columbus Day Office closed NO Bible study NO Yoga NO Confirmation</p>	<p>14 Friends & Family Cafe 8-11:30a ARC 10:30a SS pageant rehearsal 6-8:45p BRE meeting 6p Scarecrow meeting 7p</p>	<p>15ARC 10:30a Creamery Brook worship 3p Christmas bazaar mtg. 6p Trustees' mtg. 8:30p Standing Comm. 7p meeting 7:00p</p>	<p>16 Handbell choir 6:15 p Adult choir 7p</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>18 Worship 9, 10:30a Adult choir sings 9a Adult Mission trip----- NEFCCC Fall meeting (Becket, MA)</p>	<p>20 Bible study 10a Yoga 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p</p>	<p>21 Friends & Family Cafe 8-11:30a ARC 10:30a Sunday School pageant rehearsal 6p</p>	<p>22 ARC 10:30a AA 7:30p</p>	<p>23 Handbell choir 6:15p Adult choir 7p</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Yard sale 8a-2p Rain date: Nov. 1 Game night 6-9p</p>
<p>26 Worship 9, 10:30a Baptism 10:30a Bring It 10:30a</p>	<p>27 Bible study 10a Yoga 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p</p>	<p>28 Friends & Family Cafe 8-11:30a ARC 10:30a Sunday School pageant rehearsal 6p</p>	<p>29 ARC 10:30a AA 7:30p</p>	<p>30 Handbell choir 6:15p Adult choir 7p</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Please note: active church members who wish to borrow church property (tables, chairs), call the church office.</p>