

**Preston City
Congregational Church**
"Gathering in Faith Since 1698"



Week of August 11, 2024

Church Office Hours: Mon– Fri,
9AM – Noon

Minister

Pastor Thomas, Burke, Jr.
203-297-0254

pastortompccc@gmail.com

Minister Emeritus

Rev. Stan White - 860 303-9622

sewhite3022@gmail.com

**Have a question?
Need help?**

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

**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

Sunday Service – 9:30A
Wednesday - AA – 7:30P

COVID UPDATE 3/16/2022

The Standing Committee has determined
that wearing a mask is optional.



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

FROM THE DESK OF THE MINISTER...

With a new baby in the house and my first son turning two this summer, I have been thinking a lot about growth. Watching two children grow has amazed me at how quickly time can pass. In 2 Peter, the author tells us to grow in grace and love for Jesus Christ. A few months ago, when I first started at the church, the pastoral search committee gave my son Thomas a book about Jesus. It has been so wonderful watching him begin to learn to say the word Jesus.

As I watch my sons grow, I don't just want their bodies to get bigger and stronger; I want their hearts to grow bigger and stronger too. We have a God who wants us to grow closer to each other and to Him. Growth happens in so many different places in our lives, some places faster than others.

Growth can also be uncomfortable; new relationships and new transitions can be difficult. Change is never easy, but it is a constant in life. We are always moving and growing, one way or another. I'm choosing to teach my sons to grow towards the grace and love that Jesus showed us.

Pastor Tom

The Little Pilgrim will be returning to a monthly newsletter, beginning with the September issue. Please send in your submissions by noon on August 27, 2024 if you wish to have them included.



325th ANNIVERSARY

Old-Fashioned Church Picnic Saturday, August 17th 1-5P
(Rain date Saturday, August 24th)

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Church Sing-Along & Dinner Saturday, September 7th
Preston City Cemetery Walk Saturday, October 5th
Anniversary Service & Reception Saturday, November 16th
Coast Guard Chorale Sunday, November 17th

SUMMER CHOIR SING

We will meet at 8:45A for a short practice of some favorites.

August 18th we will sing "I'll Fly Away" and on August 25th we will sing "The Church in the Wildwood".

Anyone is welcome to sing.



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

IF YOU ORDERED A TEE-SHIRT, they are at the church office for pickup.

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

We need are looking for two more volunteers to make the coffee on Sunday mornings starting in September; two have stepped forward. We are hoping that with four volunteers, your help will be needed only once a month! Are you able to help? We need to start brewing by 8:30A so coffee will be ready following our service.

Check with the office before posting notices on the church bulletin board.

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 someone else!

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

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



PHOTO RESCHEDULED TO AVOID HOLIDAY WEEKEND -

The Deacon's Photo with all former and present deacons will take place on Sunday Sept. 8th. If you do not have a silver Deacon pin, please see Kim Lang who will provide you with one. Spread the word and hope you are able to be part of this historic photo!

Thoughts from a friend...

Before you speak: T.H.I.N.K.

Is it TRUE?

Is it HELPFUL?

Is it INSPIRING?

Is it NECESSARY?

Is it KIND?

Sunday, July 28th, was an exceptional day here when Mark Thallander played the organ in a way that is so memorable to all of us in attendance.

He played with Rev. Dr. Robert Schuller at the Crystal Cathedral in California for 18 years until a challenging accident claimed his left arm. Pastor Tom had a remarkable sermon that day, but Mark gave us a sermon in music on that organ that I shall never forget. How could he play the organ with one arm??

Laying in the hospital when he came to after his accident, he asked God, "Show me what you want me to do now." Move forward he did, playing the organ with one arm. If you did not know it, you would have believed it to be two. It was so amazing!

Most especially, his "Hymn on Majesty and Power" left us spellbound.

But why did I call it a sermon? It taught us that God can enable us to triumph over the greatest challenges. If you ever think you're finished, think again about this extraordinary man and ask God to show you what's next, and He WILL.

We thank Rev. Stan's brother, Steve, for driving him here from Maine. You are the BEST! - Sandy Dudek

BINGO at Strawberry Park

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

A Personal Identification Number (PIN) is necessary to help. Contact Lee Ann Fessenden, Lisa Fessenden or the office, for the information and forms to get you started if you don't! You must be a church member to receive a PIN.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP!
MORE HELPING HANDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**



THE NEXT WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING will be on Sat. Sept. 14th, at 10am. We will be assembling Birthday Bundles for the Food Pantry. We only do this once a year, so a lot

of bundles will be needed to last an entire year. We would like to ask for the congregation's help, to donate the items needed. – Bridget Park

Donated items may be left in the Elizabeth Allyn Box to the right of the table in the main hallway.

-Cake Mix

-Frosting

-Aluminum disposable cake pan-square

-Candles

-Balloons

MEN'S RETREAT

A **Radical Men's Retreat** will be held October 24-October 26 at Camp Berea in Hebron, New Hampshire. Chris Burden will be sharing updates from his brother's church in Rhode Island as they become available. There is a postcard with a QR code for easy access from your phone on the bulletin board. Contact Chris at 401-465-8900.