



**The Preston
Pilgrim**
the monthly
newsletter of the
Preston City
Congregational
Church
"Gathering in Faith
Since 1698"

JUNE 2025

Church Office Hours: Mon– Fri
9AM – Noon

Minister Office Hours: Mon – Thu
10A – 2P

Minister

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

pastortompccc@gmail.com

Minister Emeritus

Rev. Stan White - 860 303-9622

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**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

AA - Wednesday – 7:30P

Bible Study – Thursday – 10:30A

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

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



From the Desk of Reverend Tom,

Patience is hard. As we enter into the summer season and are already halfway through the year, it can be easy to become anxious with all the projects we have yet to start. Garden beds still need to be finished, and the basement still needs to get cleaned. Over and over again, scripture tries to help us find patience. The Psalmist tells us to wait patiently for God, which isn't always easy in a world filled with 24/7 news stations and notifications popping up on our phones. God's sense of time is much different than ours. As we hustle and bustle into the dog days of summer, it is important to take the time for Sabbath and rest. Patience is a virtue that gets easier with practice. This is why God instituted the Sabbath for us in the first place, because God knew when we were made we would be creatures busy with enterprise, work, and labor and that rest would be hard to find.

That is why God made rest holy. This is why one of the 10 Commandments is to keep the Sabbath holy. Keeping the Sabbath holy doesn't just mean coming to worship with the rest of your community; it really means not working for the whole day and resting and recreating with your family. God made us to be incredibly resilient creatures; we can endure so much, but our bodies and souls need rest. God invites us to tend to the fire in our souls by stoking it with joy so we do not burn out. Paul tells us in Romans that "if we hope for what we do not see, we wait in patience," and that patience brings peace. He also tells us that love is patient. Patience brings peace, love, and hope.

In life we feel like we always have to be moving, to be working, to be doing something. We have heard the proverb that idle hands are the devil's workshop in Proverbs, but a verse before that says that a wise man is patient. Being patient and idle are not the same thing. Patience is holy; it gives us time to discern how God is working in the world and space to witness God's glory and mercy at work. We are invited to join the Kingdom of God and share in the works and treasure of God, but we must be patient as we build it. We must take time to rest and come together in recreation and love. God made rest holy for a reason: patience gives us time to pause and see how far we have come, how strong we are with the help of God, and how far we can go to share in the work of God.

SUNDAYS in MAY

June 1st Communion Sunday

June 8th Pentecost Sunday

June 15th Father's Day

June 22nd Choir Appreciation Day/Scholarship Sunday

June 29th Summer Choir

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

I just became aware that **Meghan (Breen) Amado** was employed as Principal of Colchester Middle School.

Not only is her family proud of her but we, who are her church family, also chime in to say just how proud we are that she has been chosen for this position. Congratulations Meghan...we wish you well in this new endeavor!

Sandy Dudek

Jack Zachem graduated from Villanova on May 16th. Not only is his family (Ken, Karleen, and Phyllis Knutson) extremely proud of him, our church family congratulates him, too!

In the fall he will be heading to grad school at George Mason. Way to go, Jack!

A reminder for our seniors: we have planned a **Summer Picnic** for Wednesday, June 25th at noon. Sign-up sheet is posted.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS Tune in to Television Channel 3 (WFSB), local radio stations or you may check Facebook, our website prestoncitycongregational.org or call the office. A message will be announced on the answering machine. When Sunday School is cancelled, church is NOT CANCELLED unless specifically announced.

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!

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS can be found on the small table in the mid-level hallway or obtained by calling the office. A scholarship is awarded to an applicant working toward their first degree (certificate, Associate, or Baccalaureate) and is awarded on **active involvement** in the church. They are due in the church office by **June 8th**. The scholarship(s) will be awarded on **June 22nd** during the worship service.



Our **SPRING YARD SALE** was held May 24th and realized a profit of over \$1600! Thank you to all: workers, donors, & shoppers!

TOUCAN FOOD PANTRY NEWS



Please remember **Two-Can Sunday, June 1st** and that our pantry operates year-round. Donations are always welcome at any time.

As a nonprofit partner in the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, our Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation for every specially marked \$11.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet sold **during June 2025** at:

42 Town Street, Norwich CT (Norwichtown)

CHOIR NEWS

Summer Choir will be starting June 29th. We will meet at 9A, before our morning service to practice well-loved hymns. Also, if anyone wants to sing in "Summer Choir" they can pick up a music packet in the choir office.

See Organist/Choir Director Trish Maerke or call (860) 705-5391 for information.



THANK YOU to the Men's

MEN'S GROUP

Group for the brunch at coffee hour following our service on May 11th, as they honored the women in our church on Mother's Day.

Their next meeting is **June 14th** at 10A.

The day-trip to Yale's Peabody Museum of Natural History has been canceled.

Thoughts from a friend...

How wonderful it is that nobody needs to wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world. - Anne Frank

Our next meeting is on June 5th @ 2P at the home of Bridget Park. Please contact Bridget for more information.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS and MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!



VBS July 7th – 11th

Plan to join us for a week of fun-filled activities.

NEWS FROM THE SUPPER COMMITTEE



WE'RE BACK!

Chicken BBQ- Take-out Only

June 7th
4pm - 5:30pm

\$22.00 Adults
\$11.00 Children

Menu: BBQ Chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, homemade biscuits, and dessert.

Tickets on sale after church or call the office for tickets during the week.

AND THEY
WERE ALL
FILLED
WITH THE
HOLY
SPIRIT
ACTS 2:4



Pentecost June 8th 2025

"Pentecostal Fire"

The sunrise shines its bright rays upon our sheer white curtains. Their dazzling aspect suggests they are on fire. However, their prolonged and steady brightness indicates they are not consumed. Indeed, these early morning rays give the curtains a visionary light. Its power, like Pentecostal Fire, sets our spirits ablaze to shine a heavenly light upon our worldly night.

Michael Barrett

TRAVELS 2025

**Paris & London,
November 12- 20, 2025**



Please note... Due to health issues

Rev. Stan will NOT be leading this wonderful trip in the fall.

COLLETTE and the church are still offering this trip to the congregation and community.

Beginning January 2025, all reservations will be paperless. Call the Collette "Team Line" (800.581.8942) and speak with an agent who will book your reservation and answer any questions you may have.

Our group reservation number is **1308080**. You can speak with Madison (our "Group Specialist"), or any available agent. Just refer to the reservation number above.

At the time you make your reservation, a deposit of \$698 is needed per person, as well as \$549 payment, per person, for travel insurance (This is NOT required, but *highly recommended*. *Speak with an agent for details.*). If you'd rather register online, go to gateway.gocollette.com/link/1308080

Your final payment is due August 14, 2025.

Collette will send you the balance owed. If you have any questions, call Collette directly, not the church office.

