

# *the First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown*

## *Keeping In Touch*

August 19, 2022

### *Letter from the Pastor*

We experienced the joy of baptism last Sunday, with Ella's welcome into the Body of Christ. We also experienced the joy of generosity; our congregation, through the scholarship committee, awarded a scholarship for higher education to a young member. Steven Medina, a high school senior, received an A.B. Lawrence Memorial Scholarship for church and community service. Steven, remember Jeremiah 29:11: God has a plan for your life, a future filled with hope.

We experienced the joy of giving, as well, through our work with the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry in July. Thank you to Marci Deakins, whose passion to help people with food insecurity stirs us to be more generous, giving of our time, talents, and from our resources, including our food and financial donations. Marci thanks and give thanks for the 17 volunteers from our church who participated in this ecumenical ministry last month, some of whom served numerous times! In the 13 days that the pantry was open, volunteers served 131 families, 11 of whom were new clients. Imagine what a difference we are making as the hands and feet of Christ when, in just one month, we served 340 adults, 106 children (5-18 years old) and 32 infants (birth to 4 years old).

And I have important news. We will give glory and thanks to our God with my formal service of installation at 4 p.m. Sept. 25. The Presbytery of Long Island will co-host this service with us in our beautiful sanctuary. All our members, friends, family, and community are invited to participate in this sacred celebration. Our choirs, directed by Pablo Lavandera, will sing, and handbells will ring. A reception will follow. More details will be forthcoming.



In our lectionary scriptures this week, the psalmist in 103:1-8 cries out, "Bless the Lord, O my soul." He praises the Lord who forgives, heals, and redeems. Jeremiah hears the call of God, who says to him, "Before you were born, I knew you." The preacher in Hebrews 12:18-29 encourages us to worship with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. In our gospel lesson in Luke 13:1-17, Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath, and a synagogue leader objects.

God bless you with joy as you seek to serve the Lord through your giving and sharing God's healing love with the world.

Pastor Karen

#### Questions for Reflection

When are times that you are not open to God's healing? How does the knowledge of God's love and care for you open you more to God's healing? How do you seek God as a refuge in your daily life?

#### Morning Prayer

God of life and love, we come to this new day refreshed from the refuge of sleep and rest. Sustain us in the coming hours, that we might return this evening, inspired by your witness in the world and having done your will. Amen.

#### Evening Prayer

Lord and keeper of our days, give us your rest this night. Release from us the burdens of the day. Awaken us, refreshed for your service at the dawn, upright in our praise and thanksgiving. Amen.

BEFORE  
I Formed YOU <sup>IN THE WOMB</sup>  
I KNEW YOU  
BEFORE YOU  
were born  
I SET YOU APART  
JEREMIAH 1:5

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## *Tidbits from the Food Pantry*

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First of all, many thanks to all of our congregation members who volunteered to help staff the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry during July. With 17 volunteers, many of whom served more than once during the month, we truly turned out "in force", as Food Pantry Coordinator Pat Westlake put it.

If you were not able to participate in July, there will be more opportunities to serve in the coming months. In addition to working directly in the pantry, other opportunities might include doing shopping, or assisting with maintenance or upkeep of the facility.

During July, the pantry was opened a total 13 days (Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 10am-12 noon) and 4 Wednesday evenings, (5-7 pm). Although we only served 3 families on

these Wednesday evenings, it was the first time the Pantry has been open at night, and people we told about the extended hours were enthusiastic about it, so we anticipate more activity going forward

During July, 131 families came to the pantry, including 11 new clients. Total people served: 340 adults, 106 children 5-18 and 32 infants to 4 Years.

Although monetary donations have slowed, we continue to be in a strong financial position, enabling us to provide our clients with eggs, milk, cheese, butter and frozen chopped meat and chicken parts (as available). Bread, pastries, and baked goods donations continue to be donated by Fresh Market and Stop and Shop.

Donations of both money and non-perishable food and products (paper goods, cleaning supplies, personal toiletry items, diapers, wipes, and pet food) are both welcome and needed. We received several large donations of non-perishable food collected by the Smithtown Sunrise Rotary Club at the Tuesday evening Smithtown Community Band outdoor concerts.

Representatives from the Pantry have been meeting with contractors to get estimates on some much-needed renovations to the facility, to create a space that is safer, more efficient, and more comfortable for both clients and the volunteers who serve them.

Finally, a big thank-you to Presbyterian Women, who are providing gardeners in our congregation a way to share their harvest abundance both with members of the congregation and the Food Pantry. Visit their table in the hallway outside the Parish Hall to pick up fresh produce and make a free-will donation for the fresh fruits and vegetables. Leftover produce will be given to the Food Pantry each week. Money collected from the free will donation will be donated to the Food Pantry at the end of the year.

Please feel free to contact Marci or Tom Deakins with any questions about the Food Pantry.

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## *Participate in our VegeTable*

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PW member, Judy Michon had great idea for a produce table, which gives us an opportunity to serve one another AND as part of our mission, generate a contribution to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry.

Come visit the Presbyterian Women's Fruit & Vegetable Garden Table each Sunday morning in the hallway near the parish hall. Feel free to bring produce from your garden that may be wasted, or you can take produce home by leaving a donation in free-will offering jar.

Any produce left following our Sunday Morning church service will be taken to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry. At the end of the growing season, all monies collected will be donated to the Food Pantry. With joy, we serve one another! Questions? Contact Judy Michon.



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## Last week for Submissions! Help us re-name our Newsletter!

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Please help us choose a new name for our newsletter, beginning in September. You may email your suggestions to [tracyhenchey@gmail.com](mailto:tracyhenchey@gmail.com) or fill out a paper slip in the Narthex and add it to the basket. **Deadline for name suggestions is August 21.** The one that is chosen will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. Thank you!

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## Church World Service - School Supplies

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Back to school sales have begun...we are in need of **70-page spiral notebooks** for CWS school kits. They are on sale at Staples and Walmart for \$0.35. We already have many of the other items, so notebooks are the only thing we need right now. Thank you!

Thank you for all your donations. Together we make a difference.

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## Presbyterian Women's Retreat

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Friday, October 14 - Sunday, October 16, 2022  
Retreat Leader: Pastor Karen Crawford

Costs Include: Room and 6 Meals:  
Double occupancy \$250 pp  
Single occupancy \$300 pp

\$100 deposit is due when you sign up and if you have a roommate please list her name. If you're willing to have a roommate, please note that.

\*Make check out to Presbyterian Women and mail to:  
Linda Goodwin 286 Second Ave. Saint James NY 11780

We will set up carpools once I know when you want to arrive. We will be staying in the new Rooms at Vinik in the Retreat Center.

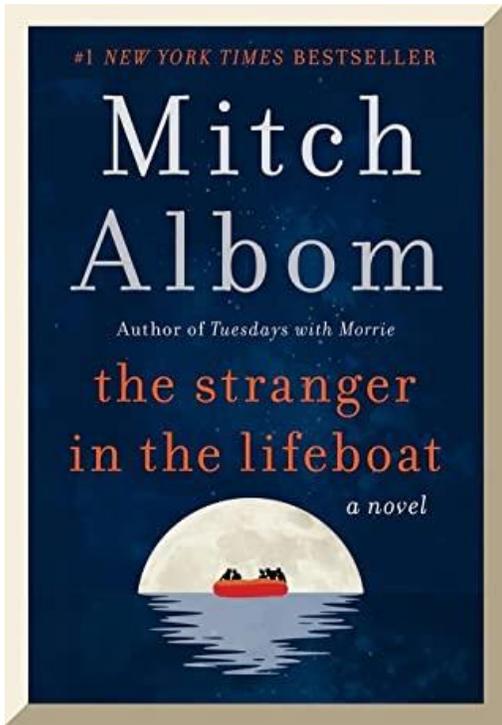
As more information is available, I'll send it out, so email me (Linda Goodwin) at:  
[lgoodwinteach5@gmail.com](mailto:lgoodwinteach5@gmail.com)

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## FPCS Book Group

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First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown book group invites you to discuss  
**The Stranger in the Lifeboat by Mitch Albom**



Adrift in a raft after a ship explosion, ten people struggle for survival. Short on food, water, and hope, they spot a man floating in the sea. They pull him in. “Thank the Lord we found you.” a passenger says. “I am the Lord.” the man whispers.

**Date:**

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Narthex

*For those of you who do not want to buy the book, there are there are 4 copies of the book available to borrow in the church office. Please sign the sheet that the book was taken. You can also call the Smithtown Library at 631-360-2480. Provide your library card number and they can put the book on hold for you. It may take up to 4 to 5 days for the book to become available.*

Light refreshments will be served.

If interested, please contact Isabel Buse or sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway.

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## Stewardship Thought for August

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Thank you to those who have been keeping current with your pledges and contributions. As we continue into August, it is financially important to FPCS that we continue to be good stewards. As you know, FPCS continues to have financial obligations during these summer months. Be well. Be safe. Enjoy the remainder of your summer.

**“God loves a cheerful giver”  
2 Corinthians 9:7**



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## How can you contribute to our weekly services?

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**Volunteer to be an Usher**

Ushers are needed for our Sunday morning services. No experience required. Please contact Lucia Spahr if interested.

### Contribute to Fellowship Hour

If you enjoy the tasty treats during Fellowship Hour, please consider signing up for one Sunday as a Silent Partner. Just drop your goodies in the kitchen when you come to church. You can contribute with a friend or as a group. There is a sign-up sheet near the coffee at Fellowship Hour every Sunday. See a deacon in the kitchen if you have any questions.  
Thank you!

### Join the Stream Team

The Stream Team is looking for volunteers to stream our church service on Sunday mornings. Streaming has become an important part of our Sunday Church service since Covid. Members of the Stream Team will train you.  
For more information, please contact Scott Wallace.

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## *August Birthdays*

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Please contact the church office if you have an August birthday but are not on this list

August 4 - Chris Landi

August 7 - Jean Sheerin

August 9 - Ed Lipinsky

August 12 - Angel Garcia Jr.

August 14 - Caroline Kelleher

August 20 - Laurie Wallace

August 6 - Beth Davidsen

August 8 - Brenda Faverio

August 9 - Anne Probish

August 12 - Susan Gensinger

August 15 - Marlene Wolke

August 23 - Lisa Hubbs

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## *In our Hearts and Prayers*

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- Sue and Tom Nunziata
- Bente Schmidt
- Caroline Kelleher
- Richard Heath, continuing recovery at an acute care rehab center in Atlanta, Georgia
- Virginia Newcomb
- Richard Engel
- Harriet McMahon, at The Arbors, 1065 Smithtown Ave, Bohemia, recovering from a recent fall and Covid.
- Evelyn Saddlemire, at Water's Edge Nursing Facility, 150 Dark Hollow Road, Port Jefferson
- Jean Lown
- Vivienne Grizzle-Jaber
- Ethel and Karl Kraft
- Andrea Mohabeer



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## *Trustee of the Week*

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August 19 - August 25 - Lynne Leftenant  
August 26 - September 1 - Ed Lipinsky  
September 2 - September 8 - Rick Booth  
September 9 - September 15 - Rob Springer  
September 16 - September 22 - John Agostini  
September 23 - September 29 - Ed Lipinsky

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## *Deacons of the Week*

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August 21 - Suzanne Perri and Barbara Ruoff  
August 28 - Allison Brennan and Beth Davidsen  
September 4 - Charles Bunton and Suzanne Perri  
September 11 - Laurie Wallace and Allison Brennan  
September 18 - Barbara Ruoff and Joyce Brozyna  
September 25 - Lucia Spahr and Lisa Hubbs

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## *How to Contact the Church Office or the Pastor*

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### **Church Office**

Hours:  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 am - 12 noon  
Phone: 631-265-5151  
Email: [fpcs@optonline.net](mailto:fpcs@optonline.net)  
Website: [www.fpcsmithtown.net](http://www.fpcsmithtown.net)

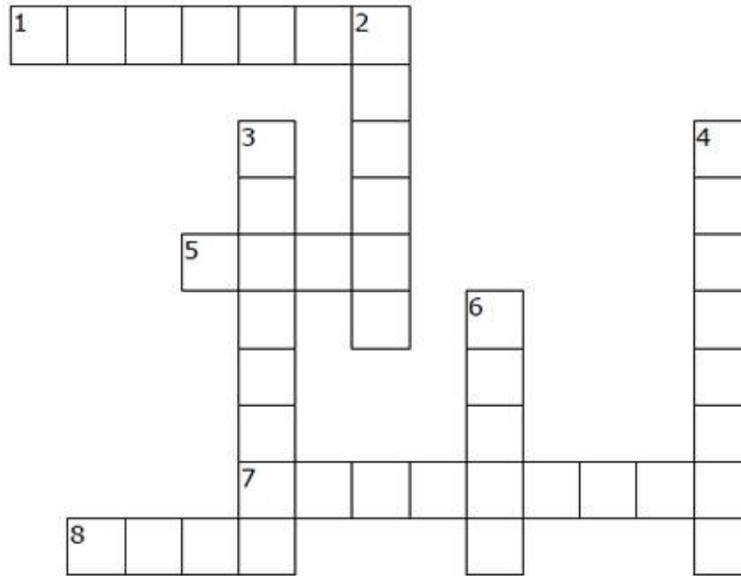
### **Pastor**

Rev. Karen Crawford  
Email: [karenpts@gmail.com](mailto:karenpts@gmail.com)  
Phone: 631-813-9172  
Blog: <http://pastorkaren.org>

# Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. Luke 13:12-13

Based on Luke 13:10-17



**ACROSS**

- 1. The day set aside for rest and worship
- 5. Not limited or controlled by anything
- 7. A person who pretends to be what he is not
- 8. To be changed from an originally straight position

**DOWN**

- 2. To be cured from illness or injury
- 3. Not bent or curved
- 4. To be disabled, especially in the feet, legs, or back
- 6. To instruct or give knowledge to another person

FREE	TEACH	HEALED	STRAIGHT
BENT	HYPOCRITE	SABBATH	CRIPPLED

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