

One Body, One Spirit

Connecting the Faithful

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

-Ephesians 4:4-6



Pastor
Karen Crawford

Tracy Henchey,
Editor

First Presbyterian Church^{of} Smithtown

September 9, 2022

Letter from the Pastor

Dear friends,

Today is the great reveal of our first issue of our “new” newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown. We are calling it “One Body, One Spirit: Connecting the Faithful.” It will be more than just news from the congregation. My vision is that this will help us grow in Spirit and make a stronger connection with the Lord, as well as one another—Christ’s Church.

For this “new” newsletter, I was inspired by another publication from our church called “Together in Spirit.” This monthly mailing throughout the pandemic was birthed from our Dream Team. This amazing group of people, charged to do a work that had never been done in our congregation before, sought to connect and spiritually nourish members of the congregation without access to technology when our building was closed. Later, after the building reopened, the publication served people without technology who also could not attend in-person worship for reasons of health or distance.

Many thanks to those who served members who would have been marginalized by the pandemic and looked for ways of drawing together the One Body of Christ -always connected by the One Spirit, no matter what happens in this world.

We are celebrating Rally Day this Sunday, marking the beginning of our fall programs, including Sunday school and choirs. I invite all the children and youth to bring their backpacks to church; during our Time with Young Disciples, we will do a blessing of the backpacks. Also, during worship at 10, we will commission those serving in ministries of education and faith formation. Those receiving this special blessing and prayerful support from the congregation include those leading Bible studies for PW circles.

Thank you to all who serve the church, especially those who are reaching out to nurture the faith of the children and youth. Please remember to thank them for their hard work and commitment—and to pray for our teachers and the children and youth regularly. Can you think of other ways to bless them?



When you see children in church, say hello to them, introduce yourself and try to make them feel more comfortable. Please offer grace to them and their parents if the young children seem a little wiggly or chatty during some of the quiet moments of worship. This is to be expected. We are so glad they are with us and that their parents or grandparents are helping them to learn about church, the Lord, and how to sing and pray—things that are best taught by coming to church and experiencing and participating in them.

This is what it means to be a multigenerational congregation—where all people are truly welcome and made to feel as if their presence in worship matters and that their gifts and talents are valued.

In our gospel reading this week in Luke 15:1-10, Jesus tells the parable of a shepherd who seeks out one lost sheep and a woman who searches her home for a missing coin. Here are some questions for reflection to prepare your heart for Sunday’s worship and the Spirit’s message for the Church.

Questions for Reflection

Is there someone from whom you are estranged, a friend or family member, or a person from your church you haven't seen in a while? Pray about the situation, and, if appropriate, find a way to contact that person and let them know you have missed them.

Morning Prayer

O Lord, have mercy on us this day according to your steadfast love. Create clean hearts and new spirits within us and open our lips to declare your praise. Direct our paths so that we are always in your will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Evening Prayer

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for seeking us when we were lost, for sweeping us up from the darkness, for gathering us into your fold, and for holding us in the palm of your hand. Bring all your wandering children home, so that there may be rejoicing in your church and joy in the presence of your angels; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.



Please join us for a formal service of installation for
Rev. Karen Crawford
as Pastor of
First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown
Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

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.

Welcome Back to Sunday School!



We are so excited that Sunday School begins this Sunday, September 11, Rally Day.

Children will join their families in the Sanctuary and be dismissed to their classrooms after the Time with Young Disciples.

Pastor Karen will be blessing school backpacks, so remember to bring your backpack to church. Looking forward to a wonderful year.

Calling all Bridge Players

Bridge Players, veterans and beginners, are invited to our kick-off meeting on **Saturday, September 17th** at 7:30 p.m. in the Narthex.

We will get organized for the coming year and begin play. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect and can plan accordingly.

For more information, call Carol Link or Lois Netter.



Church World Service



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE



Thank you for the wonderful response to our request for notebooks for Church World Service school kits!

-Presbyterian Women

Smithtown Township Emergency Food Pantry

August 2022 Report

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

- We were open 13 Days (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 10am - 12 noon)
We were open 5 Wednesday Evenings, 5pm - 7 pm (had 11 clients)
- 125 Guests came to the Pantry:
 - Total Persons Served = 494
 - 345 Adults
 - 108 children 5-18
 - 41 infant - 4 years
 - 90 Families from Smithtown Township - 35 Families from outside township
 - 14 new clients (8 from Smithtown Township - 6 from outside township)
 - 9 clients came to the pantry more than once during the month of August
- Although we served 5 families on Wednesday evening, August 31, due to low overall turnout for Wednesday evenings, it was decided not to continue to be open Wednesday evenings going forward.
- We continue to provide for Blessing Box, Blydenburgh Park
- Milk & Eggs were delivered to the Pantry each week
- Most weeks we are able to purchase chop meat from Fresh Market and chicken parts from Shop Rite & Stop & Shop
- We continue to do A LOT of shopping - Thank You to various volunteers who shop for us at local stores, (Aldi, Costco, Dollar Tree)
- Thank you to volunteers who pick up bread and bakery items every Monday and Tuesday morning from King Kullen in St. James and Fresh Market in Smithtown
- Monetary donations for August \$5,255.13 (including \$1,100 from Sunrise Rotary)
- We have estimates for driveway repaving and are reviewing
- We are exploring new ideas for garage renovations as original ideas are proving to be more expensive than anticipated
- A new Finance and Audit committee has been formed (Pat Westlake, Jeff Smith, Marge Modelewski and Marci Deakins) and will hold their first meeting on September 12



We had another great month of Church Volunteers returning!!! St. Thomas of Canterbury came out in force!! And our "REGULARS" showed them the ropes!!

JUNE - CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

JULY - FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST - ST. THOMS OF CANTERBURY

SEPTEMBER - ST. JAMES LUTHERAN

OCTOBER - ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL

NEXT BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, September 16 at 10AM
Mills Hall, St. James Episcopal Church

Please contact Marci or Tom Deakins with any questions about the Food Pantry

Stewardship Thought for September

We have all heard the term “All good things come from God.” Let’s not forget that those good things include us!! God opens God’s hands, and we are filled with good things, including the experiences, memories, and influences that have made us into the “good things” God has created us to be. Think about all the things that have shaped us into the givers we are today (and that have kept us from being better givers than we are today!). As you think about your past, look for how God’s fingerprints have made a difference in your life. Each epiphany, gentle nudge, and transformational moment came about because God opened God’s hand and you were filled with good things. We are thankful that good opened our hands and filled us with good things. May we be open to sharing our overflowing abundance with others.



**God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.
And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
Genesis 1:31**

In Our Hearts and Prayers

- George Ludder and his family at the passing of his brother-in-law, Jerry Hudson
- Sue and Tom Nunziata
- Bente Schmidt
- Caroline Kelleher
- Richard Heath, continuing recovery in a rehab facility after brain trauma
- Virginia Newcomb
- Richard Engel
- Harriet McMahon, at The Arbors, 1065 Smithtown Ave, Bohemia
- 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



Trustee of the Week

September 9 - September 15 - Rob Springer
September 16 - September 22 - John Agostini
September 23 - September 29 - Ed Lipinsky
September 30 - October 6 - Chris Park
October 7 - October 13 - Rob Goodwin

Deacons of the Week

September 11 - Laurie Wallace and Allison Brennan
September 18 - Barbara Ruoff and Joyce Brozyna
September 25 - Lucia Spahr and Lisa Hubbs

September Birthdays

Please contact the church office if you have a September birthday but are not on this list

September 1 - Rick Booth
September 5 - Kathy Seymour
September 12 - David Faverio
September 12 - Gerard Simonette
September 16 - Peg Holthusen
September 16 - Janet Lipinsky
September 17 - Daniel Davidsen
September 27 - Tom Deakins



How to Contact the Church Office or the Pastor

Church Office

Hours:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 am - 12 noon
Phone: 631-265-5151
Email: fpcs@optonline.net
Website: www.fpcsmithtown.net

Pastor

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

The Lost Sheep

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?" Luke 15:4 (NIV)

Based on Luke 15:1-7



D H W G W J Q U R R S Q V N C
 F E X W X M L J E K E G T Z R
 O A D V Y V Q L J Z G P Y T I
 U V M S Z V T R O S C O E U G
 N E K H O M E V I Z H X F N H
 D N D E E J Q M C I K E L T T
 V G N Z U X W A E O I I E I E
 P O O F P A R A B L E B D P O
 J V P I F R I E N D S W J D U
 H T E N K E R B Z S C G E S S
 K Z R D K A G L K I G R G N D
 K B S O R C G I S N D B I M T
 M L O J B U Q R O N H K S S W
 G Y N G Y C O A U E C T O K C
 E W M E N H U H N R O L C C R

HOME	RIGHTEOUS	FIND	SHEEP	PERSON
HUNDRED	HEAVEN	FOUND	PARABLE	SINNER
ONE	LOST	REPENT	FRIENDS	REJOICE

The Lost Sheep

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?" Luke 15:4 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
L	D	M	A	T	H	Z	B	W	P	U	J	V	R	E	X	S	I	G	N	F	Y	Q	O	C	K

1. 14-18-19-6-5-15-24-11-17 _____
2. 21-24-11-20-2 _____
3. 6-15-4-13-15-20 _____
4. 10-4-14-4-8-1-15 _____
5. 1-24-17-5 _____
6. 21-14-18-15-20-2 _____
7. 6-24-3-15 _____
8. 14-15-10-15-20-5 _____
9. 17-6-15-15-10 _____
10. 14-15-12-24-18-25-15 _____

HEAVEN	RIGHTEOUS	FRIEND	SHEEP	REJOICE
HOME	PARABLE	LOST	REPENT	FOUND

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