

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

October 7, 2022

Letter from the Pastor

Dear friends,

Fall has arrived, bringing chilly temperatures! I pulled out my sweaters and sweatshirts this week. Those of us who enjoy all four seasons are thrilled to welcome autumn and all the symbols of the season, including pumpkins!

While October is still “ordinary time” in the church calendar, Oct. 4 is the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi (1181-1226). The beloved saint was an Italian Catholic friar and the founder of the Franciscans. He was a lover of the natural environment and especially animals. He organized the first live nativity ever in 1223. Honoring Francis and his love of animals and giving thanks to God for all the love and joy our pets provide us, many churches have pet blessing services on or near his feast day. I hope to do so here at First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown next fall perhaps on the church lawn on a Sunday afternoon. We will give thanks to God for the gift of our animals and ask God to bless them and their human families.



“All Creatures of Our God and King”

by Saint Francis of Assisi, in honor of his feast day Oct. 4

1 All creatures worship God most high,
lift up your voice in earth and sky, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav’n along, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy God to hear, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest all both warmth and light,
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 And ev’ryone, with tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part, alleluia, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
sing praise and cast on God your care,
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness, alleluia, alleluia!

To God all thanks and praise belong!
Join in the everlasting song:
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Francis was born to wealthy parents—an Italian father, who was a silk merchant, and a French mother, who was a noblewoman. He was handsome, witty, gallant, and delighted in fine clothes. He spent money lavishly—until he gradually became disillusioned with the high society world that surrounded him. An illness caused him to re-evaluate his life. Eventually, he would take a vow of poverty, put on a coarse woolen robe and a knotted rope for a belt. His ministry would include worship and the sacraments, writing songs and poetry, nursing lepers, feeding the poor, communing with nature, raising money for struggling

churches, and going about the countryside preaching penance, brotherly love, and peace to ordinary people. He attracted followers. In 1209, he wrote a simple rule by which to live: "to follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ and to walk in his footsteps."

This Sunday, we remember the 10 lepers Jesus cleansed in the gospel of Luke. Only one turned back to say, “Thank you.” And he was a Samaritan—a foreigner. Jesus complimented him on his faith and held him up as an example to others.

Let us seek to follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus and encourage one another to live a life of worship and thanksgiving. In this way, we will serve as a powerful witness in a world so in need of God’s love, healing, and grace.

I give thanks to God for you, my beloved flock! God bless you with peace and joy!
Pastor Karen

Questions for Reflection

The Greek word for “Eucharist”—*eucharistia*—means thanksgiving and is used in Luke 17:16 to describe the Samaritan’s thankful response of faith to Jesus, who had mercy on him. To live a “eucharistic life,” then, is to live a life of thanksgiving to God. The Larger and Shorter Catechism of the Westminster Standards (1647) in our *Book of Confessions* both begin with a version of the same question and answer:

Q. 1. What is the chief end of [humankind]?

A: [Our] chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy [God] forever.

Can you recount some of the ways in which you are glorifying and enjoying God in your daily life? What new habits or practices might cultivate in you a more eucharistic life?

Morning Prayer

Glorious God, I praise you. I praise you for who you are— loving, merciful, powerful, and just. I praise you for the ways you act in creation— creating beauty, bringing freedom, making peace, offering healing. Thank you for opportunities I will have today to glorify you in my words and actions. Thank you for this very day in which I am able to enjoy you by participating in your activity in the world. I pray that the enmity between people and nations may give way to true communion. In the name of Christ, the great Reconciler, I pray. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Loving God, I end this day as I began it—in praise of you. Thank you for including me in your great circle of love and care. Thank you for being with us always. Thank you, too, for calling me to love others and to treat everyone as my neighbor. Help me to notice those whose cries for mercy so often go unheard or unanswered, for I am joined to them by being joined to you. I pray in awe of the life you have given me through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7

Build houses and plant gardens in exile; seek the welfare of the city.

Psalm 66:1-12

Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

2 Timothy 2:8–15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead; that is my gospel.

Luke 17:11–19

Jesus heals ten people with leprosy; only one returns to give thanks.



Affirmation of Faith (From A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

CWS Supporting Hurricane Disaster Areas



The hurricane disaster areas in Puerto Rico, Cuba and the United States will receive help from Church World Service. Those kits and blankets we donate each year are stored in a facility to be ready for distribution, and now is the time.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can do so online or by mail:

- Online: cwsglobal.org
- Mail: CWS PO Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515. Designate your donation for 2022 Hurricane Season. You can note the church you are affiliated with as well.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for those affected by disaster. Any questions you can reach out to Kathy Seymour (631) 352-9533, or CWS directly 1(800) 297-1516.

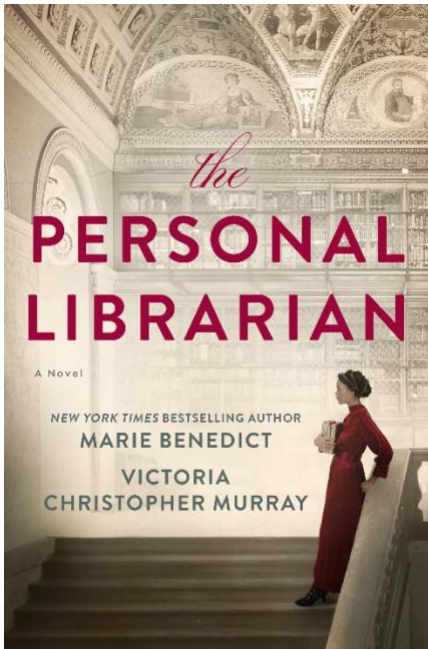
Remembering Pat Sartain

We will host a service to witness to the resurrection
and honor the life of

Pat Sartain

on Saturday, October 22 at 11:00 a.m.

FPCS Book Club



We will read and discuss

The Personal Librarian

by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray
as our next book

Next meeting date:

Tuesday, November 2 at 7:00 pm in the Narthex

There is a sign-up sheet on the
bulletin board outside of the Narthex

Isabel Buse, Adult Education Committee

Women Helping Women



Women Helping Women. This year's theme of the mission project for our Presbyterian Women's Retreat October 14 - 16 at Homes Camp and Conference Center. We will be creating decorative bags and filling them with product for women. Then just after the retreat has concluded, we will deliver them to Food Pantry / Women's Closet connected with Patterson Community Church and Union Presbyterian Church, Newburg.

You can help! While you are out, you can purchase any of the items below and put in the pink tote at the base of the Presbyterian Women's bulletin board in the church hallway.

Want to help but don't want to shop? You can! You can write a check and put it in the church office, or mail it in, or put it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Please make check to Presbyterian Women.

We so appreciate your help. We will take photos and put on the bulletin board after the retreat. If you have questions, please give me a call 631-271-9931

Linda Goodwin
Retreat Coordinator

Shampoo - conditioner - body wash - soap - chapstick - nail file
body lotion - toothbrush - toothpaste - deodorant - Qtips - lip gloss
hand sanitizer - tissues - Comb - plastic brush - note pads - pens - candy

Thank you from Timmi and Family

Thanks to this church family for all the hugs, kind words and cards since my dad, Stanley Nalepa's, passing. My family truly feels your love!
Timmi Nalepa and Bob O'Brien

Stewardship Thought for October

September was an exciting time for our congregation. The First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown formally installed Rev. Karen E. Crawford as our new Pastor. This was also a celebration of our members using their time and talents around our wonderful church.

I'll bet you all remember that nursery rhyme we learned in Sunday School where you put your hands together and say "Here is the church and here is the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people!" The church is not the building. The church is the people. I would encourage all of us to pay attention to how many people it takes to do the ministry and mission of our church.

This month, the Nominating Committee will begin the process of requesting the congregation to submit names of those persons they feel are qualified to serve on the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the Board of Trustees. If you do not personally feel comfortable serving on one of these boards, then sing in the choir, join a session committee, bring snacks for coffee hour, volunteer to work with the Trustees during fall and spring clean-up, or help with the church school. There are so many, many other opportunities for us to use our time and talents.

Our time and talents are not ours but entrusted to us by God. God has asked us to be good stewards, and this is one of the ways that we can give thanks to God. First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown celebrates so many of you that give your time and talent.



Stewardship

Did you know?

If you are of the age where you are receiving RMDs from your retirement accounts; you can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to your church from your 401K or IRA which is not subject to ordinary federal income taxes - the amount is simply excluded from your taxable income. Making QCDs can be a great strategy as it is more advantageous than taking the withdrawal and then donating it. Contact your account servicing agent for information on how to do this.

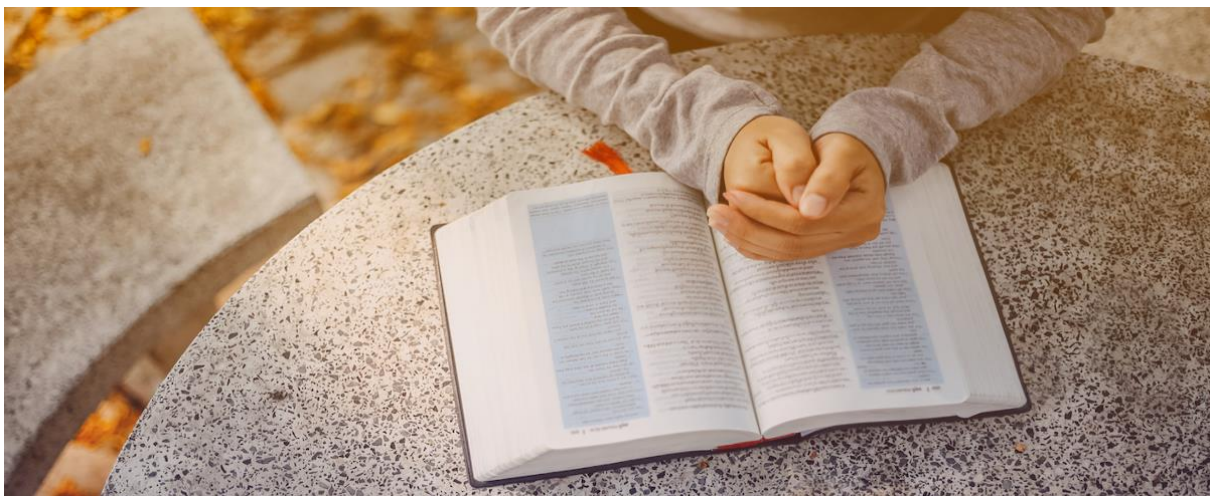
Trustee of the Week

October 7 - October 13 - Rob Goodwin
October 14 - October 20 - Tom Deakins
October 21 - October 27 - Lynne Leftenant

Deacons of the Week

October 9 - Laurie Wallace and Joyce Brozyna
October 16 - Beth Davidsen and Lisa Hubbs
October 23 - Allison Brennan and Lucia Spahr

In Our Hearts and Prayers



- Sue Nunziata, recovering from pacemaker surgery
- Tom Sartain, recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Those recovering from Hurricane Ian
- Bente Schmidt
- Caroline Kelleher
- Richard Heath, continuing recovery in a rehab facility after brain trauma
- Virginia Newcomb
- Richard Engel
- Mary Charlene Harris, at Whisper Woods, 71 St. Johnland Rd., Apt. 207, Smithtown
- Harriet McMahon, at The Arbors, 1065 Smithtown Ave., Bohemia
- Evelyn Saddlemire, at Water's Edge Nursing Facility, 150 Dark Hollow Rd. Port Jefferson
- Jean Lown, The Bristol Assisted Living, 2995 Middle Country Rd., Lake Grove
- Vivienne Grizzle-Jaber
- Ethel and Karl Kraft
- Andrea Mohabeer

October Birthdays

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

October 3 - Richard Engel
October 3 - Laura Matturro
October 4 - Lorraine Bird
October 5 - Peter Auer
October 7 - TJ Garcia
October 8 - Susan Harrison
October 9 - Arthur Leudesdorf
October 9 - Lori Yastrub
October 10 - Theresa Miller
October 10 - Grace Simonette
October 12 - Charles Bonczyk
October 15 - Amanda Booth
October 16 - Thomas Satriano
October 17 - Liz Ewing
October 18 - Robert Davidsen
October 19 - Shaun Smith
October 25 - Karl Kraft
October 29 - Bill Russell
October 31 - Tammy Blaszkiewicz



Contacting the Communications Manager

Have an announcement to add to our newsletter?
Please send it directly to Tracy Henchey at fpcscommunications@gmail.com

All other church inquiries or business should be directed to the office at fpcs@optonline.net

Thank you!

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>

Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 17:11-19 (NIV).



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

FAITH
 VOICE
 SAMARIA
 MASTER

TRAVELED
 PITY
 DISTANCE
 TEN

FEET
 PRIESTS
 VILLAGE
 HEALED

LEPROSY
 JESUS
 GALILEE
 CLEANSED

THANKED
 PRAISE
 NINE
 LOUD



REQUEST for NOMINEES to CHURCH OFFICE

The Nominating Committee of the church is in the process of preparing for selecting officers for nomination to the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the Board of Trustees. We invite you to participate in the process by submitting the names of those persons you feel are qualified to serve on our Boards. Those persons must be on the Active Membership Roll of the Church. You may also indicate your own willingness to serve Christ in one of these capacities. Nominees should be persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, who have demonstrated skills in leadership and are compassionate in spirit.

ELDER

An Elder serves on Session, which is the governing body of our Church; is responsible for the mission and government of the Church, including its worship, education and fellowship programs and groups. Each Elder participates in the monthly Session meeting and serves on at least one Session Committee; acts as sponsor for a youth confirmand; and represents our congregation in the Presbytery. Election to the Session is for a three-year term.

DEACON

The office of Deacon, as set forth in Scripture, is one of sympathy, witness and service after the example of Christ. A Deacon ministers to those in need, to the sick and to any in distress. A sub-committee of Elders and Deacons recommends mission outreach amounts and projects to the Session for the annual budget. The Deacons exhibit the connection between worship and service by their preparation of communion and distribution of flowers to shut-ins. A Deacon participates in monthly Board meetings and serves on Board or Session committees. Election to the Board of Deacons is for a three-year term.

TRUSTEE

The Board of Trustees are the officers of the Church corporation under New York State Law and the Book of Order. They are responsible for the maintenance of the Church buildings and properties and for the investment and management of funds entrusted to its care. A Trustee participates in monthly Board meetings, serves on a Board or Session Committee. Election to the Board of Trustees is for a three-year term. A person must reach their 21st birthday before they can begin service as a Trustee.

Additional copies of the nomination form can be found on the back table in the Narthex

NOMINATION FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

I would like to recommend that _____ be considered for the office of

ELDER _____

DEACON _____

TRUSTEE _____

General Qualifications for Church Officer:

1. Regular attendance at Sunday worship.
2. Active participation in Church activities.
3. Evidence of commitment to the Church and its mission.
4. A willingness to learn, openness to new ideas and a maturity of judgment.
5. A talent for the office selected.

Please comment on why you are nominating this person.

Please submit this form to any member of the Nominating Committee, by placing it in the offering plate or placing it in the mail slot on the Church Office door marked "Attention of Nominating Committee" by Sunday, October 16, 2022. For more information or questions, please contact the chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Scott Wallace.