

# 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<sup>of</sup> Smithtown*

December 23, 2022

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## Letter from the Pastor

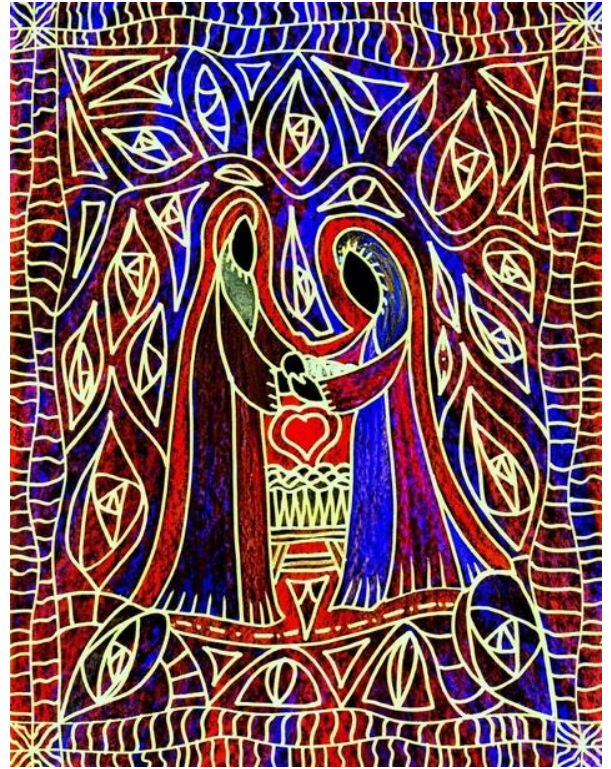
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Dear friends!

What a joy to proclaim with my church family, “Christ the Savior is born!” I look forward to seeing everyone at our two Christmas Eve services—at 5 and 9 p.m.—and/or on Christmas Day at 10 a.m. Our 5 p.m. worship this Saturday will be a multigenerational service and include both our Time with Young Disciples and an adult message, as well as familiar Christmas songs. At the 9 p.m. service, I will share an adult message, handbells will ring, our Sanctuary Choir will sing, and we will celebrate Communion.

This is our last *One Body, One Spirit* of 2022. Our next **OBOS** will be published Jan. 20, 2023.

I will be on Continuing Education leave on Jan. 8 and 15, traveling to Austin Presbyterian Seminary. Dulcie McLeod will share a message on Jan. 8 and the Rev. Emmie Arnold will lead worship and preach on Jan. 15. I will be back leading worship on Jan. 22, when we will welcome and install new elders and deacons, chosen by our congregation on Dec. 18. Thank you to all who serve in leadership roles in our congregation!



On Sunday, Jan. 1, we will celebrate the First Sunday of Christmas with a Lessons and Carols service, with Communion. Although the tradition of Nine Lessons and Carols is usually for Christmas Eve and is popularly associated with King’s College, Cambridge, its origins are traced to Truro Cathedral in Cornwall. Before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the singing of Christmas carols was done by singers visiting people’s houses; hymns were not sung in worship because they were considered too secular. This changed in the Victorian era, when the rising popularity of hymnody encouraged church musicians to introduce carols into worship. The nine lessons and carols tell the story of Christ the Savior, beginning with the OT prophecies and ending with a beautiful, poetic passage from the gospel of John. I find the last 4 verses of this passage to be the most moving:

*<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.*

I pray that we will come to know the Lord, more and more, in 2023, and all God’s grace and truth. For the Lord wants to be known, loved, and worshiped. You are the children of God, with the power of the Holy Spirit living inside you and dwelling in our midst, whenever we gather in Christ’s name. You are never alone!

Happy Christmas to all—to you and your families. May you shine with the Light of Christ!

Pastor Karen



## Still, Still, Still

Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill!  
The Virgin's tender arms enfolding  
Warm and safe the Child are holding  
Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep.  
While angel hosts from heaven come winging,  
Sweetest songs of joy are singing  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep.

## Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7

Light shines on people in darkness; a  
child has been born for us.

Psalm 96

Sing a new song to the Lord, all the  
earth; declare God's glory.

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared,  
bringing salvation to all.

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Jesus is born in Bethlehem; angels  
tell shepherds the good news.

## ***Questions for Reflection***

Where has the light that enlightens the world been shining in your life this year? What aspects of the life around you have you been most drawn to notice? What is Christ's light showing you in those people and events? How is it changing your relationship with yourself and with other people?

## ***Morning Prayer***

Gracious and Holy God, I thank you for the darkness and the light, for sleeping and waking, for the privilege of safety and shelter, of warmth and health, and I ask your help for all who do not have these comforts. Guide me on this holy day to pray for your world with a whole heart and to see in myself, and in family, friends, neighbors, and strangers, what you see: each one a beloved child. Give me wisdom this day to rejoice in your gifts, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## ***Evening Prayer***

God of earth and all stars, thank you for this day when you call all people to gather in your loving embrace, by many names and traditions, in lands far and near. Thank you for the rejoicing in my life, and for your promise of steadfast love when my days are hard with sorrows. Surround me now with the love that will not let me go, and give me rest, in Jesus' name. Amen.

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## *Christmas Worship Services*

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**December 24, 2022**

Christmas Eve Worship - 5:00 pm & 9:00 pm - Sanctuary

**December 25, 2022**

Christmas Day Worship - 10:00 am - Sanctuary

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## December 13<sup>th</sup> Session Meeting Highlights

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- Session and Trustees met with rep. of Pinnacle Assoc. re: investments and received good report.
- Thanked Scott Wallace and Nominating Committee for their hard work
- Thanked Lynne Leftenant, Pablo and the Sunday school teachers for the wonderful worship led by Young Disciples on Dec. 11
- Thanked those who assisted with Preparing the Presence on Dec. 11
- Approved motion to add to the congregational meeting agenda on Dec. 18 a change in the bylaws to reduce the size of Nominating Committee
- Per Capita for 2023 will be \$38.95
- Sue Gensinger and Dawn Agostini will serve as Commissioners to the Jan. 28 meeting of Long Island Presbytery
- Elected and thanked Jocelyn Pajares for agreeing to serve another 2-year term as our Treasurer
- Elected and thanked Dawn Agostini for agreeing to serve another 2-year-term as Assistant Treasurer and Receiving Treasurer
- Elected and thanked Sue Gensinger for agreeing to serve another 1-year term as Clerk of Session
- Adult Education Book Club will meet Feb. 1 to discuss *The Saints of Swallow Hill*
- Seven Households will be visited by carolers on Dec. 17, followed by caroling on the church lawn
- A new membership directory is in the works for 2023
- Approved Communion dates and Special Services for 2023, including an Animal Blessing service on the church lawn on Sept. 24 or Oct. 1 at 3 p.m.
- Approved Mission Giving for 2022:
  - Long Island Presbytery Mission \$6,000
  - Smithtown Food Pantry \$700
  - Protestant Campus Ministry at Stony Brook \$1,600
  - Community Housing Innovations \$1,000
  - Welcome Friends Soup Kitchen \$1,000
  - Holmes Presbyterian Camp/Conference Center \$500
- Next Session Meeting will be Jan. 17, 2023 at 7 p.m.

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## Newly Elected Church Officers

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### Session Class of 2025

Betty Bunton  
Sharon Castlen  
Lori Yastrub  
Linda Cherney

### Deacons Class of 2025

Joyce Brozyna  
Marilyn Jo Garupa  
Stacy Landi

### Trustees Class of 2025

Rick Booth  
Chris Park  
Tom Deakins

### 2022 Audit Committee

Linda Goodwin  
Sue Dalba  
Lori Kenney

*Thank you to all who serve!*

## *Adopt-an-Angel: Thank you all!*



## *Successful Adopt-an-Angel Program!*

### *Together We Did it!*

Together more than 85 families from our congregation plus friends of our congregation adopted, donated, shopped, wrapped, brought in, and delivered all the angel gifts for 140 children from Hope for Youth, Brighter Tomorrows, and Department of Social Services.

Many hands make light work and what a difference for our outreach into our community. No missed packages, no mis-delivered packages. Thank you for all you did to help it go smoothly, and all of your angels have opened the beautiful and thoughtful gifts from you!





These children have very little and are often in very difficult circumstances. You brought the love of Jesus Christ to these children and families with your time, dollars and gifts.



Please keep your angel card and pray for your angel during the year. It takes us all to carry out this program each year. Together we make a difference in their lives.

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## *PW Updates*

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The Early Bird Circle will not be meeting for the remainder of December.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

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## *Memorial Service for John Lemanczyk*

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A memorial service is being held for John Lemanczyk, father of Lori Scarlatos and husband of Virginia Lemanczyk, on December 28th at 11am.

The service will be held at the Community Church of Syosset (36 Church Street, Syosset NY 11791).  
The service will also be simulcast on Zoom (Meeting ID: 955 6065 1505, Passcode: 689428).

All are welcome to join this celebration either virtually or in person.

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## FPCS Book Club

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First Presbyterian Book Club invites you to discuss

### **The Saints of Swallow Hill by Donna Everhart.**

Hacking, chipping and dipping in a North Carolina pine forest to earn a living during the Depression, Del and Rae Lynn, disguised as a boy, will introduce you to life as a laborer in a turpentine camp.

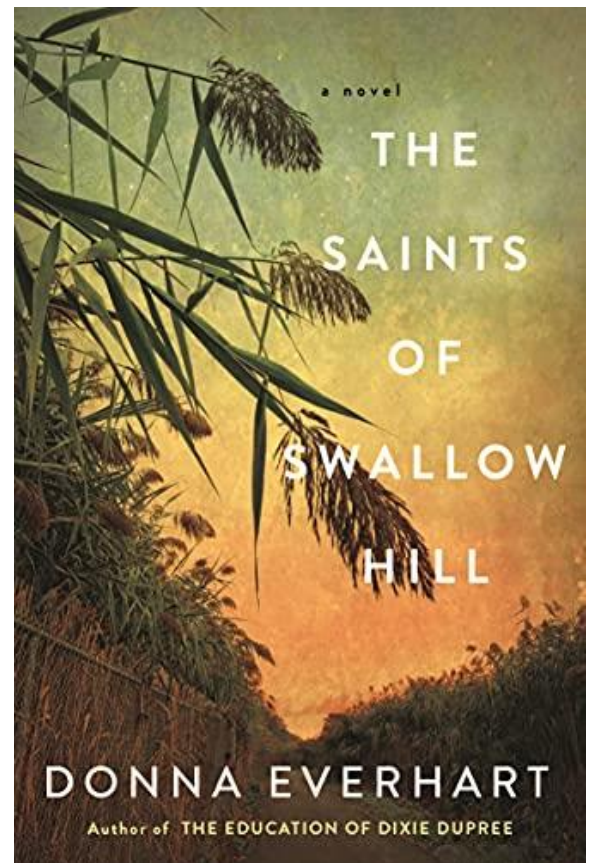
Workers earn scrip, not money, and the scrip is usually not enough to cover bare necessities from the company store.

Could you have survived? What would you do if you were placed in solitary confinement for three days? Would you give up and lose hope of a better life?

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Narthex

You can call the Smithtown Library at 631 360 2480 to borrow a copy. Provide your library card number and they can put a copy on hold for you. In late December some copies will be available to borrow from our church office.

For more information, please contact Isabel Buse, Adult Education Committee.



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## Soles for Souls Program

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For our fourth year, the church-wide Soles for Souls program, sponsored by Presbyterian Women, begins in our church. The power of shoes is huge, as they are distributed domestically and internationally to many who are in need of this basic item for both health and safety for daily life.

Please bring unwanted shoes to our church for our Soles for Souls program. Remember that we can use all types of shoes for this church-wide campaign.

Gently worn shoes of all types are being collected in the 'shoe bin' located in the hallway by the little yellow food pantry wagon.



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## Stewardship Thought for December

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Thank you to those who have already pledged. If you have not yet done so, you may send your pledge via mail, drop it off or email the church office at [fpcs@optonline.net](mailto:fpcs@optonline.net), or place it into the offering plate on Sunday.

### OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR THE YEAR 2023 ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Please be sure to look for your envelopes and take them home with you. If you have not received offering envelopes and would like them, contact the church office at 631-265-5151 or email [fpcs@optonline.net](mailto:fpcs@optonline.net)



On behalf of the Stewardship Ministry, we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year and thank you for your joyful offering of time, talent, and treasures during 2022.

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.  
Isaiah 9:6*

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## Trustee of the Week

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December 23 - December 29 - Rob Hubbs  
December 30 - January 5 - Lynne Leftenant  
January 6 - January 12 - Rick Booth  
January 13 - January 19 - Rob Springer  
January 20 - January 26 - John Agostini  
January 27 - February 2 - Ed Lipinsky

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## Deacons of the Week

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December 24 - Suzanne Perri and Joyce Brozyna  
December 25 - Lucia Spahr  
January 1 - Lucia Spahr and Charles Bunton  
January 8 - Beth Davidsen and Joyce Brozyna  
January 15 - Barbara Ruoff and Lucia Spahr  
January 22 - Laurie Wallace and Allison Brennan  
January 29 - Lisa Hubbs and Beth Davidsen



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## *In Our Hearts and Prayers*

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- Greg Yates
- Harriet Yost
- Marlene Hayes
- Debbie Canning
- Trudy Engel
- Vivienne Grizzle-Jaber, recovering from back surgery
- Tom Deakins
- Harold “Scotty” Scott
- Marie Blaszkiewicz
- Sue Nunziata
- Tom Sartain
- Bente Schmidt
- Caroline Kelleher
- Richard Heath, continuing recovery in a rehab facility after brain trauma
- Virginia Newcomb
- Eleanor Schwinn, at Luxor Nursing and Rehab at Mills Pond, Room 106, 273 Moriches Rd, St James, NY 11780
- 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
- Ethel and Karl Kraft
- Andrea Mohabeer

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## *December and January Birthdays*

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



December 2 - Pat Houk  
December 2 - Jesse Scanna  
December 3 - Katie Heath  
December 4 - Jean Lown  
December 5 - Russ Dalba  
December 7 - Finn Henchey  
December 11 - Ethel Kraft  
December 14 - Mary Perri  
December 15 - Carol Miller  
December 21 - Lois Netter  
December 24 - Kathryn Stovall  
December 25 - Lillian Munro  
December 27 - Richard Heath  
December 29 - Jack Prianti

January 1 - Janet Ashby  
January 1 - Sharon Castlen  
January 2 - Jesse Scanna  
January 8 - Eleanor Schwinn  
January 15 - Lynne Leftenant  
January 18 - Steve Yastrub  
January 21 - Bente Schmidt  
January 22 - Margaret Cowie  
January 24 - Jan Diskin-Zimmerman  
January 25 - Gene Jenks  
January 25 - Suzanne Perri  
January 27 - Staci Landi  
January 29 - Carol Link  
January 29 - Lori Scarlatos

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

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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>

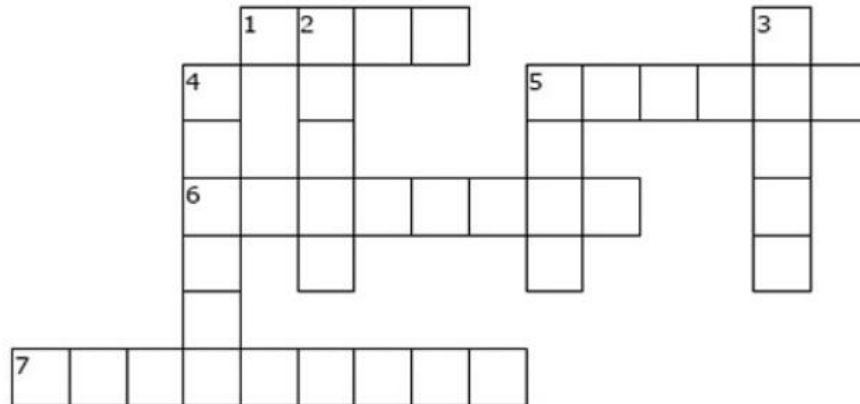
### **Communications Manager**

Tracy Henchey  
[fpcscommunications@gmail.com](mailto:fpcscommunications@gmail.com)

# The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20



## ACROSS

1. An infant or very young child
5. The place where Mary laid the baby Jesus
6. A person who takes care of sheep
7. The city where Jesus was born

## DOWN

2. Heavenly being that told the shepherds about Jesus' birth
3. The savior of the world
4. The earthly father of Jesus
5. The mother of Jesus

JOSEPH	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BABY
MARY	SHEPHERD	JESUS	MANGER



# The Birth of Jesus

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

SAVIOR  
CAESAR  
CHILD

CENSUS  
SON  
SHEPHERDS

MARY  
JOSEPH  
ANGEL

MANGER  
MESSIAH  
BETHLEHEM

BORN  
ROOM  
BABY

# Don't Miss Christmas

## SECRET MESSAGE

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

20	8	5

7	9	6	20

15	6

3	8	18	9	19	20	13	1	19

9	19

6	15	18

5	22	5	18	25	2	15	4	25

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And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11 (KJV)