

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

November 3, 2023

Letter from the Pastor

Dear friends,

Do you have a coat closet with coats or jackets that you and your family members are not wearing? Me, too. Why not bring one of more of them to give to a youth in need through a Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island coat drive this Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. in our Parish Hall? The event is hosted by the Organization for Open Mic Performing Artists (OOMPA). Those who come are invited, along with a coat donation, to bring a snack to share at the event.



We celebrate All Saints Day in worship this Sunday with Communion and Candle Lighting. We will remember our sisters and brothers in the flock who went home to be with the Lord in the last year. Those gathered will have an opportunity to honor their loved ones who passed away since last November by lighting a candle and speaking their names.

On Thursday, Nov. 9 at 5 p.m., we are planning a special service of remembrance, healing, and prayer on the anniversary of the *Kristallnacht*. Readers will be sharing stories of children who lived through the wave of antisemitic violence of 1938 Berlin. Thousands of Jewish homes and businesses were destroyed. Fourteen hundred synagogues were burned; cemeteries were ravaged. In the days that followed, 30,000 Jewish men would be sent to concentration camps.



The morning after Kristallnacht or Night of Broken Glass in Berlin, 1938.

With this quiet prayer service, without singing or music, we recommit ourselves to being a community of faith that stands against hatred and violence. We show our support for our Jewish neighbors around the globe. When our candle lighting, prayers, and storytelling come to an end, we will leave the church building with the lights ablaze all night, joining churches and synagogues around the world in revealing our love and concern for the children of Israel and hope for peace among people of all faiths.

Then on Friday, our Confirmation class, parents, mentors, and I will be meeting at 7 p.m. for worship for Shabbat at Temple Isaiah in Stony Brook.

God bless us in our ministry together, seeking to bring healing to our broken world.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Karen

This Week's Scriptures and Prayers

Scripture Readings for All Saints Day

Revelation 7:9-17

The redeemed gather at God's throne; the Lamb is their shepherd.

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Bless the Lord, our redeemer; taste and see that the Lord is good.

1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us; we are God's children now.

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes: blessed are you; your reward is great in heaven.

Question for Reflection

This week's readings describe the coming realm of God. How does the reality of heaven shape your life in prayer and in service?

For All the Saints

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Household Prayer: Morning

Thank you, Lord, for waking me up this morning, giving me a new start and another day to live for you. The light of day reminds me of the overwhelming love you give to us— such that you even call us your children. Let me live this day in gratitude, showing your love in all that I say and do; for the sake of your son, Jesus, in whose name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of the heavens, I cannot count the stars you have strewn across the sky, nor can I measure the grace you have poured out upon me. Thank you for the gifts of this day, for they show me your generosity. Thank you for its challenges, for in them I find your wisdom and strength. Bless all those I have met today and forgive me for the ways I have caused harm. Keep me in your care this night; and if I do not awaken in the morning, receive me into the glorious company of all the saints. In Jesus' name. Amen.



**Don't forget to "Fall Back"
as Daylight Savings Time
ends this Sunday, Nov. 5**

Recent Messages from Pastor Karen's Blog

"Free, Indeed"

<https://pastorkaren.org/2023/10/29/free-indeed/>

Message for Reformation Sunday

Oct. 29, 2023

"Think About These Things"

<https://pastorkaren.org/2023/10/15/think-about-these-things/>

Oct. 15, 2023

"Love 101"

<https://pastorkaren.org/2023/10/12/love-101/>

Oct. 8, 2023

November Confirmation News

Sunday, Nov. 5:

Meet in the Confirmation classroom. *Marci Deakins* will speak about the food pantry and share her faith story. Finish Session 2 and watch video. *HW in journal and home/mentor guide with mentors this week. Light Refreshments: Sue Gensinger*

Friday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.:

Meet at Temple Isaiah in Stony Brook for Shabbat service and Rabbi's orientation.

Sunday, Nov. 12:

Session 3: "What Is Sin and How Do We Turn from It?" *HW in journal and home/mentor guide with mentors this week. Refreshments: Hubbs Family*

Sunday, Nov. 19:

Catch up day for Sessions 1-3 for anyone who missed a class or need help with journals.

Sunday, Nov. 26:

Help with Christ the King Worship service (*Thanksgiving weekend*)

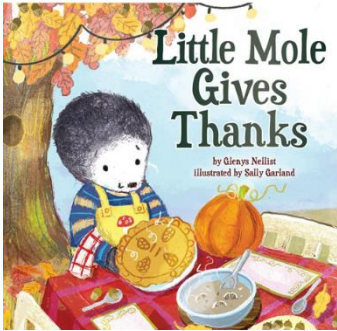
Men's Luncheon

All men of FPCS are welcome to join us for the Men's Luncheon

Wednesday, November 8 at 12:00 pm
at The Old Street Pub

Bedtime Stories and Prayers with Pastor Karen

All children and their parents or grandparents are invited to join me for another bedtime story and prayers on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. I will be reading a precious story with sweet illustrations called, *Little Mole Gives Thanks*. Little Mole's big table is all set for his fancy fall feast, but when each of his very important guests delivers the news that they won't be able to attend, Little Mole doesn't know what to do. Who will fill his table?



Bedtime Story and Prayers
Little Mole Gives Thanks by Glenys Nellist
Nov 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4520326262>

Meeting ID: 452 032 6262

If you missed Pastor Karen's bedtime story and prayers on Zoom with the children on Oct. 18, you can still see the recording of *There's An Alligator Under My Bed* by Mercer Mayer through this link:
<https://vimeo.com/875814789?share=copy>

Year of Christian Fellowship

Great news!

Year of Christian Fellowship events are back!
Pull out your calendar and mark the date for our first seasonal get-together!

**Please plan to join us for a potluck brunch in the Parish Hall,
directly following the annual Young Disciples Advent Worship
Service on Sunday, December 10**



A sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to seeing you and breaking bread together, as we celebrate the Advent Season. Start thinking about what delicious but simple fare you'll bring to church that morning. And keep your eyes peeled for future events, to be posted here going forward.

Trunk or Treat



Thank you to all who participated in our Trunk or Treat Event!

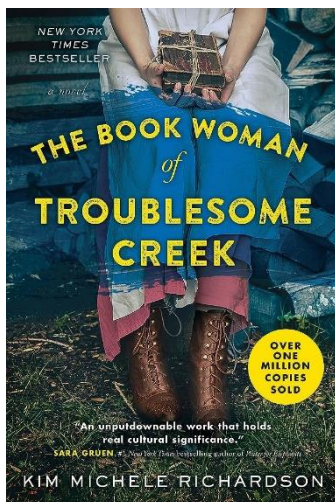
Check out all the pictures here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/gPRkCuU914TAP6xk8>

Highlights from the Oct. 31, 2023 Session Meeting

1. Approved three new active members: Virginia Lemanczyk and Dave and Joanna Marmelstein by transfer of membership. Recorded Lisa Stovall's transfer of membership to Eastminster Presbyterian Church in York, PA.
 2. Approved a serve of remembrance, healing, and prayer for Nov. 9 at 5 p.m. for the anniversary of Kristallnacht
 3. Adopted a funeral policy
 4. Considered options for a nursing mothers/baby changing area
 5. Book Club postponed discussion of *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* to Dec. 6.
 6. Year of Christian Fellowship is organizing a potluck brunch for Dec. 10, 2023 after the Young Disciples Advent Worship service in the Parish Hall.
 7. Next Session meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Narthex.
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FPCS Book Club



November's meeting of FPCS Book Club has been rescheduled to
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
at 7:00 pm in the Narthex

We will be discussing
The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek
by Kim Michele Richardson

There will be a sign-up sheet posted outside the Narthex.
For those who do not want to purchase the book, copies are available
through the Suffolk County Library system. Copies will also be made
available to borrow in our church office.

Light refreshments will be provided.
For more information or questions, contact Isabel Buse.

November Birthdays

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



November 1 - Lori Kenney
November 4 - Heather Smith
November 6 - Ron DeHart
November 6 - Julianna Landi
November 6 - Dave Marmelstein
November 9 - Sue Nunziata
November 12 - Marge Duddleston

November 14 - Karen Schilling
November 16 - Harriet McMahon
November 17 - Carolyn DeHart
November 18 - Jean Belvin
November 21 - Ellen Ames
November 23 - Gregg Homeyer

Stewardship Thought About Per Capita

You must be wondering why in the month of November I would be writing about per capita. Per Capita is usually discussed at the beginning of the year. This month our treasurer will write a check to The Long Island Presbytery in the amount of \$10,127. This amount is derived from the number of members we have in our congregation. The First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown makes a yearly commitment to pay our portion of per capita. This call to generosity is deeply rooted in the value of what it means to be a Presbyterian. Per Capita is crucial to the overall health of the PC(USA), because it binds presbyteries, synods, and congregations together in one church.

This year's per capita amount of \$38.95 per individual member provides \$9.85 to General Assembly, \$4.10 to Synod and \$25.00 to the Presbytery of Long Island. The Presbytery of Long Island uses the money to pay for the salaries and benefits for the Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Administrator, Treasurer, and Bookkeeper. It also pays for building expenses, insurance bills, committee expenses, training, the Resource Center, Presbytery meetings and events, and churches that need help. FPCS is very fortunate that we do not have to seek financial help from the Presbytery.

So far this year, \$2,988 has been collected for per capita. This represents only 29.5% of the total of FPCS's per capita commitment. Thank you to those who have paid their 2023 per capita. For members who have not paid their per capita for 2023, you can write a check for \$38.95 per member or pay online.

We are a connectional church. No worshipping community is isolated. Rather, the whole of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is called to work with one another in making ministry possible. Congregations, presbyteries, synods, denominational offices, and more work with one another to offer support, guidance, collaboration, and other opportunities through per capita funding.

Blessings and Peace,

Dawn Agostini

Trustee of the Week

November 3 - 9 - Lynne Leftenant

The "Trustee of the Week" is listed each week in One Body One Spirit and in the Sunday Bulletin. If you need to contact the Trustee, their phone number can be found in the Church Directory.

Deacons of the Week

November 5 - Barbara Ruoff and Lucia Spahr

In Our Hearts and Prayers



- Ellen Ames, recovering from a stroke, at St. Charles Rehab
- Carol Miller's daughter, Karen, beginning cancer treatments on Nov. 15
- Ethel Kraft, moving to The Bristal in Lake Grove
- Charlie Maureen Bunton, having open heart bypass surgery on Dec. 6
- Erin Russell daughter of Cindy Russell, who is going through a difficult time
- Marie Blaszkiewicz went home to be with the Lord on Oct. 9. Please pray for comfort and peace for her daughter, Tammy Blaszkiewicz, and her siblings.
- Carolyn DeHart, recovering from surgery
- Ed Cheatham, in assisted living: The Arbors, Room 241, 1515 Veterans Memorial Highway, Islandia, NY 11749
- Rev. Ron Wood
- Victor Pajares, recovering from surgery
- Bill Zimmerman
- Stephanie Castlen, recovering from a broken leg, which required surgery
- Nick Matturro, Laura Matturro's son, recovering from surgery
- Virginia Newcomb
- Greg Yates
- Jim Miller, Janet Vollkommer's brother
- Harriet Yost
- Sue Nunziata
- Richard Heath
- Harold "Scotty" Scott, LI State Veterans Home, 100 Patriots Rd, Stony Brook, NY 11790
- Eleanor Schwinn, St. Joseph's Village
- Mary Charlene Harris, Whisper Woods
- Harriet McMahon, moved to memory care: Vista Springs Terraces, Room # 207, 16260 Park Lake Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: 517-339-7315
- Evelyn Saddlemire, Water's Edge Nursing Facility
- Jean Lown, The Bristal Assisted Living

How to Contact the Pastor or Church Staff

Church Office

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

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