



Weekly Newsletter
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz

June 11, 2026

Featured This Week

- Come Worship with us!
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- Presbytery Unity Candle
- Librarian's Corner
- June Birthdays
- Presbytery News
- Opportunities to Serve
- Regularly Occurring Events

Come worship with us this Sunday at 10:30 am!
Sunday, June 14, 2026 ~ Communion Sunday
The Rev. Diane Ford



Sermon Teaser

Again and again, scripture tells of a God who moves toward people. We gather today trusting that God's welcome is wider than our expectations, and God's faithfulness steadier than our uncertainties.

Scripture: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26



The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church will take place June 22-July 2, 2026 in Milwaukee. This gathering occurs every two years. The General Assembly (GA) is the highest council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and gathers commissioners from presbyteries across the nation every two years. It is a time of worship, discernment, and decision-making, where the church considers matters of mission, policy, theology, and the life of the denomination.

This year's issues include decisions around mission co-workers, confronting Christian nationalism, a new Confession, oversight of 2024's "Olympia Overture" (regarding the Book of Order), race relations and repair, access to gender-affirming health care, and a new agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) called Presbyterian Life & Witness.

For learning more, the clearest starting page is:

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/church-structure/general-assembly>

Useful links:

Presbyterian News Service (official PC(USA) news)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/>

Presbyterian Outlook (independent reporting and commentary)

<https://pres-outlook.org>

PC(USA) General Assembly website (official schedules, livestreams, documents, and resources)

<https://ga-pcusa.org>

2026 Santa Cruz Pride Festival!



Pastor Diane, Jeanne B, Linda W., and Michelle S.



Jean, Linda, Pastor Diane, Jeanne, Michelle, and Kathleen



Interfaith Service

All Hands on Deck!



Family Fun Fest is our way of strengthening community bonds! Trinity Church will provide a safe place for families to enjoy a summer afternoon, having fun and getting to know one another. Your contribution of skills and talents - large or small - is meaningful and very much appreciated.

This Sunday, you will have an opportunity to choose ways in which to participate via a sign-up chart. How about helping set up games on the church lawn and rooms at 9:30? Or helping Jeff prepare and grill hot dogs in Magnolia Court? Or bringing cupcakes for the cakewalk? Or secretly attaching toys to a line at the fishpond? Wo/Manning a booth? Or even just attending the Fest and enjoying events planned by the Outreach Committee and Urban Works? Bubbles, yoga, dance, cornhole, ping pong, to name a few! You are also invited to contact Larry or Elizabeth directly anytime.

FAMILY FUN FEST

FOOD!

Saturday, June 27, 2026

11AM - 3PM

Activities for All Ages & Abilities!

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

420 Melrose Ave, Santa Cruz

In partnership with Urban Works  <https://www.urbanworks-sc.org/>

Announcements

Book Club. We will discuss “Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus” by Elaine Pagels at our next meeting. We meet on the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the fireside room.

Happy Hour will take place this Thursday, June 18 at the Back 9 Grill, at Pasatiempo, from 4-6pm. Join us for fellowship and laughs!

Presbytery Unity Candle: This week we pray for Comunidad Latinoamericana.

Librarian’s Corner

Our Library is open Thursdays 10 – noon.

Larry the Librarian will post updates to the Library Website at <https://www.trinitylibrary.org/>



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|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Chad Bell | 28 Fred Tomlinson |
| 2 Pete Halper | 29 Rosie Bell |
| 7 Diane Ford | Ed Sams |
| 20 Jake Eschen-Pipes | Lenore Spalaris |
| 24 Bethany Eschen-Pipes | |



The poster for the 4th NEAR Gathering features a dark blue background with a gold horizontal band. The title "4th NEAR Gathering" is prominently displayed in white and gold. Below it, the theme "Christian Nationalism" is written in a gold script font. The date and time, "Saturday, September 26, 2026, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM", and the location, "Gilroy Presbyterian Church · 6000 Miller Ave, Gilroy, CA", are centered in white. At the bottom, a dark blue section titled "FEATURED SPEAKERS" contains two circular portraits of Dr. Heath Carter and Dr. Hanna Reichel.

This year's gathering takes up a pressing and timely theme: Christian Nationalism. The morning will feature two keynote addresses from Dr. Heath Carter and Dr. Hanna Reichel of Princeton Theological Seminary, followed by small group discussions and an armchair conversation with both speakers moderated by the Executive Presbyter. Drawing on their rigorous scholarship and experience, Drs. Carter and Reichel will offer theological and historical perspectives designed to inform and shape our practical action and prayerful response to Christian Nationalism. Lunch will be provided, along with a light breakfast.

Carpooling with Pastor Diane and others is recommended.

Opportunities to Serve

Quilt Much? Sweet Pea is the place to be! Interested in learning to quilt or looking to get back into it? Grab a sewing machine and join the Sweet Pea team! They meet in the Youth Room (enter door on Melrose Ave) from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. every other Saturday. Their finished creations are donated to hospitals and shelters. Contact janedevette@aol.com for more information.

AFC Dinners, Every 2nd & 3rd Wednesday. Looking to contribute to your community through cooking or small donations? Contact Debbie Bates at debates44@aol.com to see what can be provided. The Association of Faith Communities (AFC) is a coalition of congregations serving Santa Cruz County.

Urban Works. Urban Works embraces art and recreation to break through faith, social, and economic barriers, to create community for adults with disabilities and their support networks. Watch the bulletin board outside the church office for updates, and see Diane if you are interested in volunteering.

Regularly Occurring Events at Trinity

Sundays at Trinity

- ❖ Choir rehearsal: 9-10:15 am through the end of June, then we're off until after Labor Day.
- ❖ Morning Lectionary School: 9:00 am, Fireside Room
- ❖ Sunday Worship: 10:30 am in the Sanctuary & streaming live on YouTube and FB.
- ❖ Coffee Hour: Immediately following our Sunday service in the Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ Trinity Library is open during coffee hour.
- ❖ Nooners Class: 12:00 pm in the Fireside Room and on Zoom.
- ❖ Board of Deacons: 3rd Sundays (none in July), 12:00 pm, Youth Room

Mondays at Trinity

- ❖ Book Club: (Every 3rd Monday) 10:00 am-11:00 am, Fireside Room
- ❖ Monday Night Lectionary Study: (weekly) 5:00 pm-6:15 pm, Fireside Room

Tuesdays at Trinity

- ❖ Administration Committee: (1st Tuesday, in “odd’ months), 4:30 pm, Fireside Room
- ❖ Worship and Christian Education (WCE): 1st Tuesdays at 10:30 am, Fireside room.
- ❖ Session

Wednesdays at Trinity

- ❖ Association of Faith Communities (AFC) Board Mtg.: 11:00 am-1:00 pm, Fireside Room.
- ❖ Faith Community Shelter: 4pm - Overnight, Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ Shower the People: 3:00 pm-6:00 pm, Parking Lot.
- ❖ Urban Works Board Mtg.: 1st Wednesdays, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm, Fireside Room.

Thursdays at Trinity

- ❖ Library Corner: 10:00 am -12:00 pm, socialize in the library.
- ❖ Trinity Happy Hour: Third Thursday of the Month.

Saturdays at Trinity

- ❖ Sweet Pea Quilting: Every other Saturday from 9:30 am – 3:45 pm, Youth Room