



# Weekly Newsletter

## Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz

November 20, 2025

---

### *Featured This Week*

- Come Worship with us!
  - Stewardship
  - Announcements
  - Presbytery Unity Candle
  - Library Corner
  - Birthdays
  - Opportunities to Serve
  - Regularly Occurring Events
- 

*Come worship with us this Sunday at 10:30 am!*

The Rev. Diane Ford

As we approach Thanksgiving and Christ the King Sunday, Scripture reminds us that God's reign is both our hope and our calling. Jeremiah speaks of true shepherds. Paul proclaims Christ who rescues us from darkness, into his kingdom of restorative justice, faithful relationships, and peace.

This Sunday we will commission Trinity's five missionaries who will be leaving for their mission in El Salvador Monday, Nov 24. We pray for the five: I who noticed and responded to God's call: Rosie and Chad Bell, Nancy and Chuck Cobery, and Ron Weaver.

### **Sunday's Scripture:**

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Colossians 1:11-20

## *Stewardship*

Stewardship letters have been mailed including pledge forms for both financial contributions and contributions of time and talents. The forms will also be available in the church entry hall. Please prayerfully consider your proposed contributions for 2026 and, at your earliest convenience, place the completed forms in the offering plate during worship or mail them to the church or email the information to the church. Please address any questions to Michael Christie or Pastor Diane Ford.

---



Please join us for the last **Trinity Happy Hour** of 2025, at Johnny's Harborside, **Today, Thursday, November 20**. We will meet at 4 pm, with the last call for happy hour prices at 5 pm. Advent gatherings will replace our December happy hour, and we will resume our third Thursdays in January 2026.

**El Salvador Prayer Children.** If you have a prayer child and would like to send them a letter, please bring it to church on Sunday and give it to Chuck Cobery or Chad Bell. It will be the last opportunity before we depart on Monday. You could also email a note to Nancy Cobery at [n.cobery@gmail.com](mailto:n.cobery@gmail.com) if you'd prefer. Thank you!



**December 4, 11, and 18:** Thursday Advent Dinner and Taizé at 5:30 pm.

**December 7:** Congregational Caroling after the 10:30 service.



**December 21: Longest Night Service of Hope 5:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall.** Struggling with the Holidays? Not everyone feels merry in December. Pastor Diane and Yoga Instructor Marcee Meinhardt lead this service designed especially for those carrying sadness, loss, or weariness during the holidays. The service will include candlelight, music, somatic breath work, readings, and prayer. We'll honor the darkness and remember that light still finds us. Come as you are; all are welcome.

**December 14: Cantata Sunday at 10:30 am.** Let the spirit and sounds of the season fill your hearts and ears on December 14 during the 10:30 am service! Trinity's own choir, joined by guest singers from choirs here and over the hill, will come together to present our annual Christmas cantata, Kirke Mechem's *The Seven Joys of Christmas*. We will also be treated to very special music by a professional brass quintet led by local trombone virtuoso Scott Wilkinson, including a piece written for brass quintet and organ. It promises to be a spectacular addition to our Advent season, and we look forward to seeing you there. Want more info? Please contact Nicki.



**December 24:** Our Christmas Eve Service will take place at 5:30 pm.

**Save the Date!**



The Annual Chili Cook Off will be on **February 20, 2026** at Twin Lakes Church at 6:00 in Monschke Hall. We are so appreciative to Twin Lakes for hosting this event! The registration and promotional information will come out after the holidays. Start thinking about your theme and chili recipe!

---

**Presbytery Unity Candle:** This week we pray for *Comunidad Latinoamericana*, and the Rev. Stella, and Elder Mike Matusiewicz.

## Trinity Interactive

Welcome to a new occasional feature of our Weekly Newsletter where we ask YOU to contribute to a topical conversation.

This week's conversation centers on the PBS documentary series, **The American Revolution, produced by Ken Burns**. The series premiered on Sunday, November 16, on PBS, and is airing for six consecutive nights, ending on Friday, November 21, at 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET. The full series is available to stream online at PBS.org and on the PBS app.



We invite you to email ([trinitysc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trinitysc@sbcglobal.net)) a brief response to the question: What did you learn from this documentary or what surprised you most? This is a great opportunity to share your thoughts, and hear what others found interesting as well. Responses will be published in the newsletter following the series event, and may be lightly edited for publication purposes. Thank you for participating in this pilot event!

---

## Library Corner

*Our Parish Library open to the public Sundays after worship and Thursdays 10 – noon.*

The First Sunday of Advent this year is November 30th. During Advent the Library will be displaying Nativity scenes from around the world. We have many in our permanent collection and we are looking for folks to loan us some interesting examples of Nativity Scenes. Next Thursday, we will be closed in honor of Thanksgiving Day on November on 27th.

Warm Regards, Larry the Librarian

---



8	Daryl Altiere	22	Jill Francis
	Joanne Clever		Dan Rutan
20	Jeanne Baker	24	Erin Sams
	Ari Palmer	26	Nancy Cobery
	Ron Weaver	27	Jenny Ye



Is your church's story being told?  
Share it today in the Mission Yearbook!

PCUSA is collecting stories for the Mission Yearbook website and want to feature yours! Share how God is moving in your congregation, through ministry, mission, or spiritual growth and inspire others across the Presbyterian community. Send 300–600 words, a photo or link to a video! Find all the details here: <https://hubs.ly/Q03z9lch0>

**Please coordinate with Diane before you submit your story.**

**Story Ideas:** We would love to hear about how God has been at work in your church. You might consider including:

- The history of your congregation: How did your church begin? What are some milestones or significant moments in your journey?
- Mission and ministry efforts: What outreach programs, local or global mission efforts, or community engagement activities have been significant to your church?
- Spiritual growth: How have your worship practices, prayer life, or Bible studies shaped your congregation?
- Testimonies of lives transformed: Share stories of individuals whose lives have been changed through the ministry of your church.

---

## *Opportunities to Serve*

**Quilt Much?** Sweet Pea is the place to be! November 8 & 22. Interested in learning to quilt or looking to get back into it? Grab a sewing machine and join Sweet Peas! They meet in the Youth Room (enter door on Melrose Ave) from 9:30a.m. to 3:45 p.m. every other Saturday and donate to hospitals and shelters.

**AFC Dinners, Every 2nd & 3rd Wednesday.** Looking to contribute to your community through cooking or small donations? Contact Debbie Bates at [debates44@aol.com](mailto: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**

See more on our church Google Calendar via our website

### **Sundays at Trinity**

- ❖ Sunday Worship: 10:30 am in the Sanctuary and streaming live on YouTube and Facebook
- ❖ Coffee Hour: Immediately following our Sunday service in the Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ Morning Lectionary School: Sundays, 9 am, Fireside Room
- ❖ Trinity Library is open during coffee hour.
- ❖ Nooners Class: 12pm in the Fireside Room and on Zoom.
- ❖ Board of Deacons: 3rd Sundays (none in July), 12pm, Youth Room

### **Mondays at Trinity**

- ❖ Book Club (Every 3rd Monday) 10am-11am, Fireside Room
- ❖ Monday Night Lectionary Study (weekly) 5pm-6:16pm, Fireside Room

### **Tuesdays at Trinity**

- ❖ Administration Comm. (1st Tuesday, in "odd" months), 4:30pm, Fireside Room
- ❖ Session (every 2nd Tuesday) 5:30-7pm, Fireside Room

### **Wednesdays at Trinity**

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

### **Thursdays at Trinity**

- ❖ Librarian Corner, 10 am -12 pm, socialize in the library
- ❖ Bible Study with Pastor, 1-2:15 pm, Youth Room, beginning Sept. 18