



Weekly Newsletter
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz

March 5, 2026

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Come worship with us this Sunday at 10:30 am!
The Rev. Diane Ford

Come be part of our Thursday evening conversations as we reflect together on the themes of Lent. See details in this newsletter.

Sermon Teaser: Our third story of Lent is Jesus healing a man who was born blind. What is striking is that his neighbors, the religious leaders, and even his family do not celebrate the healing. When change happens, it is often met with anxiety or fear. What changes in other people or places make you uneasy? What "blind spots" have you noticed in your own reactions to others? Here the good news: God's Spirit offers us wisdom and spiritual sight.

Sermon Scripture: John 9:1-38

Presbytery Unity Candle Sunday, March 1st:

Trinity Presbyterian Church & Urban Works Santa Cruz

(reprinted from the Presbytery Digest last week)

This week, we invite you to pray for Trinity Presbyterian Church of Santa Cruz and their pastor, Rev. Diane Ford, as they continue their faithful witness as an open and affirming community of faith.

As a congregation, Trinity's mission is rooted in the conviction that God is still transforming lives. They proclaim a hopeful Gospel — one that trusts people and communities are not defined by their past, but are continually being renewed by grace. At the heart of their life together is a commitment to nurture one another spiritually and practically, extending belonging especially to those who have often been overlooked or excluded.

Trinity describes itself as both traditional and progressive — not as opposites, but as companions. They cherish Scripture, historic faith practices, and enduring Christian values, while remaining open to fresh expressions of worship and thoughtful engagement with faith in today's world. They are a community where differing perspectives can sit at the same table, grounded in shared commitments to honesty, kindness, justice, and deep respect for the image of God in every person. Their identity is broad and welcoming, yet anchored in a faith that runs deep.

Their shared life is centered in Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m., where prayer, music, and the Word draw the community together. Throughout the week, Trinity offers opportunities for connection and learning, including Librarian Corner on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., the Third Monday Book Club from 10:00–11:00 a.m., and seasonal Thursday Evening Suppers at 5:30 p.m. that gather neighbors around food and conversation. In all they do, Trinity seeks to be a place where faith is lived honestly, community is tangible, and God's transforming love is made visible.

Concurrently, this week's unity candle is co-hosted by Urban Works Santa Cruz, a vibrant ministry partner supported by Trinity. Urban Works embraces art and recreation to break through faith, social, and economic barriers, creating a more enriched, diverse, and unified community for adults with disabilities. Emerging from the foundation of Salty Sheep under the guidance of Rev. Ryan Althaus, Urban Works offers a wide range of weekly classes, workshops, and recreational gatherings designed to empower adults with disabilities and their support networks.

Weekly offerings include art sessions, exercise classes (yoga & dance), as well as roller skating sessions for individuals of all abilities. These programs reflect Urban Works' mission to break through social and economic barriers through art and recreation, thereby welcoming people of all abilities to engage in community activities.

Similarly, we invite our Presbytery members to pray for Rev. Ryan Althaus & the leadership of Urban Works as they continue to fuel our ministry with opportunities of inclusion and spiritual impact. For more information about this week's congregation(s), visit the links below:

To follow the good things God is doing in our sister churches, subscribe to the Presbytery Digest.
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/vmcRN2u/sjbpy>



Thursday Evenings: For 4 weeks throughout Lent, we offer fellowship on Thursday evenings, March 5, 12, 19, and 26, 5:30-7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Join us for potluck, and conversations on topics of faith. All are welcome and encouraged to invite a friend.

Discussion topics for this evening (3/5/26):

1. “What Do We Actually Need?” — Simplicity & Desire

Scripture: Matthew 4:1–11 (Jesus’ temptations)

Conversation prompts:

- What temptations today pull us away from God?
- How do we discern between legitimate desire and over-attachment?
- When have you practiced simplicity and discovered you were freer?

2. “Return to Me” — Repentance & Renewed Direction

Scripture: Joel 2:12–13; Luke 15 (Prodigal Son)

Prompts:

- What does repentance look like beyond “feeling bad”?
- Have you ever experienced a “turning back” moment—large or small?
- How do we encourage honest spiritual reassessment without shame?

3. “Learning to Receive Grace”

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4–9

Prompts:

- Why is receiving grace harder than giving it?
- What habits help us let go of performance-based spirituality?
- Where is grace trying to speak in our lives right now?



Join us as we celebrate the lives of two beloved church members:

Darrell Yeaney - Saturday, March 21 at 1 pm in the sanctuary with a reception to follow.

Betty Gangware - Saturday, March 28, at 1 pm in the sanctuary with a reception to follow.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)

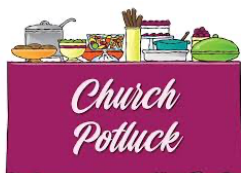


Happy Hour will NOT be meeting on March 19. Instead, please join us for Lenten Supper in the fireside room. HH will resume on Thursday, April 16, location to be determined.

Communion at Home. Are you unable to attend worship in person and would like to receive communion at home? To learn more or to set a home visit appointment, call the office or reach out to your deacon or Pastor Diane.



The Book Club is reading “The Lost and Found Bookshop” by Susan Wiggs for the month of March. We will gather as usual on the 3rd Monday of March at 10 o’clock in The Fireside Room. Hope you will join in the discussion. 📖 Joanne



Annual Deacon’s Parish Potluck, Sunday, March 29. All are invited to bring a dish to share and enjoy delicious food and terrific fellowship. You will also be able to visit with your deacon or meet your new one. See you there!

Presbytery Unity Candle: This week we pray for Bonny Doon Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz, and the Rev. Edd Breeden.

Librarian's Corner

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

Every Thursday the library is open for two hours from 10 AM till noon. During that time the Literary Library League holds court. We always serve fresh French Press Coffee and we often have snacks to share.



Everyone is welcome. I have included some pictures of our library cups which all have a message, and which are heated up before we pour the coffee. Come and enjoy! Warm Regards, Larry the Librarian



March

- 5 Pegatha Hughes
- 6 Russ Hobbs
- Mabel Serigstad
- 7 Kent Imai
- 17 Patti Lawton
- 29 Michael Christie



March 17 Chuck and Nancy Cobery ('89)

Community Events



FREE!
Accessible
EGG HUNT!
Every Bunny Can Play!

Sunday
March 29
2026
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Highlands County Park
8500 Hwy 9, Ben Lomond

A Calm & Inclusive Celebration
Created for children with mobility, vision, and sensory challenges—and their families. A calm, welcoming space where every child can join the fun.

Three Adaptive Egg Hunts

-  **Wheelchair-Accessible Egg Hunt**
-  **Beeper Egg Hunt**
-  **Sensory-Friendly Egg Hunt**
Siblings welcome!

Even More Fun!
Storytime • Sensory Play
Photos with the Bunny
Sensory-friendly prizes

Accessibility
Accessible parking
Flat, easy paths
No amplified music

Limited capacity!
Reserve Your Spot
RSVP via QR code or link below.
Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

QR

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MORE INFORMATION
valleywomensclub.org

Urban Works Santa Cruz Presents:
Accessible Egg Hunt
Easter Celebration

This celebration is part of a partnership between Urban Works and SPIN Santa Cruz (Special Parents Information Network), and is hosted by the Valley Women’s Club of the San Lorenzo through the generosity of our community.

Full event details, registration, and opportunities to volunteer or donate are available at the [link here](#).

The event is free to attend, and advance registration is encouraged to help keep egg hunts small, relaxed, and enjoyable. For questions, please contact: Rev. Capt. Ryan Althaus (runningmango@msn.com)



On **Friday, March 27**, *Bread and Roses** will co-host a Roundtable Discussion on “Spirituality and Resistance” at the Villa Maria del Mar Retreat Center at 6:00 p.m. Address: 21918 E. Cliff Dr. scbreadandroses.org. Bread and Roses draws from the charism of the Catholic Worker Movement, and uses an international model which integrates proactive peacemaking, direct service to the poor, and spirituality. If interested, please check out their website and ask Ron Weaver or Pastor Diane who plan to attend.



Santa Cruz Lenten Series 2026

Reconciliation and Renewal.

Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM

February 24 to March 24

All sessions will be simultaneously translated into Spanish

- February 24 – Mr. Sam Altis (The Association of Faith Communities) – Personal and Social Healing and Reconciliation through Service to Those on the Margins of Society – at Holy Cross
- March 3 – Dcn. Patrick Conway – Healing Divisions in the Church and Society – at Holy Cross
- March 10 – Fr. John Shearer – Healing and Renewal in the Sacrament of Reconciliation – at The Shrine of St. Joseph – West Cliff Drive
- March 24 – Fr. Robert Sullivan – The History of the Rosary – Personal and social Healing and Reconciliation through the intercession of the Most Holy Virgin Mary – presented at Star of the Sea

Tickets at the door - \$10 for 1 or 2 people

For more information or questions – Deacon Randy Pozos – randypozos@gmail.com



Singing is Being: Vocal Quartets and Piano

Music by Robert Schumann, Leonard Bernstein
& Ivan Rosenblum

Performed by Jordan Best, Liz Neff, Jorge Torrez,
Josh Porter, Daniel Goldsmith & Ivan Rosenblum

March 28th at 7:30 p.m.
at Trinity Presbyterian Church
420 Melrose Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Tickets: General Admission \$40, Student \$20
Online: <https://events.ticketleap.com/events/ivan-rosenblum>
Or pay Ivan directly via PayPal: irpiano@yahoo.com
Cash at the door

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

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Morning Lectionary School: Sundays, 9:00 am, Fireside Room
- ❖ 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. No meeting in March.

Saturdays at Trinity

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