



Weekly Newsletter

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz

October 2, 2025

Featured in this Newsletter:

- Interfaith Prayer Meeting
- Peace and Global Witness
- The Last Things We Talk About
- Church Hike at Big Basin
- Library Corner
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Opportunities to Serve in The Community
- Regularly Occurring Events



This Sunday is World Communion Sunday, when we remember we are one body, many members, united across the globe. This is a particularly important time to acknowledge our unity in Christ, as there is so much suffering happening. Jesus said, “You will have trouble in the world, but take heart: I have overcome the world.”

You will enter the sanctuary and be greeted by **a table full of breads** from around the world. Many thanks to bakers Jeff Lawton and Kim Johnston, and to Marta Narus, who collected and labeled each bread with a flag from the country it represents. *This year, we will have breads from Denmark, El Salvador, England, France, Germany, India, Indigenous Americans, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Mexico, Switzerland, and Sweden.*

Sermon Teaser: Participating in the unity of Christ requires us to be humble. Christ’s self-emptying love is our example of setting aside our ego to more fully live into the life God wills for us all.

***Scripture this Sunday**

October 05 – Philippians 2:1-11

Dates to Remember

Please go to our webpage calendar for more.

October 2: Bible Study with Pastor, Thursday, 1:00 pm

October 3: Interfaith Prayer Meeting, Friday, 3 pm

October 5: The Morning Lectionary Sunday School, 9 am

October 5: World Communion Sunday; Peace and Global Witness Special Offering

October 20: Book Club, Monday, 10 am

JOIN US FOR INTERFAITH PRAYER MEETING



*A gathering for peace, reflection
and community.*

Friday, October 3, 2025

3:00 PM

Watsonville Downtown Plaza

All are welcome. Come as you are.





Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world.

We will be collecting this special offering **through October 5, 2025**. Please use the special envelopes or write "Peace and Global Witness" on your check memo.

Bible Study with Pastor Diane: Teachings of Jesus

Thursdays, 1:00-2:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room

(Bibles provided but bring your own if you prefer.)

We continue this fall study series with Diane, which focuses on the topics Jesus most spoke about. Each week we also learn a little about the historical and socio-economical realities of Jesus' time. Anyone can join us anytime! Below is a copy of one of our handouts in class.

Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God

The church has often understood the Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1–16) as Jesus **turning the world's value system upside down**. Where society prizes wealth, power, and influence, Jesus names the poor in spirit, the meek, and those who mourn as “blessed.”

A few main ways the church has interpreted this surprising wording:

- **Reversal of values:** The Beatitudes reveal God's kingdom as a great reversal—those overlooked or dismissed by the world are honored by God.
- **Encouragement to the faithful:** They comfort struggling believers, assuring them that God's blessing rests on their difficult circumstances.
- **Call to discipleship:** They are not only descriptions but invitations—Christ's followers are called to embody humility, mercy, and peacemaking.

So rather than being sentimental sayings, the church often reads the beatitudes as both **comfort and challenge**: God is present with the lowly, and disciples are to live by these surprising kingdom values.

Image: *Statue of Caesar Augustus (ruled 27 BCE – 14 CE). This image turned upside-down was used on the social media and publicity of a scholarly New Testament conference back in the early 2000's, reflecting the anti-empire teachings and life of Jesus.*



THE LAST THINGS WE TALK ABOUT:

A Workshop on End of Life Transitions

A free event hosted by Trinity Presbyterian Church,
open to all in the community.



Conversations about aging and end-of-life aren't easy, but they matter. Join Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Boatwright, author of *The Last Things We Talk About*, for a thoughtful and practical workshop. A light lunch will follow, and books will be available for purchase.

Saturday, October 25, 9 am- 12 pm
Visit our website for details.



420 Melrose Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
trinitypressc.org (831) 423-8995



Join us for “The Last Things We Talk About”

This meaningful gathering is inspired by the beloved book of the same name and will be guided by its author, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Boatwright. Come and share in a practical, heartfelt conversation you won't want to miss.

Register on our webpage, with Diana Dean, or the office

- A light lunch will follow.
- This is a free event; books will be available for purchase.
- Elizabeth will preach the next morning, Sunday, October 26, at Trinity's 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Who is it for?

- Individuals facing end-of-life challenges.
- Families supporting a terminally ill loved one.
- Anyone interested in preparing now for life's inevitable transitions

About the book:

The Last Things We Talk About: Your Guide to End-of-Life Transitions" by Elizabeth T. Boatwright is a comprehensive guide for individuals and families to navigate the complexities of aging, end-of-life care, and death. The book provides step-by-step instructions and resources to help readers define their values, plan for medical, financial, and legal matters, and prepare for the practicalities of death and the grieving process.

Key Aspects of the Book

- **Personal Values and Wishes:**
The book helps readers identify what gives life meaning and purpose, allowing them to define and celebrate their cherished people and experiences.
- **Practical Planning:**
It guides readers through the process of creating essential documents, such as legal, financial, and medical forms, and understanding the continuum of care.
- **Legacy and Aftermath:**
Readers learn how to plan for the legacy they wish to leave behind and what needs to be done after death to help survivors.
- **Cultural and Spiritual Sensitivity:**
The book explores options for culturally and spiritually sensitive end-of-life rituals and celebrations.
- **Resources and Tools:**
It includes checklists for tasks like choosing a hospice facility, putting affairs in order, and deciphering medical bills, along with information on finding relevant professionals.

"White Book" Concept: Boatwright introduces the idea of a "white book," a binder or digital file containing all necessary information for family members to avoid a "treasure hunt" after a death.

****FLYERS and Invitation for this Event are available for spreading the word. ****

Announcements

Online Church Service

Experience our live services or explore past ones on YouTube or our Vimeo website. Both platforms can be accessed through our website: <https://www.trinitypresssc.org>

The Morning Lectionary Sunday School, Sundays, 9 am

Come to the Fireside room to discuss the scripture passage that will be addressed in the sermon on each Sunday. If you wish to know more, contact *Larry the Librarian*.

Nooners Sunday, 12:00-1:30pm, Fireside Room

All are welcome to join our discussion group on "The Sacred Depths of Nature," by Ursula Goodenough. If you are interested in the book, there's no need to purchase a copy- we have a PDF available for participants. *Questions? Ask Diana Dean*

Directory

We are currently distributing copies of the directory for your review. Please take a few moments to proofread your information and confirm that everything is correct. Once you have reviewed and made any necessary corrections return it, so others may check their information as well.

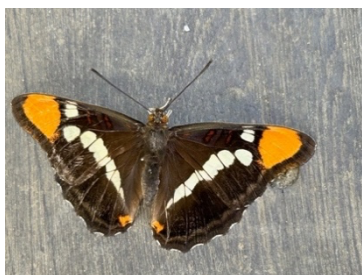
Presbytery's Unity Candle:

This week we pray for the community, ministries, and leadership of Northminster Presbyterian Church – Rev. Andy Rausch.

Book Club, October 20, 10 am, Fireside Room

This month Book Club is reading "Orbital" – a novel by *Samanth Harvey*
New faces are always welcome to join, as we enjoy talking about the book we read.

Church Hike at Big Basin, Friday, October 24, 9:30 am Join Kathy for an interpretive walk and see how the forest is recovering and changing. Allow one hour to drive from Santa Cruz. Carpooling recommended. Entry fee \$10 per car, \$8 with reservation.



(<https://www.cognitoforms.com/FSCSP1/bigbasinparking>), free with State Park pass. Bring lunch for a picnic following the hike. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN WATER!** Questions? Contact Kathy.

Join us for “The Last Things We Talk About” on Saturday, October 25, 9 am-12 pm This meaningful gathering is inspired by the beloved book of the same name and will be guided by its author, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Boatwright. Come and share in a thoughtful, heartfelt conversation you won’t want to miss. A light lunch will follow. This is a free event; books will be available for purchase. Elizabeth will preach the next morning, Sunday October 26, at 10:30 am. Please register on our webpage, with Diana Dean, or the office.



The Association of Faith Communities (AFC) is an interfaith coalition made up of nearly 40 faith communities working to alleviate suffering for those experiencing homelessness through four programs. Over fifty people receive shelter or safe parking each evening, and more than two hundred volunteers offer their time, cooking skills, a listening ear each year through our programs.

AFC Update from Sam Altis.

As many of you know, Courtney Barrett, our North County Shelter Manager, is transitioning out of the role. While we’re very sad to see her go, I’m happy to introduce Garrett Stephens to you all. Garrett has volunteered with AFC in the past and most recently worked as a chaplain with individuals experiencing severe mental illness in San Francisco.

Courtney has been training Garrett all this month, and moving forward, he’ll be your main contact for all things shelter- and meal-related. You can see his email address cc’d here, and we’ll be transferring Courtney’s cell number, (831) 200-3996, to him next week.

Also, while I have your attention, this is your friendly reminder that the shelter will be staying at St. John’s in Aptos for all of October.

Save the Date: Trinity's Fall All-Church Retreat, Nov. 1-2, 2025, at Redwood Glen Camp in Scotts Valley. Come for part of the time or all.

Your Announcement Here! Want your announcement in the weekly bulletin or newsletter? Be sure to email trinitysc@sbcglobal.net by Tuesday 10am of that week's publication. Please note: Due to limited space in the bulletin, your item may not appear there; however, it will be included in the newsletter.

Library Corner

Visit our Library!

New to Trinity and our Library? This cozy gem is through a door in the Fellowship Hall. Check it out (pun intended). Open to the public: Sundays after worship; Thursdays 10am - 12pm.

There have been many intriguing library mysteries. In books I often have found personal notes, travel logs, mysterious pictures, and even a cryptic document from someone whose family member was tragically involved in a terrorist attack. The latest mystery was found in a Jerusalem Bible. A series of postage stamps were pressed at various intervals in the pages. I have included pictures of some of the stamps. If you know anything about this mystery, email me at lawrence.vilardo@gmail.com.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Ellen Bauerle	27	Ryan Althaus
5	Marie Imai	29	George Bunch
10	Glyn Luttrell		Kim Johnston
13	Gwen May	31	Jim Atwood

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Barbara & Michael Christie

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Quilts? Sweet Pea is the place to be! October 11 & 25

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 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. every other Saturday and donate them 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 to see what can be provided. *The Association of Faith Communities (AFC) is a coalition of congregations serving Santa Cruz County.*

Donating Used Electronics

The Welcoming Network seeks computers and phones for our neighbors. Donated laptops (PCs up to 10 years old, MacBooks up to 15), iPhones (4G/5G), Androids, iPads, and tablets will be erased, refurbished, and given to those in need. Non-reusable items will be recycled at Gray Bears. If you are able to donate any of these items, contact Karen Wichelmann at (831) 588-9240.

Urban Works Updates

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.



Urban Works Volunteers!

Support this awesome organization, by being a greeter and helping to register participants at various events. Contact Katie Gentile.

Regularly Occurring Events at Trinity

See more on our church Google Calendar via our website

Friendly Reminder: If your committee or group needs to change its time/location, please remember to notify the office. Thank you!

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 Magnolia Courtyard.
- ❖ 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-6pm, 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
- ❖ Worship Christian Education (WCE) (3rd Tuesday), 11:30am, 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
- ❖ Happy Hour (every 3rd Thursday), 4 pm, Johnny’s Harborside