Weekly Newsletter
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz

November 5,2026

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Come worship with us this Sunday at 10:30 am!
November 8, 2026
The Rev. Diane Ford

You may be adding blankets to your bed at night, but come to be warmly greeted at the doors of Trinity this Sunday! This week we will meet Clarita Cortes from Court Assigned Special Advocates (CASA) during worship and coffee hour afterwards.

Sermon Teaser: What do we do when the waiting goes on longer than we expected? When the world seems far from what God intends, and hope itself becomes difficult to sustain? Jesus tells a curious parable about ten women waiting. What sustains us during the wait? How do we live toward a future we cannot yet see?

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA): On Sunday, Nov. 8, Clarita Cortes from CASA will speak during worship, and be available afterward to answer questions.



Clarita Cortes is an indigenous immigrant from Oaxaca, Mexico. She is a Mixtec which means "People from the Clouds." She immigrated with her family to the central valley when she was a teenager. Clarita attended Fresno State University where she got her degree in Construction Management. She worked with Fresno State's Outreach Program while she was a student, and that is where she fell in love working with her community. She noticed that she could be a resource and help youth from her community see that they could change their future and further their education by attending Fresno State.

Currently she has been working with CASA of Santa Cruz County for 5 years, as an Outreach and Recruitment Manager. CASA is a national nonprofit organization that recruits and trains volunteers to support children/youth from our community who just started navigating the Foster Care or Juvenile Justice systems. These volunteers share 2-4 hours a week going on outings to the library, park, or sharing a meal. For this child or youth, it creates a lifetime difference to have a CASA advocating for them. Clarita loves to recruit volunteers to show up for children and youth from our community. She believes that when we come together as a community, we create a better world for everyone.

All Saints Service
Ofrenda on Nov 1.

Photos submitted by Larry Vilardo





El Salvador Trip 2026



Es hora! It's time! Six people from Trinity are on this year's delegation to El Salvador. We leave November 15 on the 1 p.m. flight out of San Francisco, and will land in San Salvador's International Airport at 8:50 p.m. (10:50 p.m. here in California). We return home late-night, November 24.

What will we be doing there? As many of you know, we focus on relationships with the communities, their leaders, and hundreds of kids of all ages. We will visit museums and ruins, have meals with our prayer children (I finally get to meet Raul and his family!), attend the high school graduation (hence the timing of this visit), provide fluoride treatments for children up to 12 years old (200 mouths!), lead crafts, and embody Christ's love as we meet and serve alongside the Salvadorans. Please keep the whole delegation in your prayers, as well as our long-time partners and friends in El Salvador.

Since 1994 Santa Cuz al Salvador has achieved various milestones in community support and development: Healthcare Initiatives; Educational Support; Water Projects; Delegation Programs. Please visit santacruzalsalvador.org to learn more.

Santa Cruz al Salvador

This Year's Delegates: Steve Barrett (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Salinas), Jeanne Boudreau (St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Santa Cruz), Chuck Cobery, Diane Ford, Kim Johnston, Chad and Rosie Bell, and Ron Weaver (Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz).

– Submitted by Pastor Diane

¡Buen viaje!



While Pastor Diane is in El Salvador, if there is an emergency that calls for a pastor, Clerk of Session Ellen Bauerle, or Deacon, Marta Narus will contact the pastor on call. On Sunday, Nov. 15 our guest preacher is our very own Larry Vilardo, and on Nov. 22, our guest preacher will be Karla Kress: a leader of Santa Cruz al Salvador, and former pastor of Trinity.

A team is being assembled to prepare an application for the San Jose Presbytery to designate Trinity Presbyterian Church as an **"Earth Care Congregation."** We need some folks to help in this process, members and non-members are welcome. Many hands will make this effort easier. Please see or contact Ron Weaver about this opportunity.

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce that **Trinity's recent World Communion Offering raised $2,975** through your generous contributions. The funds will support PC(USA) ministries focused on peacemaking, racial and gender justice, global witness, and cooperation among churches and people of different faiths. Together, these ministries work toward reconciliation in communities around the world. Thank you!

For the month of November **Book Club** will be reading "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean. Book Club will meet on Monday November 16, in the Fireside Room at 10:00 a.m. New folks are always welcome!

Happy Hour will take place Thursday, November 19, from 4-6pm at the Back 9 in Pasatiempo. Come for fellowship, deepen friendships, and bring someone new.

To schedule a visit with Pastor Diane, please email her directly at TrinitySCPastorDiane@gmail.com, or bring your calendar on Sunday morning and she will set a time with you.

Presbytery Unity Candle

This week we pray for Gonzales Community Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Bill Lane.



8 Joanne Clever
9 Nicole Donovan
20 Jeanne Baker
Ari Palmer
Ron Weaver
22 Jill Francis
Dan Rutan
24 Erin Sams
26 Nancy Cobery
27 Jenny Yeaney



19 Charlie & Gwen May
30 Jenny Yeaney & Ti Lamb

Librarian's Corner

My good friend and Mentor, Nancy Lynn Jarvis, writes mystery books with local Santa Cruz area settings. My favorite series in the PIP series starring an amateur sleuth named Pat, recently retired from the Santa Cruz Law Library. (I also love a hero who is a librarian!) We have the first six books in the series in the Hazel Nutt Library. I encourage you to come check them out. The 7th book has just been published. I have not read it yet, but I will. Here is a summary from *Good Read Mysteries, 2026* - "A Faire to Remember " Fiction - 250 pages.

Fun at the Volunteer Firefighters Spring Faire comes to a stunning end when a vendor is electrocuted. It quickly becomes apparent his death wasn't an accident. Many vendors, volunteers, and firefighters disliked him but not enough to kill him, at least that's what everyone thought until amateur private investigator Pat Pirard discovers his dark past. Who had the opportunity, means, and motive to kill him? Did the killer act alone or was there a murder conspiracy? How was the victim set up to die with everyone watching during the well-attended faire? Answering those questions makes this the most challenging case Pat has ever had.

This will soon be added to our collection.
Larry the Librarian website trinitylibrary.org

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 off until after Labor Day.
- Morning Lectionary Discussion: 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) at 4:30 in the 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: 2nd Tuesdays, at 4:30 pm in the Fireside Room

Wednesdays at Trinity

- ❖ Association of Faith Communities (AFC) Board Mtg.: 11:00 am-1:00 pm, Fireside.
- ❖ 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 - 7:00 pm, Fireside Room.

Thursdays at Trinity

- ❖ Library Corner: 10:00 am -12:00 pm, socialize in the library.
- ❖ Trinity Happy Hour: Every Third Thursday from 4-6. Place to be determined.

Saturdays at Trinity

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