



# Weekly Newsletter

## Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz

December 24, 2025

---

### *Featured This Week*

- Come Worship with us!
  - Celebration of Life
  - Announcements
  - Presbytery Unity Candle
  - December Birthdays
  - COPA updates
  - Community Events
  - Opportunities to Serve
  - Regularly Occurring Events
- 

### *Join us this evening*



**Our Christmas Eve Family Celebration takes place today at 5:30 pm.** Participants retell the story of the birth of Christ in song and scripture. We proclaim the light and love of God's eternal heart as we spread candlelight among the congregation, and walk out into the world with the traditional carol, *Silent Night*. The service runs about 45 minutes, and is child-friendly!

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

December 28 Guest Preacher: Kim Johnston

**Sunday's Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

We welcome and thank Kim Johnston as our preacher this Sunday. Kim has served as an Elder in the Presbyterian Church for many years, and was ordained as a Deacon two years ago. She is currently the Moderator of Deacons. Family, rock climbing, and quilt making are just a few of her joys.



Dear friends, a date has been set for the memorial service for Darrell Yeane. This celebration of his life and our assurance of resurrection will be on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, in Trinity's sanctuary at 1:00 p.m. A reception will follow, in the fellowship hall.

*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)*



**Pastor Diane's Schedule in January.** Diane is on vacation and returns Saturday, January 3, just in time to celebrate Epiphany and Communion on January 4. Diane then goes to New Jersey, January 7-12 to attend the celebration of the merger of her previous congregation with First Presbyterian Church, Matawan. Laura Hamby will be preaching at Trinity on January 11. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please get in touch with our Moderator of Deacons, Kim Johnston, or our Clerk of Session, Ellen Bauerle. They will contact a pastor who is on call when Diane is away.

**Wear or bring a star to church on Janay 4.** We will celebrate Epiphany, the revealing of Christ to the magi who came bearing gifts. We will then join in the Lord's Supper, where Christ gives gifts to us.

**Book Club** is taking the month of December off. The January book will be "The Great Divide" by Cristina Henriquez. We'll meet on Monday, January 19 at 10 am in the Fireside Room.

On December 21, Spillwords.com will publish **Ed Sams's short story, "Bag of Switches"** set in Ben Lomond during Christmas time. You can read it at <https://spillwords.com/bag-of-switches/> when it goes live on December 21.



**Presbytery Unity Candle:** This week we pray for Trinity, San Jose, and Gereja Indonesian NCD; and the Rev. Dr. Vincent Arishvara.

---



8 Marta Narus  
23 Quinn Sams  
Lorraine Vilardo

24 Elizabeth Bunch  
31 Juanita Stock



29 Dan and Vickie Rutan

---



COPA stands for “Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action.”  
Building relational power to improve our communities is what we are about.

This year COPA had house meetings with more than 800 people across Monterey and Santa Cruz counties allowing us to hear from families about the challenges they face in their everyday lives.



When the Governor proposed catastrophic cuts to Medi-Cal for immigrants, COPA mobilized more than 100 local leaders to go to Sacramento and speak face-to-face with our legislators about the devastating impact this would have on families in our community. We are proud that we played a part in rescinding many of these cuts.

In Santa Cruz, COPA leaders and Clergy got out the vote, submitted letters to the editor and educated their institutions in support of Measure C which will raise ~9 million annually for affordable housing in Santa Cruz. It passed with 53% of the vote!

The work of building relational power, developing leaders, and creating the just community we want to live in will continue in the new year. COPA trains and develops the next generation of leaders to make Monterey Bay a better place for families.

When you give to COPA, you are investing in our future. Donate today through [MC Gives!](#) When you give through MC Gives! your gift will be increased by about 18% through the matching fund. If you want to know more about our work this past year, including our action in Sacramento, please visit our [website](#).

## Community Events

### New Year's Eve Interfaith Vigil for Peace

"Steadfast in Hope: Being Peace in Troubling Times." Wednesday, December 31, 7:30 PM—9:30 PM / Doors open at 7:00 PM. Holy Cross Parish Hall, 170 High Street, Santa Cruz. Prayers, Music, Labyrinth Walk, Meditation, and Conversation with Leaders from our Local Faith Communities. Information:

[bgsangha1@gmail.com](mailto:bgsangha1@gmail.com)

Free-will offering.



Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of San Jose celebrate their

### *19th Annual Epiphany Tea* *at Stone Church of Willow Glen* Sunday, January 4th, 2026 at 2 PM

1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA  
And you are invited! RSVP by December 28, 2025  
to Rosaleen Zisch, [rmgzisch@gmail.com](mailto:rmgzisch@gmail.com)



*Begin the New Year with food for body and soul.*

All are warmly invited to join Presbyterian Women for tea and cake, followed by candlelit worship in the style of the Taizé Community: chanted song in prayer, meditation on scripture and seasonal readings.

## *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 9:30a.m. to 3:45 p.m. every other Saturday **starting January 10**. Their finished creations are donated to hospitals and shelters. Contact Emily 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](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**

#### **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) 5:30pm-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, 6pm-7 pm, Fireside Room

#### **Thursdays at Trinity**

- ❖ Librarian Corner, 10 am -12 pm, socialize in the library