



Weekly Newsletter
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz

August 27, 2026

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



Trinity is celebrating our 88th birthday this Sunday! After worship, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a birthday potluck. Many thanks to our Deacons for once again organizing this joyous event.

Sermon Teaser: Are you still comparing yourself to others? If a remedy for this did not occur to you last Sunday, perhaps it will this Sunday. *"If all the parts of the body were an eye, where would be the hearing?" (1 Cor. 12:19)*

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12–27

Noticing God's Work

We have two more weeks of our theme of Wonder and Wondering during worship. **You are invited to share a moment in the newsletter or during worship when you've recognized God at work.** Let me know before this weekend if you have something to share during worship. (Keep your eyes and ears open in the next day or two for God moments).

Selfies from Neal Presa, the Executive Presbyter of our Presbytery, after he led worship and preached at Trinity on August 9.

Rev. Dr. Neal Presa with Peter Halper and Russ Hobbs.



Baby quilt made by **Nicki Kerns** for Sandy and Jerry's Great granddaughter, Delilah, presented for a blessing on August 23.



Trinity Presbyterian Family 2026 Graduates

Trinity Presbyterian Deacons have a tradition of recognizing each of our church family graduates, from Middle School, High School, and College, including Masters and Doctorate Programs, with a monetary gift and a card, sharing our pride in them, and our continued support of their future aspirations. This year's graduates include; Eva Cobery, Isaac Pettit, Monica Pacino, Nathan Phillips, Anthony Burness Jr., Carina Bunch, Lavern Lawton, Madelyn Sullivan, Charlie Kerns and Isabella Rolphe.

If your graduate isn't included in this list, please contact your deacon, and share your graduate's name, address, and level of course completion.

A Message from Your Nominating Committee. With the season of Fall around the corner, at Trinity and many churches, so comes the Stewardship campaign: how to steward the giving of our Time, Talents and Treasure. It's easy to simply consider the "treasure" element of this trio, but I would ask you to focus -- even starting now -- on the other two.

Your Nominating Committee is charged with ensuring there are an adequate number of both Elders and Deacons in service for the congregation. These, along with Pastor Diane, are your church officers.

This is not a tap on the shoulder and a, "Hey, it's your turn" process. Rather, the somewhat intangible process known as "a calling" comes into play. Who senses an inward movement to a special act of service? Who senses someone needs to be asked about their sense of calling? Who has a feeling of longing, quite undefinable? These may be ways the Spirit is moving in the hearts and minds of our congregation. If any of these...or other "tinglings" are stirring with you, please speak with any member of the Nominating Committee: Barb Christie, Chuck Cobery, Lee Duffus, Ron Weaver. We'd enjoy the conversation.



Scam Warning! Hello Friends. Since many of you are on Medicare and use Sutter Health, I share this warning. I got a call that appeared on my phone as from my doctor. I answered and the person said he was calling from the doctor's office and on behalf of Sutter health. He wanted to send me a "panic button" type pendant and a blood pressure cuff that would communicate directly with the doctor. Said Medicare would pay for it. The scary part was that he already had my Medicare ID number. I ended the call. The doctor's privacy and security people suggested I spread the word and warn my friends. Appropriate fraud reports have been filed. Stay safe, it's a weird world. Kathy W.

On Becoming an Earth Care Congregation

Trinity's Mission Committee is pleased to announce Veronica Ota, the Presbytery of San Jose's Peacemaking and Justice Advocate, will be the guest speaker at a luncheon on **Wednesday, September 9th**. Veronica will be discussing the tools and resources needed for Trinity to become an Earth Care Congregation. All members of the church and local neighborhood are invited to attend. **The luncheon will be held at El Jardin Mexican restaurant at the intersection of 7th Ave and Capitola Rd between 12:20 and 2:00 PM.** The approximate cost is estimated to be between \$25.00 and \$35.00.

Veronica Ota serves as the Presbytery of San Jose's Peacemaking and Justice Advocate, walking alongside congregations as a resource, connector, and catalyst in equipping the churches to engage faithfully in Jesus' commandment to love God and love neighbor. Rooted in the witness of the Gospel, this particular ministry addresses the intersectional issues of our time, from economic and racial justice to immigration, housing, and care for creation.

Veronica is charged with sharing timely resources, lifting up opportunities for advocacy, and creating meaningful pathways for learning, service, and prayerful action. This ministry strengthens our shared witness to Christ's peace and God's justice in the communities we are called to serve.

Please join us in what promises to be an enlightening discussion on how we can become better stewards of our church, community, and planet.

For more information contact Chuck Cobery or Ron Weaver.



Trinity will be celebrating its 88th birthday with a potluck on Sunday, August 30, immediately following church services. Birthday cake will be provided!

Book Club meets the third Monday of each month. On September 21, we will discuss "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood.

Trinity's Choir Season begins Sunday, September 13! Want to sing with us? See Nicki Kerns.

PWP San Jose Presents:
An Afternoon with Pastor Deb Troester
GA 227 Discussion & Recap
Stone Church of Willow Glen | August 29

Join us Saturday, August 29, from 2–4 p.m. at Stone Church of Willow Glen for a time of discussion, reflection, and conversation about the 227th General Assembly (GA 227) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Teaching Elder Commissioner Deb Troester will share her experience and reflections from GA 227, offering an opportunity for members and all who are interested to learn more about the Assembly's work, decisions, and ongoing impact on the church. All are welcome! To RSVP email Rosaleen Zisch:

rmgzisch@gmail.com

PWP San José
Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of San José
invites you to..
An afternoon with Pastor Deb Troester

Aug. 29
2 to 4PM
Stone Church of Willow Glen
1937 Lincoln Ave, SJ

Teaching Elder Commissioner to General Assembly
August 29, 2-4pm at Stone Church
1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose
RSVP to rmgzisch@gmail.com

The deadline is approaching to register to attend the **NEAR Gathering in Gilroy on September 26**. NEAR stands for “Nurture Educate Advocate Resource,” and is a gathering twice a year for all people in our presbytery’s churches.

Why should we know more about Christian Nationalism? In my sermons, you’ve heard me mention the distorted and twisted ideas behind Christian Nationalism. The term does *not* mean a person is simply being a Christian who loves America. Christian Nationalism is a particular way of understanding the relationship between Christianity, American identity, and government—one that holds that the United States has a distinct Christian identity and that public life and government should reflect it. Its history is also intertwined with America’s struggles over race, white supremacy, immigration, and who is considered to belong in our country.

Understanding these connections—and how Christian nationalism differs from both ordinary Christian faith and patriotism—can help us make sense of some of the conflicts we are experiencing in our country and in our churches. The distortions of the Gospel need to be pointed out, not allowed to stand.

Registration is now open! Deadline to register is September 12.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdByKork93g3kRmCfIC3GDifSSstmahOekVBqC0teH2teA3g/viewform>

Presbytery Unity Candle:

Presbytery Unity Candle: We pray for First Presbyterian Church, Mountain View, and Pastor Kim Dorr-Tilley.



August 22 Kathleen Eschen-Pipes
 Paul Seever

August 26 Debbie Bates

August 30 Trinity Church!



August 2 Ron & Linda Weaver
 22 Lee & Emily Duffus
 23 George & Elizabeth Bunch

Librarian's Corner

Our Library is open Thursdays 10 – noon.

Larry the Librarian will post updates to the Library Website at <https://www.trinitylibrary.org/>

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.

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.