



*Weekly Newsletter*  
*Trinity Presbyterian Church*  
*Santa Cruz*

May 14, 2026

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*Featured This Week*

- Come Worship with us!
- A message from Sam at the AFC
- Presbytery Unity Candle
- Librarian's Corner
- Presbytery News
- Community Events
- May Birthdays
- Opportunities to Serve
- Regularly Occurring Events

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



**Sermon Teaser:** In Acts 1:6–11, the risen Jesus promises the disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit and become his witnesses in the world. As he is taken from their sight, the disciples are reminded that Christ's story is not over. The presence of Christ now fills the Spirit-led communities we call the Church, until all things are made new.

**Scripture:** Acts 1:6-11



## Association of Faith Communities

We are grateful for Trinity's long-standing partnership with the AFC. Your generosity of space, time, meals, and money makes a tremendous impact in the lives of our unhoused neighbors. Here are some of the ways AFC, with your support, made our world a little more compassionate and just.

In 2025...

- We helped 50 people find permanent housing.
- Volunteers provided over 7,500 hot meals for our shelter members.
- 44% of people leaving our shelter found permanent housing.
- Since 2014, we've provided over 315,000 bed nights of shelter or safe parking (secure parking and supportive services for those sleeping in their vehicles).

Because of our *collaborative model*, we're able to provide all of this for a fraction of the cost of most shelters. Did you know that the average cost to provide shelter for 100 people in a year is \$4 million? Last year, we sheltered 89 people for a little over \$400,000. On average, it costs \$5 million to permanently house 50 people out of emergency shelters. Last year, our programs found permanent housing for 50 people, all while on a budget under \$1 million.

While we're proud of all this work, we think the most powerful impact of AFC is the relational connections that happen around the dinner table every night at our shelters. We know that every person thrives when they feel like they belong. In our 14 years of service, we've provided countless opportunities for both the housed and unhoused to expand their empathy and capacity for love by sharing a meal together. We thank you for participating in this mission to uplift the well-being and safety of our Santa Cruz Community!

Sam Altis  
Executive Director



**Book Club:** Book Club will meet on Monday, May 18, in the Fireside Room at 10 o'clock. The book to be discussed is "Operation Mincemeat" by Ben Macintyre.

**Trinity Happy Hour** will take place Thursday, May 21 at the Back Nine Patio from 4-6pm. All are welcome for fun and fellowship.

**Join us at the Pride Parade and Festival, Sunday, June 7, 2026.** Trinity Presbyterian will be joining Aptos Methodist Church once again to represent our churches at the Pride Festival. Please consider signing up for a 2-hour shift helping at our booth.

**Save the Date: Family Fun Fest!** Saturday, June 27.

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***Presbytery Unity Candle:*** This week we pray for Gilroy Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Trevor Van Laar.

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## ***Librarian's Corner***

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

Here is an update on Library hours. I have finished my orientation with Saint Stephen's Lutheran Church. As of now my office hours there will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This means that **I will be able to continue Trinity library hours on Thursday Mornings 10:00 to Noon.** However, I will be working on Sundays so I will not be able to keep the library open during coffee hour. If you need a book, ask someone to let you in after church. There is a self-checkout sheet in the library on the hospitality table. I will be back at Trinity on the last Sunday in August, the 30th.

Warm Regards, Larry the Librarian

P.S. I understand that Saint Stephen's also has a volunteer librarian. I am looking forward to meeting her!



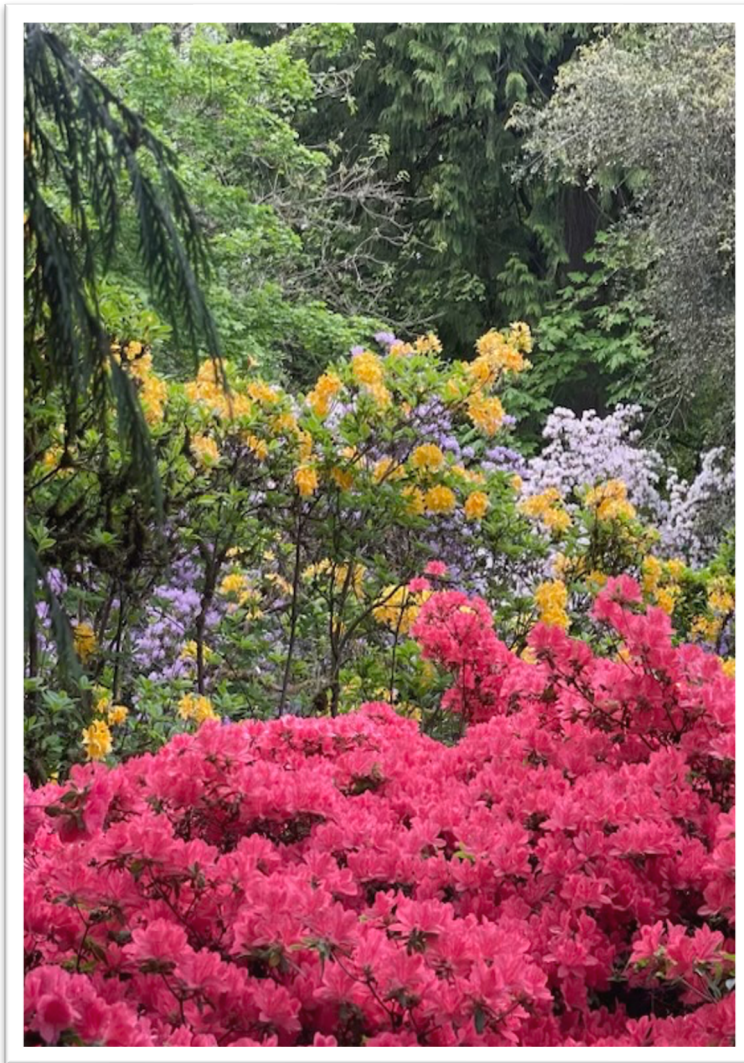
## Anniversaries

### May

6 Jeanne Bland  
7 Stacy Teresi  
8 Deb O'Connell  
17 Michelle Sheer  
21 Kathy Hatfield  
22 Larry Vilardo  
Mayre Vincent

### May

1 David & Jeanne Baker  
2 Tim & Mayre Vincent  
7 Chad & Amanda Bell  
17 Larry & Lorraine Vilardo  
25 Jake & Kathleen Eschen-Pipes



Submitted by Pastor Diane

### The Healing

This planet will not be healed  
by powerful politicians  
in big cities  
who spend trillions  
on a global strategy  
that never quite begins.  
They also burn much fuel.

Earth will be healed  
by villagers who sing,  
by backyard gardeners  
like you,  
who walk more slowly  
right here,  
who feel the green  
through bare soles,  
speaking fewer words,  
cradling each other's anger  
like mothers, awakening  
the heirloom seeds  
of the heart.

by Alfred K. LaMotte  
Shared by Diana Butler Bass on Substack.

## *Presbytery News*

**Legal Aid Initiative.** Together with all the churches in our presbytery, we have raised over \$30,000, and the presbytery is adding \$15,000 of matching funds. On Wednesday, May 27, the San Jose Presbytery will present ceremonial checks to Amigos de Guadalupe and the Community Action Board of Santa County. All are invited to **attend at Westhope Presbyterian Church in Saratoga**, between 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. Contact Westhope Church for more information: 408-255-0955 or [info@westhope.org](mailto:info@westhope.org).

### **Mission and Outreach Working Group Roundtable Gathering Saturday, June 13 at 11:30 a.m.**



Save the date for a roundtable gathering hosted by the Mission and Outreach Working Group (MAOWG). Mission committee chairpersons and members from across our presbytery are invited to come together for conversation, connection, and encouragement.

Join us for a potluck luncheon and discussion time to share the joys and challenges of mission work within our congregations. It will be an opportunity to learn from one another's experiences and strengthen our shared ministry. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Attendees are welcome (but not required) to bring a salad, chips, or dessert to share.

MAOWG also hopes to compile a current list of mission chairpersons and their contact information from each congregation. This will help us communicate about upcoming events, available grant money, and future mission trips.

*Please RSVP to Pam Siu (Chair of the Mission and Outreach Working Group) by June 1 with the name(s) of those attending from your church. You can also contact Pam for more information or to provide mission chairperson's contact information here: [thesiufamily@yahoo.com](mailto:thesiufamily@yahoo.com).*

## Community Events

You are invited to the annual Pride Interfaith Service, Sunday June 7 at 9:30am in downtown Santa Cruz, in the Plaza Lane Alcove. Affirming congregations from across the county come together in prayer and song to celebrate our common faith. More information at: [SantaCruzPride.org](http://SantaCruzPride.org).



**Interfaith Pride Service**  
**Sunday, June 7, 9:30am**  
**Plaza Lane Alcove next to**  
**Hidden Peak Tea House**  
**1541 Pacific Ave**

*Join faith leaders from across Santa Cruz County for prayer and music to celebrate.*



[SantaCruzPride.org](http://SantaCruzPride.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](mailto: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](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 & 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): 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **Saturdays at Trinity**

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