



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

May 21, 2026

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*Featured This Week*

- Come Worship with us!
- Meet Rev. Grace Kaori
- 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*



**Wear red or other colors of fire this Sunday as we celebrate Pentecost, and hear the story of the Spirit speaking in many languages.**

**Scripture:** Romans 8:14-17. The Spirit Speaks in Every Language.

**Sermon teaser:** Perhaps a question to us is, "What language of the Spirit has our congregation actually been given to speak?"

## Meet the new Stated Clerk of the San Jose Presbytery!



**Rev. Dr. Grace Kaori Suzuki**, D.Min, began serving as the Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of San Jose in mid-April. She is excited to visit all the congregations and getting to know the people who make up the presbytery`. Grace (or Grace Kaori) was born in Japan and grew up in both Japan and the U.S. and is grateful for her experience of being bilingual and bicultural, which has deeply shaped her ministry.

She grew up in the church with her parents, both being ordained Christian pastors in Japan (recently retired). She heard the call to the ministry at a young age, and became Presbyterian on the path to ordination. She served as the pastor/head of staff at Christ United Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, CA, the oldest Japanese/Japanese American Christian church in Northern America, from 2004 to earlier this year.

Although her professional ministry began in the local church, Grace has always been interested in serving the larger church, and has served in various capacities as a member of the Presbytery of San Francisco. In 2024-2025, she had the opportunity to serve (part-time) as the *Bridge Transitional Executive for the Committee on Ministry*, helping support the churches and pastors of the Presbytery of San Francisco. This confirmed her love for middle governing body ministry.

Grace received her Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from San Francisco Theological Seminary (University of Redlands, Graduate School of Theology). Her doctoral emphasis was on executive leadership. She is an adjunct faculty for SFTS and McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

She currently lives in San Francisco with her husband, and has the opportunity to navigate being the mom to two young-adult children.

**Rev. Kaori will be joining us on for Service on Sunday, May 31 to provide an overview of her role as Presbytery Stated Clerk**



The office will be closed Monday, May 25 in honor of Memorial Day



Trinity Happy Hour will take place this afternoon at the Back Nine Patio from 4-6pm. All are welcome for fun and fellowship.

An Eagle Court of Honor was held last Saturday, where four Eagle Awards were given to members of our own Troop 618! The Eagle is Scouting's highest award to be earned. Trinity Presbyterian Church has been the Troop's chartered organization since 1948. **Members of Troop 618 will be hosting coffee hour after service on May 31** and will share their Scouting experience. Join us!

**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. A sign-up clipboard will be available at Sunday Service or to sign up online you can click here.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/179IIN5HDOg8qPjtRayyb0IUZjmY3TwVNgy7pA9piJj4/edit?usp=sharing>



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

*Presbytery Unity Candle:* This week we pray for the Presbyterian Church of San Martin.

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## *Librarian's Corner*

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

I have started my duties at the Lutheran Church. It is a heavy schedule. So, this will be my last weekly Librarian's Corner until I return in September. I will continue to keep the library open on Thursdays between 10 and Noon. I will compose some occasional Librarian's corner's articles if needed. Updates will be posted on the Library Website (this is separate from but linked to the church website) and is always available at <https://www.trinitylibrary.org/>  
Warm Regards, Larry the Librarian

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### **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

# *Presbytery News*

## **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 Presbytery 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