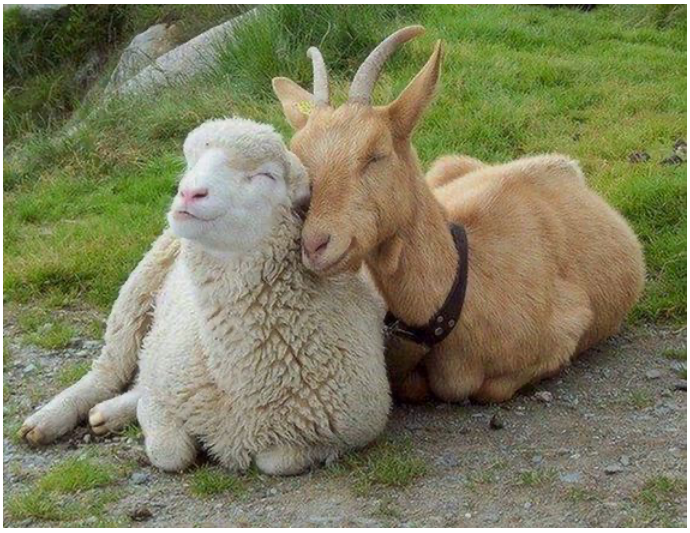
Weekly Newsletter
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz

November 19,2026

Featured This Week

- Come Worship with Us!
- Delegation to El Salvador
- Advent begins November 29
- Announcements
- Community Announcements
- Presbytery Unity Candle
- Librarian's Corner
- Birthdays
- Opportunities to Serve
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Come worship with us this Sunday at 10:30 am!
November 22, 2026
Guest Pastor: Rev. Karla Kress



How to Tell the Difference Between Sheep and Goats: It Mattered a Great Deal to Edwards – Pelton on Preaching

Our guest pastor this Sunday is Rev. Karla Kress. Karla is a leader of Santa Cruz al Salvador, former chaplain at Santa Cruz County Jail, and former pastor of Trinity.

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 Cruz al Salvador has achieved various milestones in community support and development, healthcare initiatives, education, water projects, and delegation programs. Please visit santacruzalsalvador.org to learn more.

Please pray for our 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!



Advent begins Sunday, November 29.
Advent Theme: The People Who Welcomed Christmas

Christmas is a familiar story. We know the characters, the setting, and how it all unfolds. This Advent, we'll revisit the story through the experiences of four sets of people who welcomed the coming of Jesus: Zechariah and Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, and the shepherds.

Their stories remind us that God often comes into our lives in unexpected ways, in the midst of waiting, uncertainty, and ordinary circumstances. As we prepare for Christmas, may we find something of ourselves in their stories and be inspired to trust and welcome God's presence into our world and into our lives.

Advent Evening Potlucks and Conversations
Mark your calendars for Thursday Evenings, **December 3, 10, and 17**
in Trinity's Fireside Room.
This annual time of fellowship, food, and conversation is a beloved tradition. If you have not attended, we hope you will this year.

6 p.m. Fellowship, wine and appetizers.
6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner begins
7:15 p.m. Conversations around this year's Advent theme of *The People Who Welcomed Christmas.* We end at around 8:15 p.m.

On preceding Sunday mornings, **you can RSVP,** choose what to bring for the potluck, and whether or not you can assist in setting up the room. Come to one or more of these evenings and invite someone new!



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

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.

Book Club will be taking a break for the month of December. Starting in January we will be changing the time that we meet from 10 a.m. to 9 – 11 a.m. Parking at 10 o'clock has become very difficult. We will still meet on the 3rd Monday of each month.



Let's once again decorate our sanctuary with **poinsettias** for the Advent and Christmas season! Honor and remember loved-ones, or simply send a holiday greeting to our church family. Complete a form on Sunday, attach a check or cash for $15 for each plant, and place in the plate. Alternatively, you may email your dedication to the office. Please respond by Sunday, November 29.

Please join us on **Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 AM for our annual Christmas Cantata**. Our choir will be joined by guest singers and a brass quintet to put on the cantata *Sing Christmas!* by Joel Raney and Mary McDonald. There is even an opportunity for the congregation to sing along with us on some familiar and beloved carols. Bring your friends, bring your family, and prepare to be inspired.





For people who are struggling with the holidays: Our “Longest Night Service” will take place **December 21, at 7 p.m.** Safe space, breath work, gentle chair yoga, readings, candles, and prayers. Refreshments afterwards.



Trinity Christmas Eve Service 5:30 pm

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 We pray for St. Phillips Presbyterian Church, Salinas.



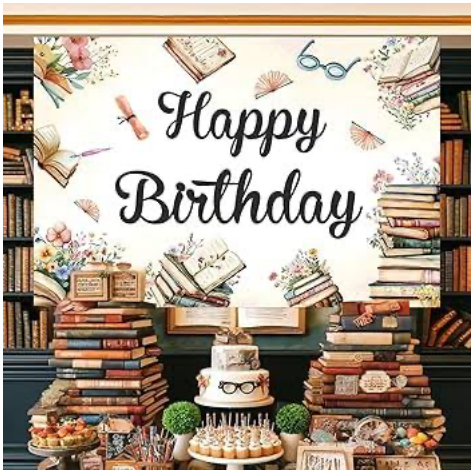
8 Joanne Clever
9 Nicole Donovan
20 Jeanne Baker
Ari Palmer
Ron Weaver
22 Jill Francis
Dan Rutan
24 Erin Sams
26 Nancy Cobery
27 Jenny Yeaney

Anniversaries

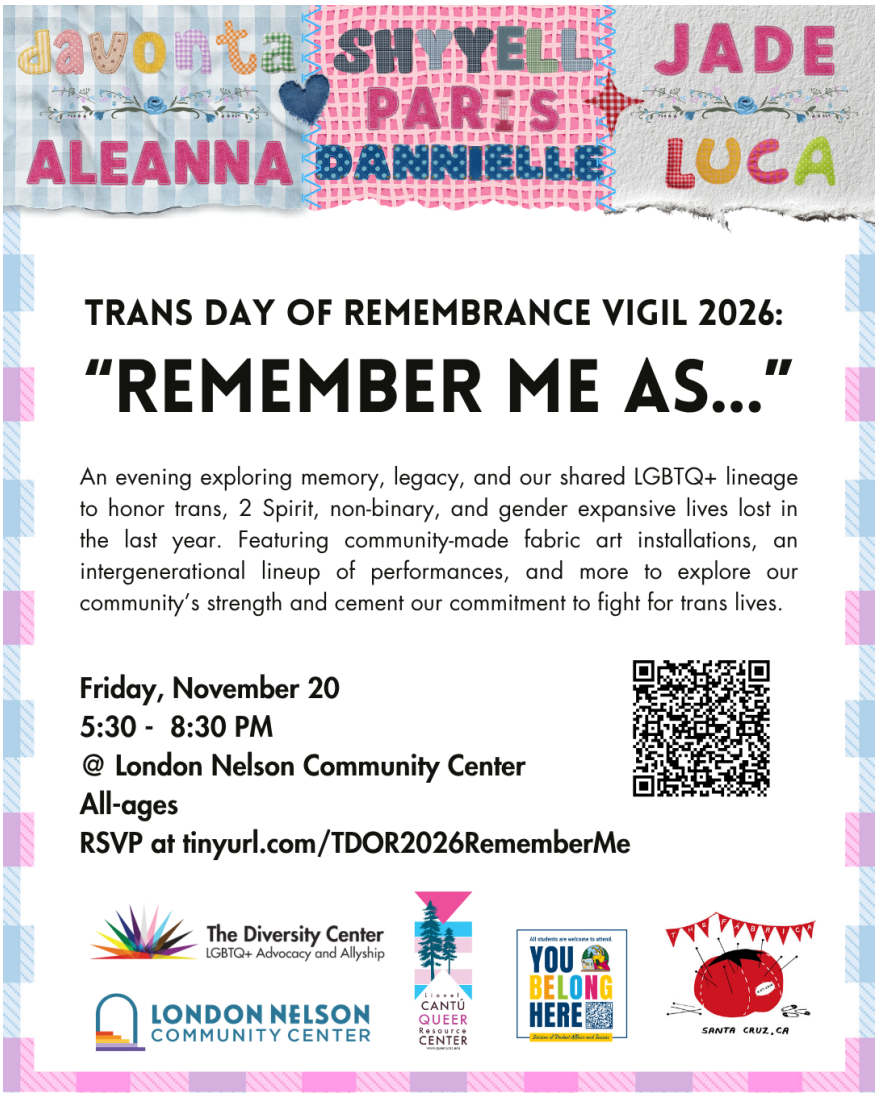
19 Charlie & Gwen May
30 Jenny Yeaney & Ti Lamb

Librarian's Corner

The Trinity Library was founded on November 19, 1939. This was at the height of the depression. Libraries were used heavily during that time for both economic (they were free) and social reasons (the US unemployment and worldwide instability leading to the Second World War). I have been unable to locate any books from that era in our current collection, but I will keep trying. For now, we will mark the date, which falls on our regular Library League Thursday, with a celebration that will include Hazelnut baked goods in honor of the namesake of the library Hazel Nutt! Regards, Larry the Librarian



Community Events



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Housing for Health
PARTNERSHIP

Annual Homeless Memorial

- **Date:** Thursday, December 17, 2026
- **North County:** 10–11:30 a.m.
- **South County:** 1:30–3 p.m.
- **Locations:** Currently being finalized. We'll share the locations and additional event details soon.

For more information: Please visit our Homeless Memorial website. For nearly three decades, our community has gathered in conjunction with National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day to recognize and remember those who have passed away during the year. The event is meant to honor people who died while experiencing homelessness, those who experienced homelessness at some point in their lives, and individuals who worked in our community to support people experiencing homelessness.

Farley's Christmas Wonderland: Open Nov. 27, 2026 through January 1, 2027. Closed if rain. 108 Seaview Ave, Santa Cruz. **We are the first and only Christmas Museum with Christmas antiquities dating back to 1755.** Our exhibit is very traditional with Christmas trees, garlands, sleighs, miniature villages, and a log cabin that Santa uses for his rest stops. On certain nights we display a fairy grotto. The event is free, but donations are welcome for electric bill, storage, and maintenance.
https://www.facebook.com/farleys.christmas/

Plan Ahead: Santa Cruz City Ballet presents the Nutcracker
Saturday and Sunday, Dec 19 & 20.
Look for performances from our own Rosie Bell
Tickets can be purchased here : https://nutcrackersantacruz.com/tickets/



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.