



Weekly Newsletter

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz

November 6, 2025

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

The Rev. Diane Ford

After a weekend of worshipping in two locations (in the sanctuary as well as on our retreat at Redwood Glen Camp, we are united this Sunday and begin our season of "Stewardship." As many will say, "every Sunday is Stewardship Sunday," in the next few weeks we will hear and discern our individual and corporate joys and opportunities when it comes to sharing the life and gifts God has provided.

Sermon Teaser: God is always moving -- within us and among us. When we slow down and pay attention, we begin to sense where love is growing, where courage is rising, where new life is breaking through. In these stirrings, the Spirit whispers, "come and follow." This is the journey of discernment.

Scripture:
Acts 15:6–11, 13–19, 23, 28–29
Galatians 5:22-25

Trinity News

Dear Trinity Family,

Our hearts are tender as we learned that our beloved Darrell Yeane passed away on Saturday, November 1.

As many of you know, Darrell was on his long-awaited cruise in Europe with a wondrously large group of family. He became ill and was hospitalized in Amsterdam. His children Jenny, Tim, and Linda remained with him, and he passed peacefully.

Darrell's presence among us was a true gift—steady, kind, and dedicated to issues of justice and peace. We give thanks for a life that reflected God's love so fully.

We will share information about services once plans are finalized. Please continue to pray for his family, and be assured that Darell is now in the full presence of the One we have worshiped alongside him all these years

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." — John 11:25

In Christ with All the Saints,
Diane

Strength for the Journey: Spiritual Practices for Strength and Discernment. The all-church retreat at Redwood Glen Camp and Conference Center was a good time of fun, fellowship, food, and an exploration of spiritual practices.

Spiritual practices include prayer, worship, meditation, fasting, Bible study, and other forms such as walking, praying with movement and postures, art, journaling, photography, and using our imagination with Scripture.

The point of all practices is to be more attentive. To notice more about what is stirring inside us and around us. This leads to discerning the nudges God gives us.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the retreat with your presence! Please enjoy the following photos taken by Chuck Cobery, a handout Pastor Diane provided to recap the retreat content, and a poem by Elizabeth Bunch, based on a body prayer we learned.



All-Church Retreat, Nov. 1-2, 2025

2025 All-Parish Retreat Handout

How Each Practice Helps Us *Notice* (the Heart of Discernment)

1. The Examen — noticing God's movement in our day.

We learned to review ordinary moments and sense where we felt life, peace, resistance, or distance — where God seemed near or hidden. This is the practice of attentive noticing: looking back to see God's footprints.

2. Embodied Prayer (The Lord's Prayer in movement) — noticing God in our bodies.

We prayed not only with words but with breath and gesture. We became aware that discernment is not only a head or heart process but also physical — the body registers peace, tension, openness, and resistance.

3. Personal Practice Choices (centering prayer, photography, walking, journaling) — noticing how God meets us uniquely.

Each person chose a form of attentiveness that suits them.

- Centering prayer helps us notice what pulls our attention away and how grace gently returns us.
- Photography helps us notice beauty and meaning in the ordinary.
- Meditative walking helps us notice pace, rhythm, and presence in the natural world.
- Journaling helps us notice patterns, longings, and the quiet voice beneath our thoughts.

4. Bibliodrama — noticing God through story and imagination.

Even when it felt playful or awkward, we entered Scripture with our whole selves. We noticed what characters stirred or puzzled us — and that's discernment too: paying attention to our responses to Scripture.

5. Group Reflection on the World — noticing the Spirit's call in community.

When we asked, "What is God calling us to now — as individuals and as a congregation?" we moved from inner noticing to communal discernment. This is where listening becomes shared wisdom: we attend together to the Spirit's movement in the world's pain and hope.

The spiritual practices we explored train us to notice how God moves in our hearts, our bodies, our imagination, our community, and our world. This awareness deepens as we mature in faith, enabling us to discern our next steps — to adjust our priorities, make a change in course or routine, or take a sacred pause rather than reacting out of habit or fear.

Scripture for Reflection:

1. Galatians 5:25 (NRSV): "If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit."
2. Psalm 143:10 (NRSV): "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on level ground."
3. John 15:4–5 (NRSV): "Abide in me as I abide in you... apart from me you can do nothing."



The Mission Committee is pleased to report that the special offering on World Communion Sunday has resulted in gifts of over \$2300. Thank you to those who contributed to the Peace and Global Witness programs. If you would like to add to this fund, it's not too late; just mark your check or the offering envelope for Peace and Global Witness. Trinity's Mission Committee will award 25 per cent of the total contributions to a local organization whose mission is aligned with the purpose of the offering. If you wish to nominate a local organization, please contact Chuck Cobery, the committee chair.

Third Monday Book Club, November 17. Hi Bookies! We will be reading “The Frozen River” by Ariel Lawson in November. We will take December off, but the book for January will be “The Great Divide” by Cristina Henriquez.

December 4, 11, and 18: Thursday Advent Dinner and Taizé at 5:30 pm.

December 7: Congregational Caroling after the 10:30 service.

December 14: Cantata Sunday at 10:30 am.

December 21: Longest Night Service of Hope 5:30 pm. Not everyone feels merry in December. The Longest Night Service offers a gentle, peaceful time to pause—especially for those carrying sadness, loss, or weariness during the holidays. Through candlelight, quiet music, and prayer, we’ll honor the darkness and remember that light still finds us. Come as you are; all are welcome.

December 24: Our Christmas Eve Service will take place at 5:30 pm.



This Weeks Presbytery’s Unity Candle: We pray for Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church, San Jose, and the Rev. Deborah Troester.

Your Announcement Here!

Want your announcement in the weekly bulletin or newsletter?
Be sure to email trinitysc@sbcglobal.net by Tuesday 10am of that week’s publication.

Please note: Due to limited space in the bulletin, your item may not appear there; however, it will be included in the newsletter

Library Corner

Our Parish Library open to the public Sundays after worship and Thursdays 10 – noon

Our parish library carries more than just books. We have an excellent collection of Nativity scenes (soon to be on display in Advent), archival photos, games and puzzles. Our jigsaw puzzle collection has just received a loan of some wooden puzzles from Sandy Thorman. She has given permission for congregants and library patrons to check them out. When you do so, just sign for them on our check out clipboard as you would any other item from the Hazel Nutt library. Those of you who worked on the wooden puzzle at our retreat know how wonderful these puzzles can be.



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| 8 | Daryl Altiere
Joanne Clever | 22 | Jill Francis
Dan Rutan |
| 20 | Jeanne Baker
Ari Palmer
Ron Weaver | 24 | Erin Sams |
| | | 26 | Nancy Cobery |
| | | 27 | Jenny Ye |



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|-----------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 19 | Charlie & Gwen May | 30 | Dan and Vickie Rutan |
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Opportunities to Serve

Quilts? Sweet Pea is the place to be! November 8 & 22. Interested in learning to quilt or looking to get back into it? Grab a sewing machine and join Sweet Peas! They meet in the Youth Room (enter door on Melrose Ave) from 9:30a.m. to 3:45 p.m. every other Saturday and donate to hospitals and shelters.

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.

Donating Used Electronics. The Welcoming Network seeks computers and phones for our neighbors. Donated laptops (PCs up to 10 years old, MacBooks up to 15), iPhones (4G/5G), Androids, iPads, and tablets will be erased, refurbished, and given to those in need. Non-reusable items will be recycled at Grey Bears. If you are able to donate any of these items, contact Karen Wichelmann at (831) 588-9240.

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. See Diane if you are interested in volunteering.
