

May 2011

Steeple Talk

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Santa Cruz



Easter Living

A favorite poet of mine, Joyce Rupp, writes of Spring this way:

*God of little buds just now wearing green sleeves,
God of lilac limbs all full with signs of flowering,
God of fields plowed and black with turned-over earth,
God of openness, of life and of resurrection,
Come into this Easter season and bless me.*

Open, one by one, those places in my life where I refuse to be overcome by surprise.

Open, one by one, those parts of my heart where I fight the entrance of real growth.

Open, one by one, those aspects of my spirit where my security struggles with the truth.

*Keep me open to the different and the strange;
Help me to accept the unusual and also the ordinary;*

*God of the Resurrection, God of the living,
Untomb and uncover all that needs to live in me.
Take me to people, events, and situations
And stretch me into much greater openness.*

*Open me. Open me. Open me.
For it is only then that I will know how it is to be in the moment of rising from the dead.*

As we move into spring and see the signs of new life around us, let us be reminded of the power of the resurrection in our lives. And celebrate the new life that happens within us and among us.

In Faith,
Evie

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	1
Committee Reports	2
Things That Make Us Happy	3
Church News	4
Bible Puzzle Answers	5
Calendar	6
The Non-Prophet Corner	7
Sunday Saints	8

Meetings:

Deacons, May 1, following worship

Administration Committee,
May 11, 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Fellowship Committee, May 11,
6:30 pm, Fireside Room

Session, May 12, 5:30 pm,
Fireside Room

Outreach, May 15, following worship

Spiritual Enrichment Committee, May 24,
5:30 pm, Fireside Room

Mission Committee, TBA

Dates to Remember:

Bridges to Other Communities, May 8,
12 noon–1:00 pm, Fireside Room

Rummage Sale, May 14,
9:00 am–2:00 pm

Sweet Pea, May 14,
9:00 am–4:00 pm, Youth Room

Book Club, May 23, 7:00 pm, at Joanne
Clever's home

Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon,
May 24, 12:00 pm–1:30 pm,
Fellowship Hall

Spring Tea, June 18



Trinity Committee News

Session

The April 14 Session Meeting took place in the Fireside Room at 5:30. Moderator, Evie Macway, opened the meeting with prayer. She then shared an article from Presbyterian Outlook with the Session for their reflection.

Evie also reminded the Session that considerable planning will need to be done for the upcoming June Presbytery meeting, which will be held at Trinity. She also said that Trinity has made a few changes to our phone system. Now if callers find the 423-8995 busy they can call our second line 423-8996. Callers will no longer get a fax tone on this number.

Trinity can be proud of several things:

- The Lenten Series was very successful as are the ongoing Senior Luncheons.
- Several people attended Dave Grishaw-Jones's meditation talk on April 3rd.
- The "Bridges to Other Communities" series is also well-attended.
- Plans are in the works for new sinks in the kitchen and an update to the bathroom in the Fellowship Hall.

The Session received various committee reports. But the most exciting news came from the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). On May 1, 2011, a congregational meeting will be held after worship for the purpose of placing in nomination the Call and its Terms for Evie Macway to be our installed pastor. The congregation will vote on the nomination at that time. A record of the meeting and its request to call Evie to Trinity will then be sent to David McCreath, in time for the COM meeting on May 11. The COM will then process the Call for voting at the June 4 Presbytery meeting, which will be held at Trinity.



Deacons

Deacons discussed possible things to do with the current surplus of funds in the Deacons' Treasury. It was decided to donate \$1,000 earmarked for Japan Tsunami Relief.

Deacons will be in charge of the coffee hour on Easter. Hot cross buns will be provided.

The next Deacons' meeting will be on Sunday, May 1st, immediately following worship.

Fellowship

Fellowship Committee welcomes Peggy Minier as our liaison with the Session. The committee helped provide drinks for the Al Salvador program on April 7. We also provided the lunch on April 17 for the Youth program. Coming up are the snacks and lunches for the Presbytery Meeting on June 4 and the fundraiser Tea Party on June 18. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 6:30 in the Fireside Room.

Good News from the PNC

Since our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) was elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January, some good progress has been made toward calling Evie as our installed Pastor. On April 11th, the Session approved the date of Sunday, May 1st to hold a Special Congregational Meeting for the purpose of considering the motion by the PNC to extend a call to Evie Macway to be the next installed Pastor for Trinity. This event will be documented and forwarded to Presbytery via its Committee on Ministry and then processed for a vote by The Presbytery during its meeting at Trinity on June 4th.

Year to Date Finance Report

January through March 2011

Total Income \$55,982.74

Total Expense 54,681.92

Net Income 1,300.82



Things That Make Us Happy . . .

- To hear that Kathryn Poethig has been named to the newly created Peace Discernment Steering Committee of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The press release on this steering committee states that, “the group was jointly selected to help guide the church wide exploration of next steps in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s peacemaking witness that was approved by last year’s 219th General Assembly”. Congratulations Kathryn.
- To see the wonderful talents shared by our youth at the Youth Talent Luncheon last month. Thanks also to all who participated. Over \$350.00 was donated to help with the cost of the youth summer mission trip to Louisville, KY.
- To enjoy the Lenten Dinner and Study times this Lenten season. The Lenten gatherings are a special time of fellowship and study in our life together each year.
- To hear from our talented choir this Lenten and Easter season. The music on Easter Sunday was amazing!



Rummage Sale—Saturday, May 14

Trinity’s Annual Rummage sale will be held on May 14 from 9:00 am—2:00 pm. You may start bringing your donations to the church now. We will store them on the stage in the Fellowship Hall.

We need lots of help to make this church fundraiser a success. Set up will be all day Thursday and Friday. Saturday is the day that the most help is needed. Come bright and early in the morning, ready to work.

A reminder of items needed:

All donations should be in good, clean, working condition.

- Electrical items
- Kitchenware
- Linens, blankets, sleeping bags
- Tools and garden equipment

We are not accepting computer or related equipment and shoes. Clothing is not a high priority item as it does not sell as well as other things. If you need help with large donations such as furniture, please call the church office to make arrangements. Thanks!

Santa Cruz al Salvador November Delegation to El Salvador

Over Thanksgiving week, November 18-26, Santa Cruz al Salvador delegation will be returning to Guillermo Ungo. Those interested should tell George or David to hold a place as the limit is 24 people with many already committed to return. A \$100 deposit is due by August 1st for the in-country cost. We will likely be booking a group airfare rate, but since that is now \$865.00 we are hoping for a decrease in cost. Some are getting frequent flier tickets or booking their own air tickets.

Update On Funds Collected For Japan

\$1,280.00 was collected at Trinity to be sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for relief efforts in Japan.

Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon

The Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon will be on May 24 from 12 noon—1:30 pm. Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.



Graduates

Are you or some one in your family graduating this year? We would like to celebrate friends and family of Trinity Presbyterian Church who will be graduating this spring. If you or some one in your family is graduating from middle school, high school, college or graduate school, please email or call the church office at 423-8995 or trinitysc@sbcglobal.net and give us the following information about the graduate: School from which you are graduating, degree given (if applicable), school attending next fall or plans for next year. We will list all graduates in the June issue of the Steeple Talk. Congratulations students and families!

Knitters

Don’t forget about the basket in the narthex for premie hats. There is always a need for them. It’s a good way to use scraps of yarn and a nice way to spend an evening knitting.

Presbytery Meeting at Trinity

The Presbytery of San Jose is coming to Trinity! The Session of the church has invited the Presbytery of San Jose to hold their June meeting at Trinity. As far as the historians and sages of our congregation know this will be the first time Trinity has hosted a presbytery meeting. The meeting will take place Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m. until approximately 1:30 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to offer hospitality to our fellow local Presbyterians and to share a bit of who we are as a congregation.

Though a lot of fun, hosting the presbytery will also be one of those 'all hands on deck' kind of events at which we will need the time and talents of the whole congregation to help provide a warm and welcoming place for the worship and business meeting of the presbytery. There will be a welcome reception, a worship service, a business meeting and a luncheon as part of the gathering.

Look for more information soon about how you can be a part of this special event, but if you would like to learn more or volunteer please speak to Bob or Barbara Scott who will be coordinating our planning efforts.

Even if you are not able to assist with the preparations please feel free to come to the meeting and learn more about how our presbytery works.



Vacation Bible Camp 2011

Save the dates of August 8—13 for Trinity's second annual Vacation Bible Camp. The theme this year will be Shake it Up

Cafe Vacation Bible Camp, "where kids carry out God's recipe." Registrations forms are available in the church office or on the website at www.trinitypressc.org. If you have questions please speak to Ellen Bauerle or Katherine Macway.

Celebrate (From the 2010-2011 Presbyterian Planning Calendar)

- *Older Adult Week*, May 1-7. Recognize and honor older adults and their commitment to the life, witness, and ministry of the church.
- *Presbyterian Heritage Sunday* on May 29. Visit the web site of the Presbyterian Historical Society, www.history.pcusa.org/cong/heritage.html.

Youth Group News

During the month of April the Youth had their Art Showcase fundraiser. Loren Edwards, Katherine Macway, and Meghan Collins participated in showing off their artistic talents. The Fellowship Committee provided lunch for the event, and quite a few church members attended the Art Showcase. We were able to raise \$360 for our summer mission trip. Thanks to everyone who donated and participated!

A few youth also participated in the Easter Sunrise Service at the Blanchards' house and helped hide plastic Easter eggs for the children at church. In May the youth will resume their regular meetings from 12-1pm in the Youth Room on May 15th and 29th.



Book Club

Trinity's Book Club continues to meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 pm at Joanne Clever's home. New faces are always welcome. Future reading includes:

May - *Iron and Silk* by Mark Salzman

June - *An Uncommon Friendship* by Bernat Rosner, Frederic C. Tubach, Sally Patterson Tubach

July - *Forever* by Pete Hamill

August - *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Ann Fadiman

September - *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

Don't forget to look through the books for sale at coffee hours. The money taken in goes to support the Youth Activities. Donations of books from all members are always welcome. Leave them in the church office anytime.

Trinity Spring Tea

Trinity will host an afternoon tea on Saturday, June 18. There will be an assortment of English Bone China Tea cups, tables set with themes and tea sandwiches, scones, Devonshire cream and sweets of all kinds. Hats are suggested but if you don't have one a hat will be provided! There will be a guest speaker from the Three Cups of Tea organization. Invite your friends and family!



Answers to the Bible Puzzle

Can you find thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph? There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a **most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **john** boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**. **Elaine** Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving, **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. **Some** people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. **Truthfully, from answers** we get, we are forced to admit **it usually** takes a minister or a scholar to see some of **them at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Philemonade** booth set a new record. The local paper, The **Chronicle**, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel Humana** **humbly** puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books like **Timothy** and **Samuel** may occur without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. **A chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad **exodus** there really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless.

Trinity Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays

2 Mary Blanchard
3 Harry Blanchard
5 Bob McCarroll
6 Veronica Christie
20 Gail Kountz
23 Jennie Edwards
29 Jesse May



May Anniversaries

25 Jake & Kathleen Eschen-Pipes
29 Reed & Sunshine Duffus

If you don't see your Birthday or Anniversary listed and would like it to be, please email the office at trinitysc@sbcglobal.net, or call 423-8995

32 Hands joined together for recent Spring Cleaning Work Day

A BIG thank you to...

Betty Gangware, Barbara Scott, Bookie Nichols, Sally Walters, Gwen May, Ellen Bauerle, and Emily Duffus for cleaning all windows in the Fellowship Building;

Lee Duffus, George Bunch, Ellen Bauerle, and Harry Blanchard for weeding and pruning;

Frank Miller for removing the label "goo" from the new folding chairs;

Jesse May and Mark Hooley for their skillful roof walking and ladder climbing to clean out the gutters and downspouts of both buildings;

Bob Scott and Senaka Weerasekara for making multiple trips to the landfill; and

Mary Blanchard for bringing sweets for the morning coffee break.

Another work week will be undertaken before the June 4 meeting of the San José Presbytery at Trinity. Watch for future notices and consider sharing a little time and your capable hands to get the grounds and buildings in tip-top shape.

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10:30 am AA, 8-9 pm, FH Deacons Meeting, following worship	2 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	3 Boutique, 9:30 am—12 noon, YR Boy Scout Parents, 6:30 pm, YR Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH AA 5:00 pm, FH	4 12 Step 6:45—8:45 am, Library	5	6 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm FH	7
8 Worship 10:30 am AA, 8-9 pm, FH Bridges to Other Communities, 12 noon—1:00 pm Fireside Room	9 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	10 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH AA 5:00 pm, FH	11 12 Step 6:45—8:45 am, Library Fellowship Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room Admin. Meeting, 4:00 pm, Library	12 Session Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room	13 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm FH	14 Rummage Sale Sweet Pea, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Youth Room
15 Worship 10:30 am AA, 8-9 pm, FH Outreach Meeting, following worship, FS Youth Group 12—1:00 pm, Youth Room	16 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	17 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH AA 5:00 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am—12 noon, YR	18 12 Step 6:45—8:45 am, Library	19 Cub Scouts, 6:30 pm, FH	20 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm FH	21
22 Worship 10:30 am AA, 8-9 pm, FH	23 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room Book Club, 7:00 pm, Joanne Clever's Home	24 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH AA 5:00 pm, FH 4th Tuesday Senior Luncheon, 12:00—1:30 PM, FH SE Meeting, 5:30, Fireside Room	25 12 Step 6:45—8:45 am, Library	26	27 Office Closed AA, 7:30 - 9:00 pm FH	28
29 Worship 10:30 am AA, 8-9 pm, FH Youth Group 12—1:00 pm, Youth Room	30 Office Closed AA, 7:30-9:00 pm Youth Room	31 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH AA 5:00 pm, FH				
				Room Key: FS Fireside FH Fellowship Hall L Library YR Youth Room		

The Non-Prophet Corner

Rev. Darrell Yeane—Parish Associate

Nearly everyone who is acquainted with my older brother and me wonders how it is that we belong to the same family. My brother is a fan of “talk show” host Rush Limbaugh while I have a negative visceral reaction to the sound of his voice. We have also discovered as adults that we have evolved different points of view on a number of issues such as patriotism, racial equality, and human sexuality. These differences in value judgments by two brothers raised by the same parents, in the same neighborhood, & members of the same church, are a microcosm of our larger society whether religious or secular.

Perhaps nothing better illustrates this diversity of values and its conflicts in social policy than the stalemated conflict in our U.S. Congress over a host of issues. Both parties say they share similar values but emphasize contrasting ones i.e. individual freedom vs. shared responsibility, and they refuse to compromise. Likewise, there are the global political conflicts between the forces emphasizing order and authority vs. those emphasizing freedom & liberty. These are power conflicts based on value rigidity, and when coupled with self-righteousness they produce tragic human consequences.

Likewise, religious people differ over issues such as religious authority (the Bible, the Pope, the conscience, reason), or inclusion/exclusion (women, GLBT) based on our differing value emphasis, some lifting up the importance of holding onto & honoring our traditions and others emphasizing progress, creativity and the freedom to interpret the old in the light of the new.

The fact is that these value divergences are natural to our humanity and necessary to acknowledge & move beyond if we are to grow in personhood and as a faith-filled community. As the Apostle Paul put it, we who were separated by nature are reconciled in Christ and are to grow up in every way into one body in Christ, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

In practical terms, this means that we neither repress nor sanctify our human value differences, but bring them together in honest, respectful and open relationships – allowing the transcending power of Christ’s Spirit to take us all to a new level of understanding and creative discipleship.

The last time we were in my brother’s home, many of our differences and our previous disagreements and tensions, though not entirely absent, were largely overcome in a transcendent experience of care and compassionate friendship that quietly testified to the reality of true brotherhood. We are learning from one another and finding a new level of relationship that is ripe with hope and promise. May it be so for us all.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
420 Melrose Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Phone: 831-423-8995
Email: trinitysc@sbcglobal.net



If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send us an email or give us a call. Thank you!

Sunday Saints



Sign Up

If you would like to help with Sunday services but haven't decided what to do, consider signing up to bring flowers for the worship service or snacks for coffee hour. Both sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

	Greeter	Coffee	Usher
May 1	<i>Kate Miller</i>	<i>Karen Wichelmann</i>	<i>Kenn Clark</i>
May 8	<i>Mary Ann Hobbs</i>	<i>Sunday School Class</i>	<i>Bob & Barbara Scott</i>
May 15	<i>Sally Walters</i>	<i>Frank and Kate Miller</i>	<i>David Gomez</i>
May 22	<i>Betty Gangware</i>	<i>Betty Gangware</i>	<i>Harry & Mary Blanchard</i>
May 29	<i>Jane, Audrey & Isaac Beach</i>	<i>Bookie Nichols</i>	<i>Jane, Audrey & Isaac Beach</i>

May 1 Communion Servers

Elders— George Bunch and Wayne Norton
Deacons—Karen Wichelmann and Joanne Clever

June 5 Communion Servers

Elders— George Bunch and Emily Duffus
Deacons—Carolyn Brothers and Scott Whitley